



*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
FIFTH SUNDAY
in LENT
MARCH 22, 2026 ~ 10:30 A.M.

GATHERING

WORDS of WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lester-Abdalla

PRELUDE — *What Wondrous Love Is This* - Mark Hayes

Yun Kang

INTROIT — *Lord, Be with Us* - Eugene Butler

Chancel Choir

*Lord, be with us in these forty days; let us sing your praise.
Vanquish, scatter all our hate and fear as your passion draws near.*
—anonymous

CALL to WORSHIP

Nancy Powers, Liturgist

One: God of all creation, in Christ you make all things new.

All: **During this time of worship transform the poverty of our nature by the richness of your grace. In our praise and adoration, tune our wills so they are in harmony with your holy will.**

One: Come, let us worship and praise the Lord!

HYMN — *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

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

PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of compassion, you are slow to anger, and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts. Receive us in your loving embrace, as we come seeking forgiveness. Grant us purity of heart, mind, and strength. For our hearts are often hardened by our arrogance and pride. Our thoughts have not always been pure. In our weakness we have failed to be instruments of your love and peace. Forgive us. Heal us. Restore us, as silently we confess our sin.

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

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: Listen to the promise of the scriptures. By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is a gift of God. Friends believe the good news.

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

Je - sus, Re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

5
Je - sus, Re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

LITURGY of the WORD

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING — *Psalm 117*

One: Praise the Lord, all you nations!

All: Extol him, all you peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM — *See What Love Hath the Father* - Felix Mendelssohn

*See what love hath the Father bestowed in His goodness,
that we should be called God's own children.*

—paraphrase from the book of Acts by Julius Schubring

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

SCRIPTURE READING — *Romans 8:14-17 & John 19:25-27*

Rev. Dr. Tom Kort

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Are You an Orphan?

Rev. Dr. Kort

HYMN — *God Is Here!* (verses 1, 3, & 4)

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.*

*Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*

*Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.*

*Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.*

*Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!*

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

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.

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 — *Via Dolorosa: Way of Suffering* - Billy Sprague

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 — *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which for our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

CHARGE *and* BLESSING

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — *Amen*

POSTLUDE — *Minuet from Music for the Royal Fireworks* - G. F. Handel

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 the evening's program
& speaker

Reflections on Lent
Reflections on Lent

Wednesday, March 25 - Ray Hendrickson



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 Carol Carpenter in loving memory of her father, Albert D. Wismar. The second arrangement is given in loving memory of Florence "Peggy" Kohn by her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Interested in exploring membership at Morrisville Presbyterian Church? Our spring new member classes will be held on May 14 and May 31. To sign up or for more information, please contact the church office at office@mpcusa.org or 215-295-4191.

FOOD CENTER'S MARCH REQUEST

For the month of March, the requested food donation is mac and cheese. A shopping cart has been put in the Welcome Center to receive your donations. Thank you for your continued generosity!

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. Make a donation by returning the egg to the church with your donation inside by March 29 (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!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDS FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAY BASKET DISTRIBUTION

The Deacons Holiday Basket Ministry 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 Easter Holiday Baskets on Saturday, March 28, between 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the church.

If you can volunteer, you can [sign up here](#) or contact the church office at 215-295-4191 or Curt Rimler at 609-638-6670 or at CurtisRimler@comcast.net. We appreciate your ongoing support.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING COLLECTED NEXT SUNDAY

The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Offering will be collected on Palm Sunday, March 29 during worship. Received during the season of Lent, each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations. This PCUSA special offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. If you would like to participate, please write "OGHS" on your check and use the envelopes located in your pew. You may also give online at mpcusa.org/give. Please include "OGHS" in the "Notes" box in the payment section. Thank you for your generosity and support.

UPCOMING ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

On March 29, Rev. Dr. Tom Kort will lead the class on faith. "Our faith depends on the resurrection of Jesus Christ; however, you cannot prove it. Even though it cannot be proved, there is amazing evidence that it happened and forever changed the world. Do you know what evidence there is to support the claim of Easter? Hope to see you in class."

SUPPORT THE MPC CLOTHING CENTER & SPREAD THE WORD

The Clothing Center is more than just clothes. We sell so much more: housewares, linens, jewelry, and home décor to name a few items. We are open on Thursdays, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. from now till mid-June. We invite you to stop by and see the array of items for sale and ask for your help to spread the word about the important mission provided by this gem of a shop located in our church basement. All of our proceeds are distributed to other charitable organizations in our community.

Thank you to all who have supported the Clothing Center through the years with your donations and patronage. For further information, please contact Kathleen Foster at kathleenf949@gmail.com.

MPC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - NEXT READING

The group's next reading is *My Friends* by Fredrik Backman. The author returns with an unforgettably funny, deeply moving tale of four teenagers whose friendship creates a bond so powerful that it changes a complete stranger's life twenty-five years later.

Discussion on the book will take place on Monday, April 13, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. 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.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARENESS

One of the aims of the Outreach Committee is to develop awareness of social injustices and work to combat them through education and advocacy. Anyone who wishes to receive information regarding upcoming events and efforts to address social justice issues locally and globally, please contact Alice Garcia at 609-230-1786 or agarcia28@verizon.net or Carol Carpenter at 267-243-1951 or carol.w.carpenter@gmail.com to add your name to our contact list.

SCOUT TROOP 3 CLOTHING DRIVE

Scout Troop 3 is hosting a Clothing Drive through May 3. Along with clean clothing, you can donate books and clean houseware items for this fundraiser. The goal is to reach 4000 lbs. of soft items. You can drop off your donations on Monday evenings in Fellowship Hall from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. If it's more convenient to drop off items on Sunday before or after service, we will have a trash can marked for the Scout Drop-Off at the bottom of the steps outside of room 4. Thank you for your participation during this fundraiser.

INTERFAITH OPPORTUNITY

Congregation Beth El of Bucks County is having a very special speaker on Sunday, April 12, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Professional basketball player and son of former NBA and college hoops star Ernie Grunfeld, Dan Grunfeld, will be giving a presentation on his book, *By the Grace of the Game*. The book is a "multi-generational family epic detailing history's only known journey from Auschwitz to the NBA." To register for the event and more details, please visit the Congregation Beth El website at bethelyardley.org and follow the link from the homepage.

April 2
Fellowship Hall
JOIN US for MAUNDY Thursday
6:00 p.m. Soup Supper
6:30 p.m. Worship Service

April 5
10:30 a.m.
JOIN US for EASTER Sunday
He is Risen!
Livestream of service available at mpcusa.org

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, March 22 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Nominating Committee	Room 200
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
Noon	Adonai Tabernacle	Chapel

MONDAY, March 23

6:30 p.m.	Mostly Motets	Music Room
6:30	Cub Pack 3	Rooms 220 & 122
6:30	Scout Troop 3	Room 220
7:00	Food Center Food Packing	Room 4
7:00	Scouts Parent Meeting	Lounge
7:30	Session	Conference Room

TUESDAY, March 24

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

WEDNESDAY, March 25

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

WEDNESDAY, March 25 (continued)

6:00 p.m.	Lenten Soup Supper	Fellowship Hall
6:00	Youth Club	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Room 121

THURSDAY, March 26

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

FRIDAY, March 27

SATURDAY, March 28

8:30 a.m.	Deacon Easter Holiday	Fellowship Hall
	Basket Distribution	

SUNDAY, March 29 - Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m.	God's Thunder Rehearsal	Room 121
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
9:30	Scout Bake Sale	Welcome Center
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestream
11:30	Nominating Committee	Room 200
11:45	Youth Choir	Music Room
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 takes place and room availability.

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