

Here I am Lord



Stewardship Sunday
11/12/17

MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 East Simpson Street • Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596

717-697-0351 • www.mechpresby.org

November 12, 2017 • 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time • 8:15 & 11am



MORE
PEOPLE
CARING.

*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!*

ENTER TO WORSHIP – DEPART TO SERVE

Prelude

Song of Faith

C. Penfield

Welcome & Concerns of the Church

During this time, please take a moment to sign the pew pad and pass it along the pew, taking note of the persons sitting with you so you can greet them warmly by name.

Moment for Mission

The Giving Tree

*Call to Worship

Holy God, untamed by the names we give you,

Come and meet us.

God of creation, whose hands shaped mud into your likeness,

Come and meet us.

Tender God, who is forming us into a sign of the new community,

We are here to meet you. Let us worship God!

*Hymn #401

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

*Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Gracious God, you have made a world for us and given us incomparable gifts.

For all the gifts and wonders you have bestowed on us we give God thanks and praise.

O God, you created us to love one another as Christ has loved us.

Throughout the ages you have challenged your people to step out in faith and follow you.

May your Holy Spirit lead us in joyful song and fill us with eager anticipation.

You are our vision, O God; lead us on our journey. Amen.

*Response #581

Glory be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

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

*The Passing of God's Love and Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you... **And also with you.**

Proclaiming the Word

We experience the Word of God.

Children's Moment

The Reverend Mark A. Allio

We invite children to remain in worship. There is a nursery available for infants through 5 year olds.

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Ephesians 1:15-19

N. T. p. 192

This is the Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #840 (8:15)

When Peace like a River

VILLE DU HAVRE

Hymn Anthem (11:00)

It Is Well with My Soul

P. Bliss

#840 - Please join the choir in singing verse 4 -

***Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; Even so it is well with my soul.***

It is well with my soul; it is well; it is well with my soul.

This is the Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Kathryn Johnston & the Congregation

The Mission of Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church

One: The Mission of the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church is to glorify and serve God as a community of believers, and to bring people into the transforming presence and power of Jesus Christ through:

ALL: Our Worship – Worship expresses our love for God through praise, prayer and proclamation.

Hymn #39, v. 1

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Hymn #370

This Is My Father's World

One: The Mission of the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church is to glorify and serve God as a community of believers, and to bring people into the transforming presence and power of Jesus Christ through:

ALL: Our Christian Education – Christian Education invites us to risk opening our minds to transforming possibilities.

Hymn #188

Jesus Loves Me!

Hymn #688, vv. 1,4

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

One: The Mission of the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church is to glorify and serve God as a community of believers, and to bring people into the transforming presence and power of Jesus Christ through:

ALL: Our Christian Nurture – Christian nurture puts a human face on God's Love.

Hymn #306, vv. 1,3,5

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Hymn #14, vv. 1,3

For the Beauty of the Earth

One: The Mission of the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church is to glorify and serve God as a community of believers, and to bring people into the transforming presence and power of Jesus Christ through:

ALL: Our Mission Calling – Our ministry to others sets our feet in Christ's footprints.

Hymn #733, vv. 1,3

We All Are One in Mission

Hymn #743 (2x)

O God, You Are My God

One: The Mission of the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church is to glorify and serve God as a community of believers, and to bring people into the transforming presence and power of Jesus Christ through:

ALL: Our Welcoming the Stranger – Welcoming the stranger brings newcomers into a relationship with God, not just into our building.

Hymn #301, vv. 1,5

Let Us Build a House

Hymn #726, vv. 1,5

The Summons

ONE: In order to be faithful to this Mission, we will be:

ALL: A welcoming, diverse and hospitable community of faith, committed to open communication within the community of faith, and willing to risk our time, talent and financial resources trusting in God's faithfulness.

Responding to the Word

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

***Time of Commitment**

Today we give thanks for the past, celebrate the present, and commit to our future.

Please bring your talents, offerings, pledge cards, and time & talent sheets forward.

Please use the center aisle to come forward and the side aisles to return.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Bearing & Following the Word

We declare the Word of God throughout the week.

*Charge & Benediction

Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.

You have entrusted us with gifts – time, talent, energy, money – and asked us to use them to build your kingdom. With thanks and praise we respond to your call.

We bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity, paying it forward.

We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, our dollars and our hours. We commit ourselves to work in your world, to love and serve wherever you call.

We ask your blessing on this, your church, as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

*Choral Response #541, v.1 *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

RANDOLPH

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd’s care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

*Postlude

Solemn Recessional

L. Niedermeyer

*** Please greet one another in Christ’s name ***

VISITORS: Welcome! Information about MPC can be found in the packets in the pews. If you are interested in additional information, please ask anyone around you or contact one of the pastors. Fair trade coffee and snacks are served after worship in the Gathering Area just outside the Sanctuary doors. This is also where you will find the restrooms, including baby changing stations. Children’s worship kits are located in the back of the Sanctuary. Worship aids are available from the ushers. We’re glad you’re here!

