



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
FIRST SUNDAY
in LENT
MARCH 9, 2025

GATHERING

WORDS of WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

PRELUDE — *Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ* - Johann Pachelbel

Yun Kang

INTROIT — *Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ* - Johann Pachelbel

Chancel Choir

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

CALL to WORSHIP

Kathryn Jervis, Liturgist

One: In the beginning God created.

All: **Our story began to unfold. In the beginning God gave us the breath of life and called all that he created, "good".**

One: Come, let us worship God.

HYMN — *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

<i>Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!</i>	<i>Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,</i>	<i>Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!</i>
<i>O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!</i>	<i>shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!</i>	<i>All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!</i>
<i>All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!</i>	<i>Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?</i>	<i>Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.</i>

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Almighty God, your Son fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are but did not sin. Give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your Spirit that we may know our weakness. Wash away the arrogance that keeps us from serving with humility and grace. Wash away all that is not holy in our lives that we may love you with all of our heart, mind, and strength, as silently we confess our sin.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION *Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.*

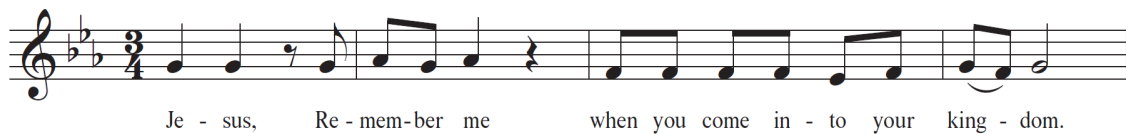
PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: The one who walked this earth, who faced temptation, who defeated sin, is the one who forgives us. Together let us proclaim the good news of the gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen!**

RESPONSE to GOD'S GRACE — *Jesus, Remember Me* - Jacques Bertier

REMEMBER ME



LITURGY of the WORD

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — *Psalm 51*

One: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

All: For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

One: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit

All: A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM — *Lord, Who throughout these Forty Days* - Linda Cable Shute

*Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.*

*As you with Satan did contend and did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.*

*And through these days of penitence, and through this Passion tide,
yes, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.*

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Selections from *Genesis 4 & Luke 3*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Does Anyone Remember Seth?

Rev. Dr. Kort

HYMN — *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — from the *Confession of Belbar*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called **Abba, Father**. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, but we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

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 — *Jesus Loves Even Me* - Phillip P. Bliss

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 — *Jesus Call Us*

GALILEE

*Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."*

*Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying "Christian, love me more."*

*In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."*

*Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we bear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.*

CHARGE and BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — *Nothing Can Trouble* - Taizé Community

*Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God shall never go wanting
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.*

POSTLUDE — *The Heavens Are Telling* - arr. Dorothy Wells

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.org.*

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Jim and Charlotte Harrington in memory of George Harrington, Jim's Dad, and "for the March birthdays of our daughter-in-law Paula, our daughter Anne, and our granddaughter Lillian." The second arrangement is given in gratitude for those who volunteered to serve on our Code Blue nights this past week. What a blessing you were to those who were given shelter and a warm meal on some bitterly cold nights.

CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR MARCH 30

If you would like to give flowers on March 30, please contact DeeAnn Martin at 215-493-3865 or email deemar918@aol.com. An arrangement is \$35 and may be given in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a special occasion, or in gratitude for a ministry or act of kindness. These flowers add beauty to our worship service and also provide an outreach ministry to our church families.

COME JOIN BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

Brown Bag Bible Study will be taking a Lenten journey through the Gospel of Luke. The Bible Study meets Wednesday's from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room located on the second floor. Bring your lunch and join in for a lively discussion of the week's readings. Can't make it to church? No worries, join us on Zoom by calling the church office and adding your name to the email distribution list for the Zoom link sent out each week. This is a great time to deepen your faith and join in discussions with friends from the congregation.

Brown Bag Bible Study Reading List for Lent: Gospel of Luke

3/12: 13:1-9; 10-21; 22-30; 31-35	3/26: 15:11-24; 25-32; 16:1-9; 10-18	4/9: 18:1-14; 15-30; 31-43; 19:1-10
3/19: 14:1-11; 12-24; 25-35; 15:1-10	4/2: 16:19-31; 17:1-10; 11-19; 20-37	4/16: 19:11-27; 28-40; 41-48; 20:1-8

MEN'S RETREAT

An exciting opportunity for MPC men to spend a day together in fellowship and work to benefit our Presbytery's nature connection at Camp Johnsonburg located in the NJ highlands. On Saturday, April 12, participating men will meet up and drive to camp Johnsonburg to participate in Creation Care Day and learn of the camp's vital role in ministry. This day promises to provide fellowship, carpentry work in a beautiful setting, lunch, and a stop at Hot Dog Johnny's on the drive home! Brochures with more information and registration forms are available in the Welcome Center. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Curtiss at curtissfam@gmail.com.

