



Grounded in the grace of God, we are a vibrant Christian community, disciples of all ages, gathered for worship and nurture, scattered to serve and to love.
MPC Mission Statement adopted by the Session March 31, 2008

WORSHIP for FEBRUARY 27, 2022
TRANSFIGURATION of
OUR LORD

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* — Mark Hayes

Yun Kang

CALL to WORSHIP — from *Isaiah 65:17-18*

Beth Curtiss

One: The Lord God says: “For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth;

All: The former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

One: But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating;

All: For I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.”

One: Give glory and praise to the God of Creation and the provider of our salvation. Let us worship God.

HYMN — *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

Almighty God, you are the breath of creation and the God of constant newness. In you, all renewal abides and all hope originates. Forgive us when we disregard the voices of anguish that call out to us. Forgive our ignorance that obstructs us from what is true and from new ideas. Forgive our reluctance when we are called to ministry that takes us beyond our zone of comfort. Forgive us God, when we doubt that you can change our lives, this church, our nation, or this universe. Have mercy upon us. Quicken our minds to recall your mighty deeds for our salvation and be grateful, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: People of God, the power of God has come upon creation and upon you. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. The old life has passed away — and a new life has begun.

All: In Christ we are made new! Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

RESPONSE to GOD'S GRACE — *Glory to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

ANTHEM — *How Can I Keep From Singing* - arr. Andy Beck

Chancel Choir

*My life goes on in endless song above earth's lamentations,
I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new Creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife I hear its music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

While though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the Truth, it liveth.
And though the darkness 'round me close, songs in the night it giveth.

No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth how can I keep from singing?
- the Quaker hymnal project:
Worship in Song: A Friends Hymnal (1996)*

LITURGY of the WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING — *Ecclesiastes 3:9-15*

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures for ever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

NEW TESTAMENT READING — *Revelation 21:1-6a*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

All Will Be Brand New

Rev. Jack McAnlis

HYMN — *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers*

LLANGLOFFAN

*Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing and darker is near.
The Bridegroom is arising and soon he will draw nigh.
Up, watch with expectation; at midnight come the cry.*

*See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand;
arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand!*

*Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this shad-owed sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music — *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* - Charles Converse

Doxology — *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication

S E N D I N G

HYMN — Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

*Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heavens, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.*

*Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.*

*Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.*

*Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored to thee:
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

POSTLUDE — *Processional March* - Alexandre Guilmant

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

- Do you believe that God can make all things new?
- Is God creating something new in or through you?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

****Please note all announcements for Sunday bulletins are due by noon the Tuesday before they are to be published. Please email announcements to Bulletin@MPCusa.net.***

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER RETURNS

Youth in Mission is happy to announce the return of the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper this Tuesday, March 1. This year there will be two options for dinner, a Dine-In or a Take-Out. Because there are limits to room capacity, we are asking everyone to sign up for either option. Congregation can sign up for Dine-In seating in Fellowship Hall through the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080549AAAC28A7F85-youth>

Please note the following :

- **Reservations are required**
- Each dine-in seating will have a max of 30 guests (please be sure to indicate your party size when signing up.)
- Diners coming to Fellowship Hall must be vaccinated
- Masks are required to enter and exit and worn except when eating dinner
- Please be punctual so we can stay on time with our multiple seatings
- Seatings for Dine-In guests
 - 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
 - 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
 - 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
- For those wishing to use the Take-Out option please select one of two pick-up times. Please drive through the carport for pickups
 - 5:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
 - 6:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

We look forward to hosting this favorite event in the life of the church

LENTEN BAGS

The season of Lent is approaching and your Worship, Education, and Congregational Ministry Committees assembled bags which include activities to do throughout the 40-day journey. Lenten bags will be available for pick up (one per family, please) in the Communication Center today, February 27, and March 6. If you are unable to pick one up during these times, please contact the church office to make arrangements to get one.

