

MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 East Simpson Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596

717-697-0351 • www.mechpresby.org

November 26, 2017 • Christ the King/Reign of Christ • 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!



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.

Gathering Around the Word

We gather knowing God is with us.

Quiet Meditation

"When you look at Matthew 25 where Jesus is talking about the least of these, people asked, 'when did we see you hungry or in prison'. What I take away from that is that we can live and die and not choose to see people who are in prison, or a stranger in need of a house, or refugees...the choice to see is a choice... I like how someone once said being a Christian is not about having new ideas but having new eyes. This is the ability to have our hearts broken with the things that break the heart of God. That is part of what it means to be a Christian."

~ Shane Claiborne

ENTER TO WORSHIP – DEPART TO SERVE

Prelude

Aria, From Harpsichord Suite No. 8

G. F. Handel, HWV 441

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.

Centering Prayer

***Introit**

***Hymn #466**

Come and Fill Our Hearts

***Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!***

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 100, CEB

Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with celebration! Come before him with shouts of joy!

Know that the Lord is God – he made us; we belong to him.

We are his people, the sheep of his own pasture.

Enter his gates with thanks; enter his courtyards with praise!

Thank him! Bless his name!

Because the Lord is good, his loyal love lasts forever;

His faithfulness lasts generation after generation.

***Hymn #394**

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

***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.

We confess that in our lives we often hide behind our work and play, schools and jobs, fun and fashion. We let ourselves get so busy that we forget the cause of the poor and the suffering. We confess we allow the powers of this world to seduce us into selfishness and silence our witness. Teach us to champion the cause for justice for all, strengthen us to love our neighbor, and speak truth no matter the penalty... (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!*

The Word of God assures us that we are able to love through the Spirit of Christ.

Let us go from this place with authority, knowing that God's Word gives us strength to love our neighbors near and far and power to speak up for those who are broken. Thanks be to God!

***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

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

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Matthew 25:31-40

N. T. p. 29

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

Hymn #804 8:15

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

MARION

Anthem

11:00

At His Name

J. Raney

Chancel Choir

At His name...

The mighty oceans roar. The wind stands still. The eagle takes the sky. The mighty nations cry. A newborn baby breathes. A flower grows. The rushing rivers yield. A broken heart is healed.

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, every tongue confess him the King of glory now. Every voice lift him up! His power and majesty proclaim, every knee shall bow down at his name.

At His name...

The mountains stand in awe. The seasons change. The sunlight floods the sky. The storm clouds hurry by. Our guilt is washed away. Our spirit's freed. The gates of heaven open wide. He welcomes us inside.

At His name...

His precious, holy name.

Second Lesson

Matthew 25:41-46

N. T. p. 29

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

Sermon

The Sheep & The Goats

Kathryn Z. Johnston

Sunday School Word of the Day: **Service**

The 'word of the day' is used in the Sunday School classrooms. The are encouraged to listen for it during the worship service. The crown is the symbol for the current liturgical season: Christ the King.

Responding to the Word

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

*Hymn #366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRODOL

*Declaration of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Our church states its faith and bears witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ by using eleven creeds and confessions. The following is the Apostles' Creed, which in its earliest form dates back to 180 AD. The word 'catholic' refers to the entire Christian church; 'quick' means living:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

debts/debtors

Offering of Tithes & Gifts

11am worshipers: Please place the top sheet of the fellowship pads in the offering plates.

Offertory

St. Columba

P. Stearns

Based on Hymn #802, *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

***Doxology**

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**

Bearing & Following the Word

We declare the Word of God throughout the week.

***Hymn #645**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Congregational Meeting (11:00)

*Visitors are welcome to stay for the Congregational Meeting,
or may choose to adjourn to the Gathering Area for coffee fellowship.*

***Charge & Benediction**

***Response #726, v.5**

Will You Come and Follow Me

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footprints show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

***Postlude**

Let Us Rejoice

H. Hopson

Based on Hymn #10, *Sing Glory to the Name of God*

*** 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 of God in remembrance of the Reverend Duncan and Isabel MacPherson from their daughters; in honor of all the wonderful people at MPC that make this church a family by Alan and Karen Vandrew. The yellow rose in the Sanctuary symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Pastor Mark Allio is on vacation and will return to the office Thursday.

Save the Date! — Christmas Pageant—Sunday, December 17, 3 PM — Plans are underway for our annual pageant. Any child or youth that plays an instrument and would like to participate by playing a seasonal piece, please let Cathay know.

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 or a family member is hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, call **717-896-0131** at any time. It will connect you to the church office and one of the pastors.


