



*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*  
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY  
*after* PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

## GATHERING

### WORDS *of* WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

### PRELUDE — *The Gift of Love* - arr. John Carter

Yun Kang

### INTROIT — *Come, Worship God* - O QUANTA QUALIA

Chancel Choir

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

--paraphrase of *Psalm 95* by Michael Perry

### CALL *to* WORSHIP

Nancy Kernan, Liturgist

One: Your love, O God, reaches up, up beyond the sky,

**All: Your goodness goes higher than the clouds.**

One: Your power is larger than the tallest mountains,

**All: Your truth goes deeper than the ocean.**

One: With loving hearts we will come to you,

**All: With loving hearts we will worship you now and forever more.**

One: Come, let us worship the Lord.

### HYMN — *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

*Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;  
praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!  
Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;  
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!  
Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,  
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!*

### PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Carter Lester

Loving God, your disciples learned from you, loved you and followed you, but they often failed you. We have also learned from you, loved you, and followed you. We have also failed you. We have failed to do justice, love mercy, and to walk humbly with you. Forgive us. Cleanse our hearts and renew our spirits as silently we confess our sin.

### SILENT PRAYERS *of* CONFESSION

*Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.*

### PROMISE *of* FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the promise of God's forgiveness and make it your own.

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

**LITURGY of the WORD**

**PRAYER for ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING** — *Psalm 145:1-6*

One: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

**All: Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.**

One: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

**All: One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.**

One: On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

**All: The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM** — *Freely Given* - English folk tune, arr. David Lantz III

*Holy Father, You freely gave your one and only Son.  
So great a gift, so great the cost to save the world, but one.  
Son divine, you freely gave, from the cross, the cleansing flood.  
Prayers and tears could not pardon my sin, nothing less than your precious blood.  
Gracious Spirit, you freely call. You bid me come.  
And my believing is my receiving. Through your call my freedom is won.  
--Susan Bentall Boersma*

**TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES**

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** — *Mark 12:41-44*

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*A Little Girl's Pennies*

Rev. Dr. Kort

**HYMN** — *Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord*

HALL

*Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;  
give us the mind of Christ each passing day;  
teach us to know the truth that sets us free;  
grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.*

*Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own;  
come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;  
help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;  
use us to make the earth like heaven above.*

*Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway;  
have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;  
guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;  
guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.*

*Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;  
through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.  
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;  
we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.*

**AFFIRMATION of FAITH** — from the *Scots Confession, 1560*

**We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleve, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust.**

**MINUTE for STEWARDSHIP**

*A Grateful Heart*

Paul & Dorothy Clough

**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 — *The Trusting Heart* - William J. Kirkpatrick

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** — *God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

*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.*

**CHARGE and BLESSING**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** — *Amen*

**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](mailto:Bulletin@MPCusa.org).*

### **TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS**

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Curt Rimler in honor of prostate cancer survivors and in loving memory of those we have lost. September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: we give thanks for the lives of those who have battled this disease and lift up in our prayers all who are impacted by it.

### **REGARDING TODAY'S SERVICE**

The choir is in the capable hands of Kyle St. Sauveur, our bass section leader and resident composer, as Tim and Carol Carpenter celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

### **NEW MEMBER CLASSES**

Are you interested in exploring church membership at MPC? New member classes are scheduled for Sunday, October 19 and Sunday, October 26. If interested, please indicate on the Friendship Pad or by contacting the church office at 215-295-4191 or email [office@mpcusa.org](mailto:office@mpcusa.org) for more details. Members would be received in worship on Sunday, October 26."

### **PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The church nominating committee is continuing their important work of selecting eight members to serve on the PNC. As soon as they are selected, we will call for a congressional meeting to elect them. Stay tuned and keep the process in your prayers.

### **HELP ADORN COMMUNION TABLE**

Worldwide Communion will be celebrated during worship on Sunday, October 5. To highlight the international character of this service we plan to adorn the communion table using a few colorful cloths from various nations. If you have any that you have collected on your travels to foreign lands, and would like to see displayed in this way, please contact Nancy Powers at 215-295-1635 or at [ngplegato@aol.com](mailto:ngplegato@aol.com) on or before Sunday, September 27.

