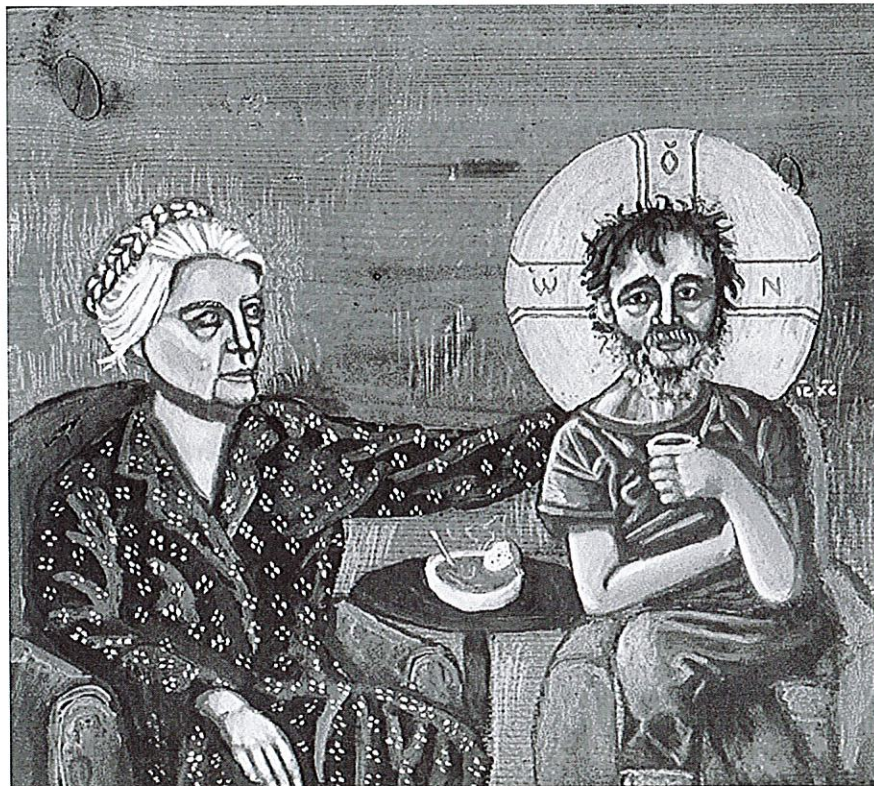




MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 East Simpson Street • Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596
717-697-0351 • www.mechpresby.org
January 21, 2024 • 3rd Sunday after Epiphany • 8:15 & 11am

Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church is a marvelous mixture of God's people. We are strong and weak, sad and joyful, faithful and sinful, graced and searching, young and old, married, single, divorced and widowed. Regardless of who we are, we need one another and we need to celebrate Jesus Christ who lives within us. We're glad you're here!



"Dorothy Day" | from *Art in the Christian Tradition*
| Kelly Latimore | Kelly Latimore Icons

Gathering Around the Word

We gather knowing God is with us.

Quiet Meditation

The greatest challenge of the day is: how to bring about a revolution of the heart, a revolution which has to start with each one of us? When we begin to take the lowest place, to wash the feet of others, to love our brothers with that burning love, that passion, which led to the cross, then we can truly say, "Now I have begun." ~ Dorothy Day, *Loaves and Fishes*, 1897.

Prelude

Deep River

William Felton

Welcome

Introit #414

Be Still and Know

Psalm 46

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God. (3x)

***Call to Worship**

based on Psalm 62:5-12

Our souls wait in silence;

our hope rests in God

our rock, our salvation, our refuge.

We will not be shaken.

In this time of worship,

we pour out our hearts because we trust in God's steadfast love.

***Hymn #619**

Praise My Soul the God of Heaven

Lauda Anima

***Prayer of Confession**

Why do we confess our sin?

Because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

But why do we do this together?

Because we are a community, a covenant people.

Then, let us confess our sin.

God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down in Nineveh. We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. We confess the parts of us that say, "unfair" rather than thanking you for your mercy for all - including us. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy. Let us hear your good news again for us and for all... (time of silent confession).

***Assurance of Pardon**

*We pour the water into the baptismal font to symbolize the faithfulness of God and the washing away of sin.
Remember your baptism!*

***Response #582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Vasile

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Proclaiming the Word

We experience the Word of God.

Beloved Children of God Moment

We invite children to remain in worship. The nursery is available with parental supervision.

Response #701

Sanctuary

Sanctuary

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you. (3x)

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Mark 1:14-20

NT pg. 35

The story of God for the people of God... **thanks be to God.**
Anthem *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me* Jay Althouse
MPC Chancel Choir

Second Lesson Jonah 3:1-10 OT pg. 86o
The story of God for the people of God... **thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Prophet Margins* Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston
Joint Account (1/14) ~ Liability (1/21) ~ Beneficiary (1/28) ~ Compound Interest (2/4) ~ Liquidity (2/11)

Selah: A Holy Pause for Silent Reflection

A chime will sound to mark the transition to the next element of worship.

