



*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 NOVEMBER 20, 2022
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE — *My Heart Rejoices* - Edward Broughton

Yun Kang

CHORAL INTROIT — *Glory and Worship are Before Him* - Henry Purcell

Chancel Choir

*Glory and worship are before Him; power and honor are in His sanctuary.
He shall judge the people righteously.
'Tis He that hath made the round earth so sure that it cannot be moved.
He shall judge the people righteously.*

— Psalm 96: 6,10

CALL to WORSHIP

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

One: God has looked favorably on all of God's people and has redeemed all of creation.
All: God has given us a mighty Savior, the Lord whose reign we celebrate.
One: We gather to offer thanks and praise to our almighty God.
All: Let us worship God together!

HYMN — *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!*

LYONS

*O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.*

*O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form;
and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.*

*The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your power has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast like a mantle, the sea.*

*Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.*

*Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.*

PRAYER of CONFESSION -

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

Gracious Lord, we are quick to identify our enemies and slow to name the ways we hurt others. You lead us in the ways of righteousness, and yet we prefer to walk our own path. We are called to follow your lead in creating a beloved community, yet we often turn to hatred and violence. Heal us and help us, O God. Turn us from the ways of sin, the means that create unjust ends. Grant that we may seek to be servants of your kingdom, participating in your holy work of peace. Amen.

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

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: People of God, hear the good news concerning the love and forgiveness of God: *“As far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us.”* Together let us proclaim the good news of the gospel:

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING — *Luke 1:68-79*

One: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

All: **He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David,**

One: As he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old.

All: **Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant,**

One: The oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness in his presence all our days.

All: **Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,**

One: To shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

One: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM — *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven* - R. Christopher Teichler

*Praise my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.*

*Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress.
Praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!*

*Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows!*

*Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.
Saints, triumphant, bow before him, gathered in from every place.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!*

— *Psalm 103*, adapted by Henry F. Lyte

TIME for YOUNG DISCIPLES

OLD TESTAMENT READING — *Psalm 46*

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
 God will help it when the morning dawns.
 The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
 he utters his voice; the earth melts.
 The Lord of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our refuge.
 Come, behold the works of the Lord;
 see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
 he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
 he burns the shields with fire.
 “Be still, and know that I am God!
 I am exalted among the nations;
 I am exalted in the earth.”
 The Lord of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our refuge.
 One: This is the Word of the Lord.
 All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

A Call to Stillness

Tori Paquette

HYMN — *God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

WINCHESTER OLD

*God is our refuge and our strength,
 our ever-present aid,
 and therefore, though the earth be moved,
 we will not be afraid;*

*Though hills amid the seas be cast,
 though foaming waters roar,
 yea, though the mighty billows shake
 the mountains on the shore.*

*Where God abides a river flows;
 that city will rejoice.*
*But nations fear and kingdoms shake
 before God's thundering voice.*

*Since God is in the midst of it,
 the city walls shall stand,
 secure and safe with God's sure help,
 when trouble is at hand.*

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

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS of THANKSGIVING and SUPPLICATION

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 — *Amazing Grace* - E. O. Excell

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 — *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

*If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
with hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
to bear through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the rock that nought can move.*

*Only be still, and wait God's leisure
in cheerful hope, with heart content
to take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure
and all-discerning love hath sent.
No doubt our inmost wants are clear
to One who holds us always dear.*

*Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,
but do thine own part faithfully.
Trust the rich promises of grace;
so shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need
the soul secured by trust indeed.*

CHARGE *and* BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION — *Amen*

POSTLUDE — *Celebration!* - David Paxton

QUESTION *for* REFLECTION

- What does trusting God look like in a turbulent world?

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.net.***

TODAY'S CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are offered to the glory of God and are given by Howard and Joan Barley in celebration of their 39th wedding anniversary: they were married in MPC's sanctuary on Sunday, November 20, 1983. The second arrangement is given in loving memory of Dorothea E. Scheidemantel, a beloved and dedicated member, by her daughter, Sally Sue Scheidemantel.