YOUTH SUNDAY MARCH MADNESS BENEFITTING MPC FOOD CENTER

Be sure and mark your calendars for the annual Youth Sunday service on March 6. Once a year our youth guide us through worship, with seniors sharing their spiritual journey as they embark on a new chapter in their lives. It has always been a poignant and inspiring service.

In celebration of Youth Sunday and the upcoming start of March Madness, we are collecting "Slam Dunk" donations for the Food Center. Try your luck at making a basket with some soup, a box of mac & cheese, or a can of tomato sauce. You can also consider a cash donation instead. All food and monies will go directly to the MPC Food Center. Look for the basketball hoop in the narthex before and after service.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP YOUTH & PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

A Youth Mission Trip parent meeting will be held following worship service in Room 220 on Sunday, March 6.

Youth in Mission will be returning to Pipestem, WV this summer to continue God's work spreading the Word and helping others. This year's trip will be departing either July 9 or 10 and returning the following Saturday, July 16. All youth and their parents interested in this year's trip should plan on attending our Kick-off meeting to review important information regarding the trip. All current 8th grade students through high school seniors, along with their friends, are invited to join us and hear more about this great trip. We look forward to seeing you there!

IN-PERSON EDUCATION AND MUSIC HAS RETURNED!

We have returned to in-person worship and music programs, as well as most education programs. Below you will also find specific updates for each activity.

EDUCATION

- Pre-K through High School Sunday School classes have returned to in-person sessions from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
- Confirmation Class is meeting in-person from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- For the time being, Adult Sunday School will continue to meet over Zoom from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

If you would like to be added to the Adult Education email distribution list or if you have any questions about Children's Sunday School or Confirmation Class, please be in touch with Pastor Alex at alexlesterabdalla@mpcusa.net.

MUSIC

- Chancel Choir (Adult Choir) has returned to in-person rehearsals.
- Teen Choir rehearsal has returned after worship.
- Children's Music has returned during worship.
- God's Thunder (Youth Handbell Choir) returned for in-person rehearsals.

If you would like more information about any of our choir programs, please be in touch with Music Director Tim Carpenter, at timcarpenter@mpcusa.net.



Join us during worship for our Lenten Sermon Series

which will be led by our Pastors based on the hymn, "Take My Life." We will begin on Sunday, March 6, leading up to Palm Sunday discovering what it means to give to God our moments & days, hands & feet, voice & lips, will & heart and our love & whole self.



**In-person service
7:00 p.m. ~ Wednesday, March 2
Sanctuary.**

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, February 27			WEDNESDAY, March 2 - Ash Wednesday		
9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	via Zoom	9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
9:00	Confirmation Class	Room 200	Noon	Brown Bag & Bible Study	Conference Room
9:30	Pre-K - High School Sunday School		7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary	7:00	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream	THURSDAY, March 3		
11:30	Teen Choir	Music Room	10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
MONDAY, February 28			Noon	Alcoholics Anonymous	Room 220
6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.	Oakville Girl Scouts	Room 220
7:00	Session Meeting		7:00	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall	FRIDAY, March 4		
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Lounge	6:00 p.m.	Pack 3 - Wolf Den	Fellowship Hall
	Parent Meeting		7:00	AA Meeting	Room 220
7:00	Pack 3 Committee Meeting	Room 220	SATURDAY, March 5		
TUESDAY, March 1 - Shrove Tuesday				Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
5:00 p.m.	Dine-In Pancake Supper	Fellowship Hall	SUNDAY, March 6		
	First Serving		9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	via Zoom
5:30	Take-Out Pancake Supper	Carport	9:00	Confirmation Class	Room 200
	First Pickup		9:30	Pre-K - High School Sunday School	
6:00	Dine-In Pancake Supper	Fellowship Hall	10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	Second Serving		10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Fellowship Hall	11:30	Teen Choir	Music Room
6:00	Pack 3 - Webelos	Room 104			
6:00	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall			
6:15	Take-Out Pancake Supper	Carport			
	Second Pickup				
6:30	Alcoholics Anonymous	Room 220			
7:00	Dine-In Pancake Supper	Fellowship Hall			
	Third Serving				
7:00	Food Center	Parking Lot			

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