Responding to the Word

We affirm our faith and commitment to the Word of God.

***Hymn #22** *God of the Sparrow* Roeder

Declaration of Faith A Brief Statement of Faith, 52-76
The following is an excerpt from A Brief Statement of Faith, which was adopted in 1983 after the two largest Presbyterian churches in the United States reunited. The statement professes faith in one universal Church while also honoring the Church's diversity.

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. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls [all people] to all ministries of 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!" Amen.

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Response: In your mercy Lord, hear our 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 of Tithes & Gifts

Offertory *Shall We Gather at the River* Hugh Livingston, Jr.

***Doxology #60g** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* Lasst Uns Erfreuen
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known. Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Bearing & Following the Word

We declare the Word of God throughout the week.

*Hymn #435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

In Babilone

*Charge & Benediction

Response #722, v. 2

Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak

Canonbury

***O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungry ones with manna sweet.***

Postlude

Praise to the Lord

Johann Gottfried Walther

Welcome to worship this morning!

Bold print indicates congregational reading or response.

An asterisk * indicates when to stand in body or in spirit.

Offerings are welcome! Place in the plates at each of the entrances or give online.

New here? Check out our website: mechpresby.org

The yellow rose symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

JOIN US IN THE THOUGHTFUL CHRISTIAN CLASS

Today! – Malpezzi Funeral Home will be our guest next today. They will walk us through the how-to's of preplanning a funeral.

1/28 – Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley, our Ministry Relations Officer at the Presbyterian Foundation, will "Continue Our Story," a workshop discussing how to discern your legacy, and make a planned gift to continue your ministry here.

Courageous Conversations – Today, January 21

Join us on **January 21st from 6:30pm-8:00pm** for our new, inter-congregational education series where we will explore topics related to our Christian faith. MPC will host the first conversation on the topic of food insecurity in Central PA. You are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food donation for the Central Pennsylvania food bank (no glass or home-canned items), and a friend!

New Member Class – January 28 at noon!

Life is better together! Our New Member Class is a time for you to enjoy a yummy lunch and learn more about MPC, what being a member means, and if that's right for you! You will learn about all the offerings at MPC, information on the Presbyterian church, discuss what it means to follow Christ, and how to grow faith. After the class, you can join our church officially, or if you aren't 100% sure that's okay - you can wait! Sign up using Starting Point online (under the "I'm New tab") or on forms found at the back of the Sanctuary! Need childcare or have food allergies/restrictions? Contact aweir@mechpresby.org

Our Worship Leaders

Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston – Pastor | Rev. Emily D. Sutphin – Associate Pastor
Cathay L. Snyder – Christian Education Director | Mark G. McKeever – Director of Music
Katie Chase (8:15), Rita Boyer (11) – Readers

Ministers

All members of the congregation

Senior Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston (she/her)..... kjohnston@mechpresby.org
Associate Pastor Rev. Emily D. Sutphin (she/her) esutphin@mechpresby.org
Christian Education Director Cathay L. Snyder (she/her) csnyder@mechpresby.org
Director of Music Mark G. McKeever (he/him) mmckeever@mechpresby.org
Church Administrator Angela J. Weir (she/her) aweir@mechpresby.org
Playful Beginnings Director..... Karen P. Taylor (she/her) playfulbeginnings.mpc@gmail.com

**MECHANICSBURG
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

mechpresby.org



300 E. Simpson St.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717-697-0351

SESSION

Class of 2024

Dan Alex, Bob Bell, Katie Chase,
Becky Giovagnoli, Lori Heenan

Class of 2025

Amy Berry, Ted Foor, Sue Karakantas,
Larry Stoner, Rick Whitcomb

Class of 2026

Nils Hagen-Frederiksen, Kelli
Scurfield, Ran Singiser, Jenn
Thomson, Tim Wonder

DEACONS

Class of 2024

Marybeth Hummel, Ken Kleinert, Rich
Marlin, Cathy Petko, Kim Savidge,
Jan Whitcomb

Class of 2025

Martie Bricker, Shannon Hammel,
Grace House, Bill Klebe, Judy Klebe,
Keni Melphis

Class of 2026

Heather Barto, Jan Burrows, Dave
Donat, Lara Frymark, Debi Gross,
Patti Hinkson

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**Church Office Hours**

**9-4:30 Monday-Thursday  
Closed Fridays**

1/21/2024

**WELCOME TO MPC**

**More People Caring**

Whether you're a first time visitor, a long time  
member, or anywhere in between—

We're glad you're here!



**SUBSCRIBE**

Send an email to  
[aweir@mechpresby.org](mailto:aweir@mechpresby.org) to  
sign up for the weekly email.



**LIKE**

Follow the page 'Mechanicsburg  
Presbyterian' to get event info &  
photos in your newsfeed.