THANK YOU TO THE BLUE JEAN SUNDAY CREW

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Blue Jean Sunday last week. Volunteers helped clean the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and the kitchen as well as removing leaves from around the building. Please take a moment to thank Property Manager David Sterling for his efforts in coordinating this event and all he does in the life of this church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There will be no Sunday School for all groups on November 27, December 25, and January 1, 2023.

ONLINE FELLOWSHIP

Did you know that each Sunday afternoon starting at 12:30 p.m., several church members meet via Zoom to check in, share ideas and have a few laughs? We meet for about forty minutes, and you can log on when you are available. If you attend church remotely, are a snowbird and go to a warmer climate during the winter season, or want to share some fellowship time with welcoming and caring church members, please email Karla Jones at kmdjones@verizon.net of your interest. She will add you to the email listing to receive the Zoom link.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

The Deacons are happy to announce we will be bringing back the Church Angel Tree for the Christmas Holiday! We are once again working with the Food Center to prepare toiletry bags for the many individuals we serve each week from the Lower Bucks County and greater Trenton area. We are asking anyone interested in taking an Angel from the tree, to fill a one-gallon Ziplock bag with the following items:

- 2 Toothpastes (regular size)
- 2 Bars of Wrapped Soap (neutral scent)
- 2 Toothbrushes
- 2 Deodorants (neutral scent)

A "blessing" from MPC is printed on one side of each Angel, the item list printed on the other side. Please include the Angel in each Ziplock bag with the items. We know how generous our congregation is, and ask that you not include extra items, instead, perhaps fill another bag.

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 Communication Center. We ask that all bags be delivered no later than December 27, for distribution to our Food Center clients beginning in the New Year! We are so grateful and thankful to all of you, and for all you do each year to make our Christmas Angel Tree such a success!

If you have any questions, please email Patti Sheffer at patricia.sheffer@yahoo.com.

YOU'RE INVITED TO MPC'S ADVENT CELEBRATION & LUNCH

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel! Join us in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 4, after worship as we gather together to prepare for Jesus' arrival! All ages are welcome to join us for fellowship, a simple meal, and Advent & Christmas crafts, which will be used to decorate our own homes this season, as well as share the joy of Christ's coming with our neighbors and community. Please sign up in the Friendship Pads by writing "Festival" next to your name or by contacting the church office at office@mv.org or 215-295-4191. Everyone is welcome at this intergenerational event.

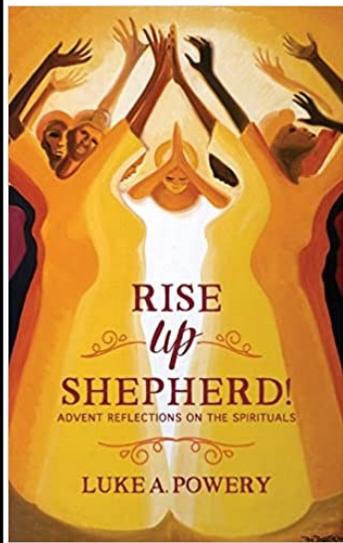
CHANCEL FLOWERS NEEDED FOR DECEMBER

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. An arrangement is \$30 and can be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of someone or a special event, or in gratitude for a ministry or act of kindness. Not only do these flowers add beauty to our worship service, but they are also a part of the Flower Ministry's outreach to our church family.

New Sermon Series for Advent

Rise Up Shepherd!

We have a unique opportunity this Advent! As part of the Zick Preaching Scholars, Rachel has joined with pastors from five other Presbyterian congregations to put together an Advent series for 2022. These pastors serve congregations in California, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Each of the pastors will be sharing in the planning and writing of liturgy for the Sundays, and the group has contracted the Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of the Chapel at Duke University, to provide a series of study videos that we will be incorporating into our Advent Adult Education Series. Additionally, we will be using Dr. Powery's Advent Devotional, *Rise Up Shepherd!: Advent Reflections on the Spirituals*, as a guide for personal spiritual reflection. Copies will be available in the Communication Center.



