



*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
of ADVENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2025 ~ 10:30 A.M.

GATHERING

WORDS *of* WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

PRELUDE — *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* - David Cherwien

Yun Kang

INTROIT — *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* - GENEVAN 42

Chancel Choir

*"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.
"Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."*

LIGHTING *of* ADVENT CANDLE

Tony, Lisa, Emily & Sarah Zazzu

Family: Today we light the first candle in the Advent Wreath. It is the Candle of Hope.

**All: Gracious God, renew in us the hope we have in the dawning of Christ's advent
among us. Come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.**

Family: Please stand as you are able for our first hymn #82, *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*.

HYMN — *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

*Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.*

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

O Lord of life, as we enter this season of Advent, we often get tangled in sparkling lights and glittering tinsel. We get lost in our to-do lists. We forget our need for a savior who will save us from our sin. Holy Savior, we confess that we fall short in our walk of discipleship. We use words that are not always kind or helpful. We often close our eyes to those in need. We become impatient with loved ones and even ourselves. Forgive us. Set us free from the sin within us, as silently we confess our personal sin.

SILENT PRAYERS *of* CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: God is greater than we could ever imagine. God sends light into darkness and brings forgiveness to His children. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE *to* GOD'S GRACE — *o Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

*O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

LITURGY of the WORD

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Tom Smith, Liturgist

RESPONSIVE READING — Selections from *Jeremiah 33* & *Isaiah 2*

One: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise: I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness.

All: **They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM — *A Voice in the Wilderness* - Arnold B. Sherman

*There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod;
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
Make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go.
O Zion that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish, the works of men decay.
The power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.
But the word of our God endureth, the arm of the Lord is strong;
He stands in the midst of nations, he will right the wrong.
For he shall feed his flock like a shepherd and fold the lambs to his breast;
In pastures of love he'll lead them and give to the weary rest.*

There's a voice in the wilderness crying...

-- James Milligan, adapted from scripture

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE READING — *Matthew 1:18-23*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Gifts You Can't Get Online

Rev. Dr. Kort

HYMN — *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
the mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, set us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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 — *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* - James MacMillan

Doxology — *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Song Trio
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 — *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

TRURO

*Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.*

*Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.*

*Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.*

CHARGE and BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — *Dresden Amen*

POSTLUDE — *Festal Postlude* - Robert Powell

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 in memory of Charles T. Burgess (1912-2001), by Bill and Melonie Burgess. The second arrangement is given by Beth and Randy Curtiss: "It has been wonderful to be part of this church family for the past 35 years. MPC has been our guiding light in faith, our home and our support as we raised Anne, Sara, and David. We will carry to our new home the memories, friendships, and love that was so freely given. With our prayers, Beth and Randy."

YEAR-END GIVING

Thank you for your continued generosity and support throughout this year. To ensure that your gifts appear on your 2025 Giving Statement for tax purposes, please make sure all gifts are post-marked, delivered to MPC, or given online by December 31, 2025.

DECEMBER FOOD CENTER REQUEST

Cookies are the requested items for the month of December. Donated items may be placed in the shopping cart located in the Welcome Center. Thank you for your generosity and continued support throughout this past year!

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY IS NOW "EVERGREEN"

Great news! Our Older Adult Ministry programs will now be called "Evergreen" programs. We celebrate all of you Evergreens who would like to be involved in social activities to connect with friends old and new and invite you to join us in upcoming activities including a Christmas Tea on December 2 and our always popular Valentines Day Party. If you are interested in attending the Evergreen Christmas Tea, please call Nancy McHenry at 215-514-9685.

DECEMBER: A TIME TO GIVE...CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED

If you would like to give flowers on a Sunday in December, please contact DeeAnn Martin at 215-493-3865 or email deemar918@aol.com. The cost of an arrangement is \$37 and may be given in memory of a loved one, to celebrate a special event or in gratitude for a person, act of kindness or ministry. These flowers not only add Advent beauty to our worship service, but will also go forward to bring the light of Christmas to members of our church family.

COMING SOON!

JOIN THE (CHURCH) FAMILY CHOIR FOR THE LATE SERVICE ON CHRISTMAS EVE!

The, now traditional, Family Choir will begin to rehearse on December 7, immediately after worship for the 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve worship service. We will also rehearse on December 14 and 21 immediately after worship and again before the service on Christmas Eve.

All adults and teens are welcome to be part of this. You do not need to bring a family member with you - but please know that they are invited and we will be delighted to welcome them into the group. It is not necessary to attend all rehearsals, but all singers are encouraged to attend as many of these short rehearsals as possible.

If you have questions or would like more information, please see Tim Carpenter or email him at timcarpenter@mpcusa.org.

TOMORROW! MPC BOOK DISCUSSION MEETING & HERE'S THEIR NEXT READING TOO!