The flowers are placed to the glory in loving memory of Doris Jean Blessing, Rich’s mother, on what would have been her 92nd birthday, by Rich, Lyn and Mollie Blessing; and in honor of my parents by Loretta Smith – *consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed as one of these.*” Matt. 6:28b-29. The yellow rose on the communion table symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

The white rose on the communion table are placed in memory of John H. Worth who joined MPC February 23, 2003, and entered the Church Triumphant on November 2, 2017. Our sympathy to his wife Barbara and family. Jesus said: *I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.*

Pastor Kathryn is on vacation this week. She will return next Monday.

KNOWN TO BE HOSPITALIZED David Bressler

If you or a family member are hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, please call 717-896-0131 at any time to connect with one of the pastors.

A time of personal prayer is offered following both services. If you would like to pray with a pastor and one of the officers of the church, please meet them by the prayer room near the pulpit following the worship service. If you have a prayer request you would like to share with the pastors, please fill out a card from the pew rack and pass it to the center aisle where an usher will collect it during the first hymn. The Prayer Chain and staff pray for those you have mentioned and others throughout the week. Please let us know of any changes.

Ministers	All members of the congregation
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff.....	Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston.....kjohnston@mechpresby.org
Associate Pastor for Youth & Young Adults	Rev. Mark A. Allio mallio@mechpresby.org
Director of Music	Mark McKeever mmckeever@mechpresby.org
Christian Education Director	Cathay Snyder..... csnyder@mechpresby.org
Playful Beginnings Director	Karen P. Taylor playfulbeginnings.mpc@gmail.com

More People Caring

Participating in Worship:
Greeters: Katie Chase, Jim Kesler (8:15); Laura Martin, Kristina Bell, Julie Jordan (11:00)
Ushers: Nancy Craine, Gary & Holly Andersen, Larry Lichty (8:15); Bev Bahl, Esther Mullen, Dave Bricker, Rich Heeter (11:00)
Readers: Margaret Mielke (8:15); Tim Wonder (11:00)
Nursery: Barbara Bell, Jennifer Thomson (8:15); Dan & Jenny Hajnik, Pat Heintzelman (11:00)
Fellowship Hours: Juice 'n Java
Church to Pray for: Honduras Partnership

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12 - 19, 2017		
SUN	8:15/11 AM 9 AM 9 – 11:30 A 9:35 AM 12 PM 6 PM	Stewardship Sunday Westminster Choir Blood Drive Sunday School Fall Clean-Up Event Movie with Meaning
MON	1:30 PM 7 PM	Fellowship Committee Session Committees
TUE	12 PM 7 PM 7 PM	Ecumenical Food Pantry Boy Scout Committee ReGifted
WED	11 AM 6:30 PM 7:45 PM	Pep Set/M 'n M Luncheon Bells of Celebration Chancel Choir
THU	7 PM	He Brews
FRI	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Fellowship
SAT	2 PM 7:30 PM	Youth to CROSS Womyn's Chorus Concert
SUN	8:15/11 AM 9 AM 9:35 AM 1 PM	Thank Offering Service Westminster Choir Sunday School Adopt a Highway

Giant Gift Cards – If you ordered Giant gift cards last week, you may pick them up this morning in the Gathering Area or in the office through the week.



Nov. 18 – Youth Cooking at CROSS – 2-7 PM – Learning to cook with Jeremy Fry and Presby Peelers. We will also dine with the residents of CROSS.

Nov. 26 – Youth Cookie Baking for College Students – 5-8 PM – Join us in Upper Fellowship Hall as we bake cookies to send to our college students. We'll get pizza! Please bring nut free cookie dough!

Questions or comments contact Mark Allio (717-697-0351 or mallio@mechpresby.org)

Adult Topics (Upper Fellowship Hall)
Today - Stewardship Sunday Party
November 19 – Mission Spotlight: Truckstop Ministries

The Dave Petko class (Conference Room) is continuing Philippians.

Joyful Hearts class (Parlor) studying Acts.

MPC Blood Drive – donors are needed to give blood TODAY from 9 – 11:30 AM. Come to the Gathering Area to give the gift of life.

Movies with Meaning TONIGHT- *Hasan Minhaj: Homecoming King* - Meet in Fellowship Hall at 6 PM. Comic Hasan Minhaj shares personal stories about racism, immigrant parents, more in this stand-up special. Parental Warning: This TV special is rated TV-MA for language. The TV parental guidelines state that "TV-MA" may be unsuitable for children under 17.