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.org
Mission Relations.....	www.pcusa.org/missionconnections
	Eric & Rebecca Hinderliter, Lithuania
	Jim & Jodi McGill, Malawi
Find us online!	www.mechpresby.org • Twitter: @mechpresby • Facebook: Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church

More People Caring

Participating in Worship:
Greeters: Bill & Elizabeth Lucas (8:15); Joanne Allen, Missy Rulapaugh, Jaci Scott (11:00)
Ushers: Dick & Kay McDonald, Kim Savidge, Ken Kleinert (8:15); Catherine Gray, JoAnne Miller, Ed Rogers, Rich Heeter (11:00)
Worship Assistants: Donna Fleetwood (8:15), Lori Heenan (11:00)
Readers: Christian Rufo (11:00)
Liturgy: Leticia Rouser (Confession/Pardon)
Nursery: Randy & Missy Rulapaugh (8:15); Shannon & Mackenzie Hammel (11:00)
Fellowship Hours: Mike & Tanya Morret (8:15); Lori Heenan, Deb Williams (11:00)
Pray for: Camp Krislund

Blood Pressure screening will be held today from 9:15 – 11 AM in the library.

The annual roasted peanut and cashew orders are ready for pick up TODAY in the Gathering Area. Thank you.



Today – 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 (mallio@mechpresby.org or 717-697-0351).

Dec. 3rd – Youth Group 6-8 PM – This will be our last "Finding Nemo" Lesson!

Dec. 10th – Shop and Drop Fundraising: Parents of young children, you will be able to drop off your children with the youth of MPC! We will also be offering gift wrapping in the Youth Center! There will be two time slots from 2 – 4:30 PM and 5:30 – 8 PM. Cost is \$15 for one child and \$5 for each additional sibling. We will not be providing meals so please plan accordingly!

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

NOVEMBER 26 – DECEMBER 3, 2017		
SUN	8:15/11 AM	Worship
	9:35 AM	Sunday School
	9A-12:30 P	Book Fair, Gathering Area
	9 AM	Westminster Choir
	9:15 AM	Blood Pressure Screen., Lib.
	9:35 AM	Sunday School
MON	12 PM	Congregational Meeting
	5 PM	Youth Cookie Bake
	7 PM	No Playful Beginnings Session
TUE	9:30 AM	Playful Beginnings
	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts, LFH
	7 PM	Book Club
WED	6:30 PM	Bells of Celebration
	7:45 PM	Chancel Choir
THU	9:30 AM	Cornerstone Mailing
	12 PM	Pastor's Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts, CR
FRI	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Fellowship
SUN	8:15/11 AM	Worship & Communion
	8:15/11 AM	Giving Tree In-Gathering
	9:35 AM	Sunday School
	9 A-12:30 P	Book Fair, Gathering Area
	12 PM	Gift Sorting
	3 PM	Harrisburg Singers Concert
	6 PM	Youth Group

Truck Stop Ministries Cookies – Thank you to everyone who donated cookies!



November 26

Adult Topics – There is no Adult Topic Class this week. Join us next week as we begin an Advent Study on how God speaks to us through art.

The Dave Petko Class – not meeting today.

Joyful Hearts (Parlor) is studying Acts.

Book Fair – Continuing through December 6 – Just in time for Christmas gift giving! We are hosting a Spark House Family Book Fair with creative, contemporary, award winning books for children and tweens, ages 0-12. To check out some of the books for sale and to pick up an order form, stop by our display in the Gathering Area this Sunday and next Sunday from 9 AM – 12:30 PM or Monday – Thursday during church office hours. Contact us for more information: csnyder@mechpresby.org or 717-697-0351. Orders are due by December 6 so that the books will arrive in time for Christmas gift giving, with checks payable to MPC. It's a win-win as we'll help you with some of your Christmas shopping while you help us update our library!



Advent Devotional Now Available

– Pray, journal, and color your way through Advent, beginning Dec. 3, with this daily devotional from Sanctified Art. Parents and grandparents, invite your children/grandchildren to help add color to the pages while you discuss daily scriptures and journey through Advent. Devotionals are available in the Gathering Area and in the back of the Sanctuary.

The Giving Tree, MPC's Advent mission project continues. 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).

Word and Wine will be meeting December 7 at the home of Mary Speedy, 107 Bluebell Drive beginning at 7 pm. Our focus for this gathering will be sharing our thankfulness practices from last month and our Advent devotional challenges. We will also be helping prepare the epiphany stars for next year. Hope to see many of you there.

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 Calen-

dar Collection" by December 1st so they can be given out for this year's holiday season.

Kids Club Christmas Party—Wednesday,

December 6, 5:30-7 PM—Fun for the whole family! We'll hear the Christmas story, play some games, and eat pizza. Santa will visit us too! Bring a new book that we can give to Bethesda Mission. Parents, please let Cathay (csnyder@mechpresby.org) know if you plan to attend with your child(ren).



