MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship *for*
Twenty-Fourth Sunday
after Pentecost
November 8, 2026 ~ 10:30 a.m.

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

G A T H E R I N G

PRELUDE — *Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir* - Samuel Scheidt — Yun Kang

WORDS *of* WELCOME — Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

INTROIT — *Come Worship God-* O QUANTA QUALIA — Men's Choir

Come, worship God, who is worthy of honor;
enter God's presence with thanks and a song!
You are the rock of your people's salvation
to whom our jubilant praises belong.

CALL *to* WORSHIP — Christopher Bannister, Liturgist

One: From the east and west, north and south,
All: God leads us, and we give thanks.
One: Through valleys and mountains,
All: God leads us, and we give thanks.
One: Out in the world and in our hearts,
All: God leads us, and we give thanks.

HYMN — *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* — CWM RHONDDA

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

God who works day and night for all creation, we find it hard to walk in your ways. We admit: we are tempted by honor and status. We admit: we like to seem holier than we are. We admit: we would rather be "great" than a servant. But you who are the greatest became the servant of all. Help us to imitate you. Encourage us that we might be not just the image of your disciple, but that we actually embody your teachings.

SILENT PRAYERS *of* CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news of the Gospel: when we are honest and seek the forgiveness of our God, Jesus shows us a way to greater healing and love.

All: Thank God for such steadfast love, wonderful works, and unfailing forgiveness.

RESPONSE *to* GOD'S PARDON — *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.

LITURGY *of the* WORD

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING — *Psalm 43:3-5*

One: O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;

All: Let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

One: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,

All: And I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

One: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

All: Hope in God, for I shall again praise God, my help and my God.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM — *God of Grace and Glory* - CWM RHONDDA, arr. T. R. Carpenter

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich is things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

TIME *for* YOUNG DISCIPLES Christi Anne DeSciscio

SCRIPTURE READING — *1 Thessalonians 2:9-13*

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *God's Word* Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

HYMN — *O Word of God Incarnate* MUNICH

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from you, dear Savior, received this gift divine;
and still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,
amid the rocks and quicksands still guides, O Christ, to you.

O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold
to bear before the nations your true light, as of old;
O teach your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace,
till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see you face to face.

*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, sets 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.

PRAYERS *of the* PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (page 35 in the hymnal, *debts and debtors*)

OFFERING

Invitation to Give
Presentation of Gifts
Offertory Music — *Here I Am, Lord* - arr. Mark Hayes
Doxology 606 — *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 — *How Firm a Foundation* (verses 1, 3, 4, & 5) FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that only Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

CHARGE *and* BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — Amen

POSTLUDE — *Symphonic Postlude* - arr. Roger Wilson

Announcements

Today's Chancel Flowers

Today's Chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Jim Gaston in memory of two amazing women who shared so many of their gifts with our church, Gladys Speakman Northrup and Ann Orazi. They were such wonderful role models for our women. As many of our women are gathered together in Ocean Grove, NJ this weekend for the PW Retreat, it is fitting to lift up these two special women of faith.

Prayer Shawl Gathering Today!

Gatherings to make handmade prayer shawls supporting our Code Blue guests will now meet monthly, on the second Sunday of each month in room 200, upstairs. All supplies will be provided. No experience needed as many will confirm it is very easy to learn. Bring a friend and join in the fun by gathering together to serve in this new way.

Rebecca Circle Meets Tomorrow

Rebecca Circle will meet tomorrow, Monday, October 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the lounge. Rebecca Circle meets the second Monday of each month, through May, and you can join any time. All women of MPC are welcome and encouraged to attend the meetings for fellowship, devotions and a program.. Give it a try - come feed your spiritual self! For more information, contact Jen Jones 215 962-3655.

Deborah Circle Meeting Tomorrow

All women of MPC are welcome to join Deborah Circle in the lounge at noon. Deborah Circle meets the second Monday of the month.

Blue Jean Saturday Next Weekend

You read that right! The Property Committee is planning a Blue Jean Saturday on November 14 from 9:00 a.m. to noon followed by pizza lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Bill Miller, Chairperson of the Building and Grounds Committee, with any questions at billmiller180@gmail.com.

Time for Young Disciples Training Next Sunday

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to lead a children's message? Do you love children's presence in worship as much as we do? Join the pastors and members of the worship committee for an information and training session. We will meet on Sunday, November 15, at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel. We hope to idenfity a group of folks who are willing to lead children's messages from time to time. It can be a gift to create meaningful opportunities for our young people to know and be known by the many adults who make up their church family. If this is something you are interested in or have any questions about, we hope you will join us! Please RSVP with Christi Anne DeSciscio at cambac@gmail.com or Pastor Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.org. If you can't make it, you can still let us know you're interested by contacting either.