DEACONS EASTER FOOD BASKET

Recognizing the ongoing food insecurity in our surrounding communities, the Deacons will once again provide a Holiday Basket for these families.

How You Can Help: Pick up an Easter Egg in our Welcome Center starting March 16. Make a donation by returning the egg to the church with your donation inside by April 13 (Palm Sunday). Checks can be made out to MPC with the notation "Deacon's Easter Basket" in the memo line.

Your Generosity Matters: Your support helps us continue this vital food ministry. Thank you for making a difference!

Circle meetings this week

DEBORAH CIRCLE

Deborah Circle meets tomorrow at noon
in the Conference Room.

REBECCA CIRCLE

Rebecca Circle meets tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m.
in the Lounge.

All women of MPC are welcome to come for fellowship and faith enrichment.

MARCH FOOD CENTER REQUEST

During March, the requested food donation will be pasta sauce (no glass jars, please). A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Thank you for your generosity!

ADULT EDUCATION OFFERING

Currently we are walking with the lesser known disciples in the Bible. Through March 23, the Adult Education class will use the texts Pastor Tom will be preaching on in his sermons. Join us as we seek to hear the Spirit's calling through these faithful folks.

Recently, Adult Ed discussed the book, *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*, by W. Phillip Keller. Books were distributed to the class to revisit and discuss the book again on March 30. If you would like a copy of the book to take part in the discussion, there are extra copies in the mailbox of Kathryn Jervis outside the Conference Room on the second floor, or see Christopher Bannister on Sunday to get a copy.

JOIN US IN THE NURSERY!

Looking for a flexible, fulfilling, and fun volunteer opportunity? Nursery volunteers are needed! Pick the Sundays that work for you and volunteer for as many (or as few) Sundays as you'd like. Two adults are needed to staff the nursery every week. This is a great opportunity to support MPC's ministry to children and young families. Come for the fruit snacks and stay for the lasting impact you will make on the littlest members of the MPC family. To volunteer, please contact Erin Aronson at enkernan@gmail.com.

BUNCO NIGHT HOST

Back by popular demand! We are getting lots of requests to schedule another Bunco Night but we need a host! Hosting is simple:

- All participants bring appetizers and desserts to share
- Advertising/sign-ups will be handled for you
- Card tables, chairs, score cards, and bunco bell can be provided as needed
- Game rules are easy to learn!

If you would be willing to host this fun event, please call Nancy McHenry for more information at 215-514-9685.

MPC BOOK DISCUSSIONS' NEXT READ

On March 17, the group will discuss *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson. A historical fiction about Cussy Carter, a blue-skinned 19-year-old and the last living female of the rare Blue People ancestry, who joins the historical Pack Horse Library Project of Kentucky and becomes a librarian. While delivering books and other reading material to the impoverished hill people of Eastern Kentucky she confronts those suspicious of her damselfly-blue skin and the government's new book program. Throughout, Cussy is fiercely determined to bring comfort and joy, instill literacy, and give to those who have nothing.

Lenten Soup Suppers

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Gather for a wonderful time as we share a simple meal and fellowship, accompanied by that evening's program.

Wednesday, April 2

Hymns for the Journey

Tim Carpenter will provide a short meditation on how hymns can carry us through Lent and on to Easter.

Wednesday, April 9

Journey to the Cross

Reflecting on Lent through art.



MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, March 9 - First Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder	Room 121
9:15	Mission Study Team	Room 202
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
11:45	Nominating Committee	Conference Room
11:45	Teen Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220

MONDAY, March 10

Noon	Deborah Circle	Conference Room
5:30 p.m.	Food Packing	Room 4
6:30	Mostly Motets	Music Room
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Chapel
	Parent Meeting	
7:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 121
7:00	Rebecca Circle	Lounge

TUESDAY, March 11

9:00 a.m.	Produce Prep	Room 4
6:30 p.m.	Educational Ministry	Zoom
7:30	Communications & Evangelism	Zoom

WEDNESDAY, March 12

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
9:00	Ivins Outreach Center	Lounge
6:00 p.m.	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Room 121

THURSDAY, March 13

10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir	Music Room
7:00	Weekday Nursery School	Room 225
	Board Meeting	

FRIDAY, March 14

10:45 a.m.	Weekday Nursery School	Room 220
11:00	Ivins Outreach Center	Lounge

SATURDAY, March 15

SUNDAY, March 16 - Second Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder	Room 121
9:15	Mission Study Team	Room 202
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
11:45	Teen Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220

To view upcoming events and meetings,
please visit www.mpcusa.org
and click on "Calendar" from the home page.

iPhone



Introducing mobile giving

Scan the appropriate QR code with your phone and find MPC by searching code 'FEDN99' or 'Morrisville Presbyterian Church'

Once set up, you can schedule recurring gifts or make one-time offerings with one click.

Android



Need Help? email Office@mpcusa.org and ask that your questions be forwarded to the stewardship committee.

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