Sunday, November 12 – after worship

TODAY- Annual Roasted Peanut and Cashew Sale— Sign up for your supply of these deliciously healthy homemade snacks in the Gathering Area. Peanuts are \$5/lb. and whole cashews are \$7/half pound – salted or unsalted. They will be ready for pick up November 19 and 26. Profits benefit the church's bottom line!

The Giving Tree, MPC's Advent mission project, began over 24 year ago and is still going strong. The Tree contains tags with gift requests for over 250 people in need in our area. Attached to each tag is a white card to sign your name and phone number and place in the silver box beside the tree. This helps us keep track of the gifts. You will find specific instructions on each tag as to whether to wrap the gift or not. On December 3, the gifts are to be returned to the Sanctuary for In-Gathering Sunday. The gifts go to Allison Hill Community Ministry, DELTA Housing, Stop the Violence, Safe Harbour, CROSS Cumberland Vista and HELP Ministries. Please visit the tree TODAY and take a tag. If you have questions, please call Sue Karakantas (215-859-8959) or Joanne Neimer (717-691-0882).

The Deacons would like to extend a huge thanks to our MPC family for your generous donations of over 200 scarves, hats, and mittens for the Tree of Warmth. In addition, the JoyStitchers gave their time and talents to contribute 55 hand crafted winter accessories. God is good! All the time.

Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up November 19th – The cleanup has been rescheduled for 1 PM on the 19th - volunteers are needed. PennDot provides bags and vests. Our route is Hogestown Road from the borough line to the Carlisle Pike. Please meet at the church to help with the project. Questions? contact Laura Martin (717-691-3627 or mburgmom@verizon.net).

MPC's Free Thanksgiving Community Dinner – Thursday, November 23, 12 – 3 PM. MPC's FREE Thanksgiving Community Dinner offers many opportunities for food, fellowship, and service. **Volunteers needed** to prep veggies, carve turkeys, bake desserts, set tables, serve and bus tables, wash dishes and clean-up. **Sign-up sheets** are in the Gathering Area **today**. Contact Suzy Brenner (717-497-2745) to volunteer or for more information.

He Brews: The group meets this **Thursday** at Marzoni's starting at 7 PM. We will "continue" our discussion on Taking a Knee: National Anthem and Athletes.

The Presbyterian Women will lead the Thank Offering Service on November 19. This year Suzi Souder will be our speaker along with the women of the congregation leading both services. The Thank Offering theme is *For the Healing of the Nation*. We hope you plan to join us and learn how our contribution makes a difference for many both in our nation and worldwide.

Christmas & Greeting Cards, and Calendar Collection for Prison Ministry: Please put new Christmas cards, greeting cards, and 2018 calendars to the bin marked "Prison Ministry Card and Calendar Collection" by December 1st so they can be given out for this year's holiday season.

Mix 'n Mingle/Pep Set – November 15 – Christmas Sing Along and Lunch here at MPC. We will meet at 11 AM in the Conference Room. Last chance to sign-up **TODAY** in the Gathering Area. Contact Rich Trout (717-697-1608) for further details.

Mix 'n Mingle/Pep Set – The Susquehanna Chorale on Friday, December 15 – The Susquehanna Chorale will present their Christmas program *A Candlelight Christmas* on Friday, December 15th, 8–9:30 PM, at Messiah College. Tickets are available from Michael or Karen Zang for \$12.50. Please contact the Zangs (717-790-9103) – sign-up in the Gathering Area.

Rummage Sale Total Update: \$3,298.

Calling All Cookie Bakers – During Advent, the Truck Stop Ministry distributes bags of cookies and greetings to hundreds of truckers who visit the ministry trailer in Carlisle. We have generously supported this effort in the past. Please start your Christmas baking early and share your cookies for this ministry. Please label cookies "Truck Stop Ministry" and put them in the church kitchen near the freezer. Volunteers will bag cookies during the Adult Topics class on Nov. 19 and at 10:35 (before the 11 AM service) on Nov. 26. To help with bagging cookies, come to Adult Topics on the 19th and also hear about the work of the Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry from Chaplain Dave Braithwaite. To help bag on the 26th, come to the Conference Room.

Spark House Family Book Fair Nov. 19–Dec. 6: Just in time for Christmas! We are hosting a Spark House Family Book Fair with creative, contemporary, award winning books for children and tweens, ages 0-12. Pick up an order form, stop by our display in the Gathering Area on Sundays, Nov. 19, 26, and Dec. 3 from 9 AM – 12:30 PM or Mon. –Thurs. during church office hours. Contact information: 717-697-0351 or csnyder@mechpresby.org. Orders due by Dec. 6.