### **PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING**

The Peace and Global Witness Offering, one of four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. By supporting this offering, you are promoting ministries of reconciliation and peace within cultures of violence and conflict – including those near Morrisville, PA! The offering will be collected on Sunday, October 5, during worship. You are welcome to use the special offering envelope, writing "Peace and Global Offering" in the memo line of your check or typing the same in the "notes" portion of your online gift. Thank you for participating in this global effort.

### **JOIN MPC AT HISTORIC FALLSINGTON DAYS!**

MPC will be hosting a booth at Fallsington Days, Saturday, October 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Stroll down Fallsington's Yardley Avenue to enjoy all the fun, food, crafters, vendors, and entertainment for all ages ongoing throughout the day. Ample and free parking is available at Fallsington Elementary School.

We are also looking for volunteers to greet people, provide literature, and answer questions about MPC. Shifts would be for two hours and begin at 9:30 a.m. to help with set up through 5:00 p.m. to assist breakdown. [Sign up here](#) or contact Damon Miller at [damonmiller@mpcusa.org](mailto:damonmiller@mpcusa.org). This is a great opportunity to share with a grateful heart what makes MPC so special within our community and beyond. We hope to see you on October 11.

### **CLOTHING CENTER REOPENS**

The MPC Clothing Center reopens on Thursday, October 2, 2025! Donations of fall and winter clothing, coats, hats, gloves, shoes, and boots as well as jewelry, household items and decorations for fall, winter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas are being accepted at this time. Please visit the [Clothing Center's webpage](#) for more details, including items the Clothing Center does not accept. We look forward to seeing you for our 2025-2026 season! Thank you for your continued support!

### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OPPORTUNITY**

MPC is signed up to spend a day working for Habitat on Friday, October 10. We will most likely be framing for a new home to be built in Levittown. Please contact Ray Hendrickson at (215) 495-3114 or [hrh1453@gmail.com](mailto:hrh1453@gmail.com) to sign up and receive additional information. There are only four slots available so the first four volunteers "win". There will be more dates available so please contact Ray to be placed on a waiting list. MPC has been and continues to be a strong supporter for Habitat of Bucks County.

### **OCTOBER 19 IS BLUE JEAN SUNDAY**

Blue Jean Sunday will be held on October 19 from noon to 3:00 p.m. Help be a part of the annual cleanup of the church and yards. Please contact Property Manager David Sterling at [davidsterling@mpcusa.org](mailto:davidsterling@mpcusa.org) for more details and to sign up.

### **MPC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

The MPC Book Discussion Group will meet Monday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. starting October 20 and spacing the discussions out six weeks to give folks more time to read!

The first reading is *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamanta. A retelling of *Genesis 34* (also known as the rape of Dinah) from Dinah's perspective. Published in 1997, the book has been enjoyed by generations of women. Perhaps you have already read it?

The second meeting will be on December 1 to discuss *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl. Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's memoir has riveted generations of readers with its descriptions of life in Nazi death camps and its lessons for spiritual survival. Based on the author's own experience and the experiences of others he treated later in his practice, Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose.

The next reading selections will be firmed up following the October meeting. Other dates will be January 12, February 23, April 13, May 18. Please contact Shellie Stoddard at [stoddard.shellie@gmail.com](mailto:stoddard.shellie@gmail.com) for more information.

### **REALM UPDATE**

Thank you to those who have logged into Realm, reviewed your information, set your privacy settings, and added your picture. We are on our way to becoming more connected! The email invitation was sent out this past Monday, please check your spam folder if you don't see anything in your inbox. To ensure it is not spam, note the email address will be from "notifications@onrealmmail.org". If you did not receive an email, then we don't have your email on record. Please contact the church office by calling 215-295-4191 or emailing [office@mpcusa.org](mailto:office@mpcusa.org) and we will update your email and get you connected.

### **FOOD CENTER OPPORTUNITIES**

The Food Center is run by a lively and committed group of volunteers, who find the work rewarding and fun. Most people only think of the Wednesday food distribution aspect of the Food Center, but there are many behind the scenes tasks that have to happen in order to be able to distribute food to clients on Wednesdays. Currently, there are several opportunities available:

- Inventory Control (at home, on your schedule)
  - Monitor pantry inventory (with the help of on-site volunteers)
  - Order free food from Philabundance weekly
  - Set up every other month deliveries from our grocery supplier
- Delivery Receiving (Monday mornings, and occasional Wednesday afternoons)
  - Be on site to accept and unload food deliveries
  - Maintain and communicate with a team of 2-3 helpers
- Food Pick-Ups (at your convenience, every other week)
  - Drive your vehicle, or the Food Center van, to Aldi to purchase bulk items
  - Unload and shelf food in the pantry.