Have you ever wondered what the Worship Committee does or how many volunteers it takes to run the Food Center each week? Join us on Sunday, November 15, following worship for the MPC Committee Fair! Browse the halls and lounge to discover what our committees do, meet the people who make it all happen, and learn how you can get involved. You'll have a chance to ask questions, explore opportunities to serve, and discover all the wonderful things happening at MPC—all while enjoying our usual Fellowship Hour snacks! Plan to attend the Committee Fair and see how you can be part of the life and ministry of MPC!

Food Center Requests

From now till the end of the year, the Food Center is requesting the following items: Any variety of cereal, soup, or pasta sauce (no glass jars, please). Donated items may be placed in the shopping bin located in the Welcome Center.

Book Discussion Group's Next Reading

The next selection is a very interesting and important topic tackled by the Adult Ed class a couple of years ago. Let's dig in further with Amanda Tyler's book, *How to End Christian Nationalism* (244 pages). Published in 2024, the book has been described in a review as "easily accessible" and "good for group or congregational study." It has reflection questions at the end of each chapter. The book is still in circulation but you'll likely need to order it. You are welcome to join whether you have read it or not! Discussion meeting will be Monday, November 30, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the conference room or Zoom (please RSVP). Contact Shellie Stoddard at 215-510-5717 or at stoddard.shellie@gmail.com with questions and to RSVP.

Volunteers Needed for the Thanksgiving Food Basket Distribution

The Deacons Food Basket program has been distributing meals to families for many years. Each Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter a dedicated group of volunteers, church members, and youth come together to help make this task possible. We are looking for help to pack and distribute the Thanksgiving Food Baskets on Saturday, November 21, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., at the church parking lot. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow church members and help pack holiday meals for 84 families.

Ushers Needed

We need you for a new opportunity. Come join our Volunteer Ushering Team! Ushering at church is a simple, fun and meaningful way to serve. It's about showing up on a Sunday with a welcoming spirit, and lending a hand wherever needed. Would you like to try it out at MPC? No pressure, no long-term commitment -- just volunteers willing to give a little of their time, working side-by-side with deacons, to help create a warm and inviting experience for everyone who walks through our doors. Please see Robin Evans after the service, or contact her at robinevans310@gmail.com for more information. You must be at least twelve years of age and a church member.

CPR/First Aid Class Opportunity

The Board of Deacons is sponsoring a CPR/First Aid certification class on Saturday, December 5. Class will start at 9:30 a.m. and last for about three hours. Cost is $80 and payment by check or cash is due the day of the class. Pre-registration is required. There will be sign up opportunities in the Welcome Center, during Fellowship Hour on Sundays, or by contacting Joy Rees directly at reesfam5@yahoo.com or by text at 215-280-4999.

Weekday Nursery School
Est 1958





OUR PROGRAM

Weekday Nursery School offers a place for children to learn and grow intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically using play-based teaching techniques to foster a love of learning.

Half-Pints
2 years 7 months+ Program

Explorers
3 Year Old Program

Inventors
4 Year Old Program

OPEN HOUSE

November 17
6:00pm - 7:00pm

Come see our classrooms, meet some of our staff and learn about our wonderful school!



(267)797-3665
www.WeekdayNursery.org

771 N Pennsylvania Ave, Morrisville, PA 19067

MPC *Weekly Calendar* - mpcusa.org/calendar

SUNDAY, November 8

Women's Retreat returns

8:45 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
9:30	Sunday School for Children & Youth	
9:30	Coffee & Connection	Lounge
10:30	**Worship Service**	**Sanctuary & Livestream**
11:30	Fellowship Hour Host: Property Committee	Lounge
11:45	Prayer Shawl Gathering	Room 200
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

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MONDAY, November 9

Noon	Deborah Circle	Lounge
Noon	Worship Committee	Zoom
1:00 p.m.	Scoutsgiving	Fellowship Hall
6:30	Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
6:45	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
7:00	Food Center Food Packing	Room 4
7:00	Rebecca Circle	Lounge
7:30	Personnel Committee	Zoom

TUESDAY, November 10

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Produce Prep	Room 4
9:00	Weekday Nursery School	Playgound
	Coffee & Conversation	
10:00`	Welcoming the Stranger	Room 208

WEDNESDAY, November 11

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag	Conference Room
	Bible Study	& Zoom
7:15 p.m.	Chancel Chimes Rehearsal	Room 121

THURSDAY, November 12

9:00 a.m.	Weekday Nursery School	Room 220
10:00	Thrift Store Open	Room 4
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room

FRIDAY, November 13

SATURDAY, November 14

9:00 a.m.	Blue Jean Saturday	Fellowship Hall
2:00 p.m.	AHTN Code Blue Training	Conference Room

SUNDAY, November 15

8:45 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
9:30	Sunday School for Children & Youth	
9:30	Coffee & Connection	Lounge
9:30	Young Disciples Training	Chapel
10:30	**Worship Service**	**Sanctuary & Livestream**
11:30	Committee Fair	Welcome Center
11:30	Fellowship Hour Host: MPC Thrift Store	Lounge
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

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 take place and room availability.

CONTACT US

MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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