**GIVE**

Text "mechpresby" to  
73256 or click on the  
"GIVE" tab at [mechpresby.org](http://mechpresby.org)



**WEEKLY SERVICES & THINGS TO KNOW**

**Sundays: 8:15 & 11am Worship; 9:35 Sunday School**

**February 4: 9:30 Sunday School; 10:30am Worship**

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**Children are welcome** in worship and are invited to participate in Communion. Activity packets can be found in the back and there are children's tables in the front and back of the Sanctuary.

**Restrooms** with baby changing stations can be found through the middle Sanctuary door, to the left of the kitchen. Non-gendered restrooms are located through the front right Sanctuary door, down the hallway and on the right.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (9:35am)

Age 2—K | Center Room (Nursery Wing)  
**1st-5th grades** | Lower Fellowship Hall  
**6th-8th** | Confirmation Class | Mission & Student Center  
**9th-12th** | Chat & Chew | Mission & Student Center  
**Joyful Hearts** | P.W. Conference Room  
 Women's class studying *Ephesians*  
**Dave Petko Class** | Library  
 Bible study currently looking at the Book of Esther  
**Thoughtful Christian** | Upper Fellowship Hall  
 Short-term studies focused on current events & issues.

## ANNUAL MEETING

**& Baked Potato Brunch Fundraiser | UFH | Sunday, February 4 | 10:30am**  
 Worship on February 4th will include our Annual Meeting. Come and celebrate the joy of 2023 and look ahead to what is to come in 2024. The Annual Baked Potato Brunch fundraiser will follow the worship service.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**UnTapped Conversations | Grand Illusion | Thursday, January 25 | 7:00pm**  
 Join us for some lively conversations, fun, and lots of laughter! It's always a great time of fellowship with MPC members and friends and a great way to connect! We will be meeting at Grand Illusion on 26 W. High Street, Carlisle. Questions about UnTapped Conversations? Contact Cathay Snyder, [csnyder@mechpresby.org](mailto:csnyder@mechpresby.org)

**Tuesday Nights @ MPC | UFH | 1st & 3rd Tuesdays**  
**Next one: Tuesday, February 6 | 5:30pm Dinner**  
 ALL ages are invited for dinner, fellowship, and activities. We gather in Upper Fellowship Hall and go from there. **CHILDREN'S CHOIR REHEARSAL AT 6PM.**

### 6th—12th Grade Events *Friends Are Always Welcome!*

**1/28 | 4th @ 304 | 6pm-7:30 | M&S Center**  
**2/4 | Baked Potato Brunch Fundraiser | 9:30am | UFH**  
**2/9 | Learn! Crat! Eat! | 5pm-8:00 | UFH**  
**2/25 | 4th @ 304 | 6pm-7:30 | M&S Center**  
**3/10 | Escape Room! | 6:00pm-8:00 | M&S Center**

| January 21 - January 28, 2024 |          |                          |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Sunday                        | 8:15 AM  | Sunday Worship Service   |
|                               | 9:35 AM  | Sunday School            |
|                               | 11:00 AM | Sunday Worship Service   |
|                               | 3:45 PM  | Boy Scouts, LFH          |
| Monday                        | 6:30 PM  | Courageous Conversations |
|                               | 7:00 PM  | Session Meeting, UFH     |
| Tuesday                       | 8:30 PM  | Alcoholics Anon, LFH     |
|                               | 6:00 PM  | Girl Scouts, LFH         |
| Wednesday                     | 3:30 PM  | B.O.W., M&S Center       |
|                               | 5:30 PM  | Bells, Sanctuary         |
|                               | 7:00 PM  | Choir, Choir Room        |
| Thursday                      | 12:00 PM | Pastor's Bible Study     |
|                               | 7:00 PM  | UnTapped                 |
| Friday                        | 6:15 AM  | Men's Fellowship, PWCR   |
| Saturday                      |          |                          |
| Sunday                        | 8:15 AM  | Sunday Worship Service   |
|                               | 9:35 AM  | Sunday School            |
|                               | 11:00 AM | Sunday Worship Service   |
|                               | 12:00 PM | New Member Class         |
|                               | 3:45 PM  | Boy Scouts, LFH          |

**Learn! Craft! Eat! | Friday, Feb. 9 | 5-8pm**  
 An evening of learning, crafting, eating, and fun for kids from pre-k through 5th grade. This is a great time for an Adults' Night Out! The suggested donation is \$5 p/child or \$10 for a family. Contact Pastor Emily if your child(ren) will be attending or if you are interested in volunteering. Friends of MPC welcome!

**Valentine's Dance | Saturday, Feb. 10 | 7-8:30pm**  
 No experience necessary, lessons provided! We will learn easy square dance, line dances, and choreographed ballroom dances. All are welcome! A free will offering will be taken. Suggested donation is \$5 a person or \$10 per family.



## 3 WAYS TO GIVE



**IN SERVICE**  
 Offering stands  
 by doors



**ONLINE**  
 MechPresby.org  
 Click "Give"



**TEXT**  
 Text "MechPresby"  
 to 73256

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