The MPC Book Discussion Group will meet tomorrow in the conference room from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. You can also attend by Zoom. Contact the church office at office@mpcusa.org or Shellie Stoddard at stoddard.shellie@gmail.com for link and more information. They will be discussing *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl.

The next reading is *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan and will be discussed on January 12. The story is set in 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces into his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church.

REBECCA CIRCLE'S CHRISTMAS POT-LUCK

Looking for a way to share faith, fun and fellowship? Come give Rebecca Circle a try! We will meet in the conference room on Monday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. for our annual Christmas Pot-Luck. Please bring an appetizer to share. All women of MPC are welcome. For information call or text Jen Jones 215 962-3655.



MPC Clothing Center Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 13, 2025

9:00 a.m. to Noon

Room 4, near Fellowship Hall

We're more than just clothes!

ANGEL TREE IS BACK!

Our annual Angel Tree has returned and is displayed in the Welcome Center. We will provide toiletry bags for the many individuals we serve each week at the Food Center from Lower Bucks County and Greater Trenton areas. Anyone interested in participating in this ministry is asked to please take a white angel from the tree and fill a one-gallon Ziplock bag (provided) with the following items:

- 2 toothpastes (regular size)
- 2 toothbrushes
- 2 bars of wrapped soap (neutral scent)
- 2 deodorants (neutral scent)

You will also find a few red and green angels on the tree for those who prefer to make a check or cash donation. Please note it is important to include the angel with your donation so that we know it came from the Angel Tree. Checks can be made out to The Food Center at MPC, and we ask that those donations be placed in the morning offering plate or mailed to the church office.

A "blessing" from MPC is printed on one side of each angel; the list of items is printed on the other side. Please include the angel in each Ziplock bag along with the items. We know how generous our congregation is! We ask, however, that you do not include extra items in the bag. Instead, perhaps fill another bag.

Filled bags can be dropped off Monday nights from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Tuesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., or before/after the Sunday worship service in the box marked "Angel Tree" in the Welcome Center. All bags need to be delivered no later than December 26 for distribution to our Food Center clients beginning in the New Year! We are so grateful and thankful to all of you for your dedication to this ministry!

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes will be available soon in the Welcome Center. If you would like them mailed, please contact MPC's Administrative Assistant, Kim Turner, in the church office at 215-295-4191 or at office@mpcusa.org and she will make arrangements to send them to you. Please note that envelopes will not be given to those who have signed up for online giving.

YEAR END INVOICE SUBMISSION

Invoices to be paid and reimbursement requests from this year need to be submitted by December 31 for accounting purposes. Please submit all items to Kim in the church office at office@mpcusa.org. Thank you for your help.

SCOUTS BSA TROOP 3
Christmas
TREE SALE

A Morrisville tradition
for over 85 years!

Scouts BSA Troop 3 will be selling
Christmas Trees and Wreaths from
November 29th through December 21st
(or when they sell out).

FRIDAYS 6-9
SATURDAYS 12-8
SUNDAYS 11-7
MONDAYS 6-9

MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
771 N PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
MORRISVILLE, PA 19067

Scouts BSA Troop 3

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, November 30 - 1st Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:00	Scout Christmas Tree Sale	Parking Lot
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220

MONDAY, December 1

5:30 p.m.	Book Discussion Group	Conference Room
6:00	Scout Christmas Tree Sale	Parking Lot
6:15	PNC Meeting	Room 200
6:30	Cub Scout Pack 3	Rooms 122 & 220
6:30	Mostly Motets	Music Room
6:30	Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Food Packing	Room 4
7:30	Personnel Committee	Zoom

TUESDAY, December 2

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Produce Prep	Room 4
10:00	Weekday Nursery	Room 220
	School Projects	
11:30	Evergreen Christmas Tea	Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot

WEDNESDAY, December 3

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag Bible Study	Conference Room & Zoom

WEDNESDAY, December 3 (continued)

6:00 p.m.	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Girls Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes Rehearsal	Room 121

THURSDAY, December 4

10:00 a.m.	Clothing Center	Room 4
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room

FRIDAY, December 5

9:00 a.m.	Ivins Outreach Center	Fellowship Hall
	Community Event	
6:00 p.m.	Scout Christmas Tree Sale	Parking Lot

SATURDAY, December 6

Noon	Scout Christmas Tree Sale	Parking Lot
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SUNDAY, December 7 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:00	Scout Christmas Tree Sale	Parking Lot
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220
Noon	Deacon Meeting	Conference Room
4:00 p.m.	Cantus Novus Concert	Sanctuary

Want to know when a future event is taking place or want to book a room for your committee or group? Check out the MPC calendar at mpcusa.org/calendar to see when events takes place and room availability.

Mobile Giving

iPhone



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.

CONTACT US MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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