2018 Flower Calendar – The new calendar to sponsor 2018 chancel flowers is located on the bulletin board in the Breezeway. Two vases (\$15 each) need to be sponsored each week. To sponsor a vase, enter your name on the date of your choice. Prior to your Sunday, you will receive a reminder via email or snail mail with information regarding the wording for the bulletin and reclaiming the flowers.

Giving to Missions through Alternative Gift Christmas Shopping is coming next Sunday after both services. Consider making a donation to one of our Mission projects in honor of someone you care about. A Mission Committee member will be in the Gathering Area the next three Sundays (December 3rd, 10th, and 17th) to answer your questions and to receive your donation. You can also go shopping in the library.

The Penguins are Coming! Penguins, dinosaurs and other strange beasts will invade MPC's library the first two Sundays in December. These stuffed creatures, lovingly made by church members Loretta Smith and Margaret Mielke, will be given away in exchange for suggested donations to the Stop the Violence Ministry, one of the Mission Committee's sponsored organizations. You are encouraged to stop by and discover these engaging creatures and participate in one of the Mission Committee's Alternative Giving programs.

Mix 'n Mingle/Pep Set – The Susquehanna Chorale on 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.



CHURCH OFFICERS

Committee. The nominees are:

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting today following the 11:00 Service for the purpose of receiving the report from the 2018 Nominating

Ruling Elder Class of 2020

***Lori Heenan** lives and works in Mechanicsburg and has been a member of MPC for over ten years. This is her second term on Session and she also teaches the Confirmation Class and Sings in the Chancel Choir. She has three adult children and a middle schooler Griffy, who attends MPC with her. She and her husband Jim are enjoying their new status as grandparents and will be welcoming grandchild number two in January of 2018.

Patti Hinkson and her family (Tom, Hannah, Elena) have been members of MPC since 2002. She is currently a guest teacher for the Mechanicsburg Area School District after having worked 20 years in corporate America. She's excited about, and looking forward to being part of the Ruling Elder Class of 2020.

***Margaret Mielke** will be serving her second term on Session. A new Sunday School teacher (grades 3-5), she also participates in musical activities and Presby Peelers. With her friend Loretta Smith, she enjoys making stuffed animals.

***Kevin Moyer** and his wife, Jennifer joined MPC and were married here in 1988. They have 4 adult children Adam, Jered, Amanda, and Rachel. Kevin enjoys the fellowship and camaraderie during his first term as an elder and looks forward to new experiences and challenges as part of the leadership team of MPC.

Lanny Nesbitt – After spending 42 years in Strasburg, PA we moved to Mechanicsburg in 2011 to be close to our daughter and family. We are blessed with two children Lisa and Jeff and six wonderful grandchildren. Some of my activities in what spare time I have are biking (human power), tennis, woodworking and general fix-it projects.

***Melissa Rulapaugh** – MPC has been a very important part of her life since she was 6 years old. Melissa is happily married to Randy and is the mother of four wonderful children, Katie, Sara, Marie and Justin. She presently serves as an elder and is a member of the Welcoming Committee.

Melissa looks forward to serving MPC for another term as Ruling Elder.

Deacon Class of 2020

Kevin Breen is active on the Property and Maintenance Committee; he loves gardening and the outdoors. His wife is Renée; their two sons, Peter and Scott, were raised as part of the MPC family. Kevin works as an environmental geochemist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

***Sharon Chizar** – I've been a member of MPC since 1977 and have enjoyed serving the church in a variety of roles since that time. Presently I work part time at a local orchard since retiring from elementary ed as a kindergarten teacher for 37 years. For enjoyment, I love baking and spending time with family.

Nat League and his wife, Barbara, have been members of MPC for almost 5 years. They were members at St John's Luther Church in New Freedom, PA for about 27 years where Nat served on the church council for 7 years and was chairman of the W&M committee for about 10 years. He also served as the call committee co-chair for one of the pastors. He and his wife have two grown sons, both married, and one beautiful granddaughter.

Dianne Nesbitt has been at MPC for six years. She and her husband Lanny were previously members and quite involved in First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg for many years. Though it was difficult to leave Strasburg they are very grateful that Mechanicsburg and MPC has been a wonderful transition! Dianne's hobbies include cooking, baking, gardening, reading - but mostly being a wife, mom and Mimi to 6 wonderful grandchildren!

Tracy Olson lives in the Winding Hill Development in Mechanicsburg with her spouse, Judith of three years of marriage, but together for a total of 22 years and their two kittens, Gracyn Lynn and Faith Ann! She has been part of the Peace and Justice Committee this past year. Her hobbies are reading, sitting by a fire and she enjoys being with friends.

Rod Savidge and his wife, Kim, have been members of MPC since 1987. They are parents of two sons Chris and Matt, and have two grandchildren. Rod previously served as an Elder from 1992 – 1995 and was on the Property and Maintenance Committee.

***serving a second term**