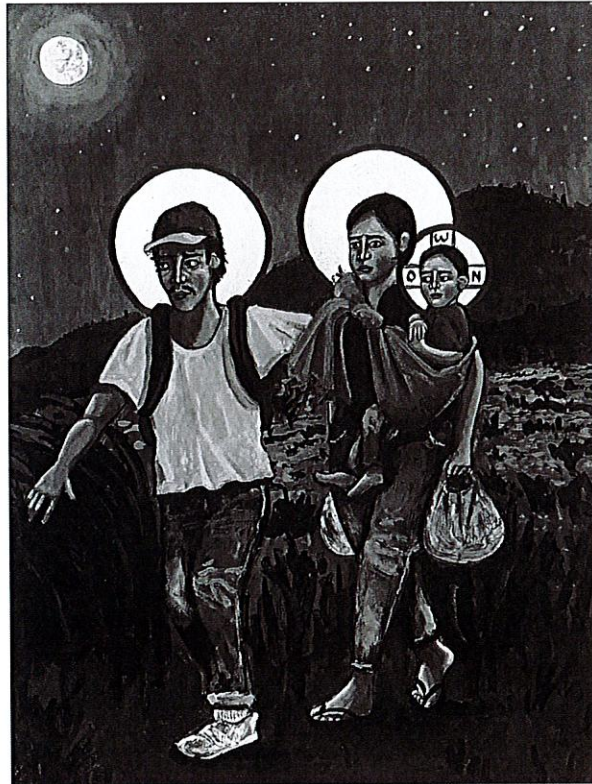




MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 East Simpson Street • Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596
717-697-0351 • www.mechpresby.org

January 28, 2024 • 4th 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!



"La Sagrada Familia" | from *Art in the Christian Tradition*
| Kelly Latimore | Kelly Latimore Icons

Gathering Around the Word

We gather knowing God is with us.

Quiet Meditation

Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world. ~ Dolores Huerta (born 1930), civil rights activist and American labor leader.

Prelude

Dearest Jesus, We are Here

JSB, BWV 634

Welcome

Moment for Mission

CWS Blankets

Katie Chase (8:15), Mary Polson (11:00)

***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**

adapted from Psalm 111

Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

Great are your works, O Lord, inspiring all who delight in them.

Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

Your wonders are remembered from age to age;

You are gracious,

Full of compassion throughout all the generations.

***Hymn #451**

Open My Eyes

Open My Eyes

***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.

Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory and heard your true word. Yet our sinfulness often causes us to turn from Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have strayed from your ways, following false prophets and lies. We have ignored your word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace, that day by day we might move closer to the people you call us to be ... (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

Matthew 7:15-20

NT pg. 7

The story of God for the people of God... **thanks be to God.**

Anthem (11am)

Shout to the Lord

Darlene Zschech, arr. Stan Pethel

MPC Chancel Choir

Second Lesson

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

OT pg. 174

The story of God for the people of God... **thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Prophet Margins

Rev. Emily D. Sutphin

*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 #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

*Declaration of Faith

A Brief Statement of Faith, 1-26

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 believe] in life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. 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. 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

Dearest Jesus, We are Here

JSB, BWV 751

*Doxology #609

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 #634

To God Be the Glory

To God Be the Glory

*Charge & Benediction

Response #722, v. 3

Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak

Canonbury

*O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.*

Postlude

Fugue in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel

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! – 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.

2/4 – No Thoughtful Christian class, but come join us to help prepare for our baked potato brunch!

Gifts of the Heart – February 11

During the Thoughtful Christian class on February 11, we will pack kits for Gifts of the Heart. Gifts of the Heart is a ministry of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. These kits will be sent to people in need of disaster relief assistance. Please consider donating the following items for the kits: hand towels (16”x 28”), washcloths, wide-tooth combs, nail clippers, bars of soap, toothbrushes, and band-aids. Donations can be dropped off to Pastor Emily throughout the week or brought to the Thoughtful Christian class.

New Member Class – Today 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
Kevin Breen (8:15), Sarah Crown (11) – Readers

Ministers

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

All members of the congregation

**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**

1/28/2024

**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!**

**3 WAYS TO GIVE**



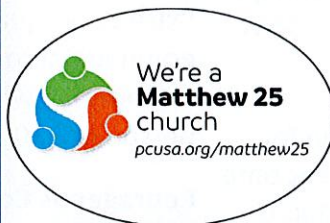
**IN SERVICE**  
Offering stands  
by doors



**TEXT**  
Text "MechPresby"  
to 73256



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



**WEEKLY SERVICES & THINGS TO KNOW**

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

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

**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:

**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.**

**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!

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

**Today! | 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 28 - February 4, 2024

|           |          |                        |
|-----------|----------|------------------------|
| 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        |
|           | 6:00 PM  | 4th @ 304, M&S Center  |
| Monday    | 8:30 PM  | Alcoholics Anon, LFH   |
| Tuesday   |          |                        |
| Wednesday | 10:00 AM | Cornerstone Mailing    |
|           | 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   |
| Friday    | 6:15 AM  | Men's Fellowship, PWCR |
| Saturday  |          |                        |
| Sunday    | 9:30 AM  | Sunday School          |
|           | 10:30 AM | Sunday Worship Service |
|           | 10:30 AM | Annual Meeting         |
|           | 11:30 PM | Baked Potato Brunch    |
|           | 3:45 PM  | Boy Scouts, LFH        |

**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.

**Courageous Conversations | Sunday, Feb. 25 | 6:30-8:00pm**

Join us for the second conversation in our Courageous Conversations education series. The conversation will be held at Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ Church. The topic is human trafficking in the mid-state area.

### Holy Week & Easter Schedule

2/14 | Ash Wednesday | 3:00pm & 7:30pm  
 3/24 | Palm Sunday | 8:15 & 11:00am  
 3/28 | Maundy Thursday | 7:30pm  
 3/29 | Good Friday | 7:30pm  
 3/31 | Easter | 9:30 & 11:00am

By entering an event or program on these premises, you are entering an area where photography, audio and video recording will occur. Your entry and presence constitute your consent to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded and to the release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction of any and all recorded media of your appearance, voice, and name for any purpose whatsoever in connection with Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church and its initiatives, including, by way of example only, use on websites, in social media, and advertising.