The Zick Preaching Scholars is a program sponsored by George and Cathy Manning in memory of her parents John and Mary Zick, longtime members of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City. The group is facilitated by former Fifth Avenue senior pastor, the Rev. Dr. Tom Tewell.

Members of this cohort include:

- The Rev. Dr. Jay Howell, Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, Tennessee
- The Rev. Dr. Andy Morgan, Fountain City Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, Tennessee
- The Rev. Dr. Jessica Patchett, Christ Presbyterian Church, Madison, Wisconsin
- The Rev. Rachel Achtemeier Rhodes, Morrisville Presbyterian Church, Morrisville, Pennsylvania
- The Rev. Jessica Vaughan-Lower, San Marino Community Church, San Marino, California
- The Rev. Andrew Whaley, Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, Virginia

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - NEXT BOOK

Our next selection will be *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel (388 pgs, historic fiction, WWII era, preserving the original identities of children while giving them new papers to escape the Nazis). We will meet for a discussion on Tuesday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge. All are welcome! Contact Shellie Stoddard at stoddard.shellie@gmail.com or 215-510-5717 with questions or to confirm your attendance.

TODAY! COLOR OF LAW DISCUSSION

Today, we will be having a discussion at MPC on the book *Color of Law*, by Richard Rothstein, from noon to 1:30 p.m. following worship. This is a chance for us to explore questions and issues of identity and race as we strive each day to become better Christians and members of our community. This book was selected by folks in the church who participated in a community building and constructive conversation around Debbie Irving's book *Waking Up White*.

DICTIONARIES AND THESAURUSES WANTED

The Jefferson Elementary School in Trenton has asked the Book Distribution to provide dictionaries for their 400 families. Adult and children's dictionaries and thesauruses are very useful for families and students. Please place your donations in the plastic box next to the book carts near the Lounge. Please call Susan Light at 215 801 8185 if you have any questions.

So far we have donated 24 hardcover and 12 paperback adult dictionaries, 8 children's hardcover and 2 paperback dictionaries, 12 adult hardcover thesauruses and 3 paperbacks, and 3 children's thesauruses.

SUPPORT THE TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN

MPC has supported the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) substantially for years. TASK's mission is to feed those who are hungry in the Trenton area and to offer programs to encourage self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life. TASK is so much more than a soup kitchen! They serve nutritious meals, free of charge, no questions asked to anyone who comes seeking nourishment. They also provide education, job training and workforce development that empowers people to pursue their hopes and dreams; and provide case management, access to community resources, and assistance to help neighbors in need. Not only has MPC supported this organization financially, but prior to the pandemic, MPC volunteers travelled to Trenton to prepare meals and support for those in attendance. Might we continue this outreach, both financially and "hands-on"? Contact Ray Hendrickson at hrh1453@gmail.com for additional information or for volunteer opportunities. Visit trentonsoupkitchen.org for more information on TASK.

MPC Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, November 20

8:30 a.m.	<i>God's Thunder</i> Rehearsal	Chapel
9:30	Sunday School for all ages	
10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:30	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
	Host: Trustees	
11:45	Teen Choir	Music Room
Noon	<i>Color of Law</i>	Conference Room
	Book Discussion	

MONDAY, November 21

6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
6:30	Mostly Motets	Music Room
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
7:00	Boy Scout Troop 3	Lounge
	Parent & Board Meetings	

TUESDAY, November 22

6:00 p.m.	Cub Scout Pack 3	Fellowship Hall
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WEDNESDAY, November 23

9:00 a.m.	Food Center	Parking Lot
6:00	Cub Scout Pack 3	Room 220
7:00	Girl Scout Troop 2888	Room 220
7:15	Chancel Chimes	Chapel

THURSDAY, November 24

Church Office closed

FRIDAY, November 25

Church Office closed

6:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 3	Fellowship Hall
	Lock-In	
7:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	Lounge

SATURDAY, November 26

1:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 3	Parking Lot
	Christmas Tree Sale	

SUNDAY, November 27 - 1st Sunday of Advent

10:30	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30	Worship Service	Livestream
11:45	Teen Choir	Music Room

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

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Android



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 and ask that your questions be forwarded to the stewardship committee.

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