Please consider joining the team! Contact the Food Center at [mpcfoodcenter@gmail.com](mailto:mpcfoodcenter@gmail.com) to sign up and submit questions.

## SEPTEMBER FOOD CENTER REQUEST

For the months of September, the requested item is rice. A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. As always, thank you for your generosity!

## SONG TRIO MUSIC

If you missed the Song Trio CD fundraiser last week for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, you can still listen to the music through the Spotify app. You can find their music by searching "Song Trio" under the "Artists" tab or "Three Hearts Given to God" under the "Albums" tab.

## MPC Weekly Calendar

### **SUNDAY, September 28**

9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary &amp; Livestream</b>
11:30	Fellowship Time	Lounge
11:45	Budget Committee	Room 200
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220

### **MONDAY, September 29**

6:30 p.m.	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

### **TUESDAY, September 30**

9:00 a.m.	Produce Prep	Room 4
10:00	Weekday Nursery	Room 220
	School Projects	

### **WEDNESDAY, October 1**

9:00 a.m.	Food Center Distribution	Parking Lot
Noon	Brown Bag Bible Study	Conference Room & Zoom
6:00 p.m.	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes Rehearsal	Room 121

### **THURSDAY, October 2**

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

### **FRIDAY, October 3**

### **SATURDAY, October 4**

8:00 a.m.	Officer Retreat	Fellowship Hall
-----------	-----------------	-----------------

### **SUNDAY, October 5**

#### ***World Communion Sunday***

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary &amp; Livestream</b>
11:30	Fellowship Time	Lounge
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Room 220
Noon	Deacons Meeting	Conference Room

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](http://mpcusa.org/calendar) to see when events takes place and room availability.

iPhone



## **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!

Need help? Email [Office@mpcusa.org](mailto:Office@mpcusa.org) and ask that your questions be forwarded to the Stewardship Committee.

Android



## **CONTACT US**

### **MORRISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

771 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Morrisville, PA 19067 | 215.295.4191 | [Office@MPCusa.org](mailto:Office@MPCusa.org) | [www.MPCusa.org](http://www.MPCusa.org)

J. Thomas Kort, <i>Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff</i> .....	<a href="mailto:TomKort@MPCusa.org">TomKort@MPCusa.org</a>
Alexander Lester-Abdalla, <i>Associate Pastor (ext. 225)</i> .....	<a href="mailto:AlexLester-Abdalla@MPCusa.org">AlexLester-Abdalla@MPCusa.org</a>
Carter Lester, <i>Interim Pastor of Visitation</i> .....	<a href="mailto:RevCarterLester@gmail.com">RevCarterLester@gmail.com</a>
Timothy Carpenter, <i>Director of Music</i> .....	<a href="mailto:TimCarpenter@MPCusa.org">TimCarpenter@MPCusa.org</a>
Yun Kang, <i>Principal Organist</i> .....	<a href="mailto:YunKang@MPCusa.org">YunKang@MPCusa.org</a>
Kevin Subers, <i>Coordinator of Christian Education</i> .....	<a href="mailto:KevinSubers@MPCusa.org">KevinSubers@MPCusa.org</a>
David Sterling, <i>Property Manager (ext. 231)</i> .....	<a href="mailto:DavidSterling@MPCusa.org">DavidSterling@MPCusa.org</a>
Amanda White, <i>Financial Support Administrator</i> .....	<a href="mailto:AmandaWhite@MPCusa.org">AmandaWhite@MPCusa.org</a>
Damon Miller, <i>Communication Coordinator</i> .....	<a href="mailto:DamonMiller@MPCusa.org">DamonMiller@MPCusa.org</a>
Kimberly Turner, <i>Administrative Assistant (ext. 0)</i> .....	<a href="mailto:Office@MPCusa.org">Office@MPCusa.org</a>