

Stewardship Sunday
11/12/17

MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 East Simpson Street

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596

717-697-0351 • www.mechpresby.org

October 22, 2017 • 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time • 8:15 & 11am

REFORMATION FUN FACT

Although men like Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Knox, and others largely get the credit for their role in the Reformation, there were many influential women as well. Marie Dentière (pictured) was born into an aristocratic family and became an abbess in a convent. She left the convent after coming into contact with the ideas of the Reformation, married a former priest, and made her way to Geneva where she convinced nuns to leave the convents and get married. For many women, losing the convents meant losing the one place where they were allowed to learn and teach, so Marie opened a girls' school. She was also not afraid to criticize the religious leaders of her day, including the reformed ones! Once criticized by John Calvin for her very vocal opinions, he eventually grew to respect her so much that he invited her to write the preface for one of his sermons on modesty.



"If God has given graces to some good women, revealing to them something holy and good through His Holy Scriptures, should they, for the sake of the defamers of the truth, refrain from writing down, speaking, or declaring it to each other? Ah! It would be too impudent to hide the talent which God has given us, we who ought to have the grace to persevere to the end. Amen!"

Gathering Around the Word

We gather knowing God is with us.

Quiet Meditation

"*The concept of justification ...man is justified in God's sight, and... he is justified by faith... He is said to be justified in God's sight who is both reckoned righteous in God's judgment and has been accepted on account of his righteousness... for that reason, he stands firm before God's judgment seat while all sinners fall.*

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book 3, Chapter 11, Section 2

ENTER TO WORSHIP – DEPART TO SERVE

Prelude

In Thee is Gladness

J. S. Bach, BWV 615

In Thee is gladness amid all sadness,
Jesus, day-star of my heart!
By Thee are given the gifts of heaven,
thou the true Redeemer art!

Johann Lindemann (1598)

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 Tree of Warmth

Centering Prayer

*Introit #405, v. 1

Praise God for This Holy Ground

HEYMONYSTRAAT

***Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.***

*Call to Worship

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world – which some seek to control, but which others view with despair – we declare with joy and trust:

Our world belongs to God!

From the beginning, through all the crises of our times, until his kingdom fully comes,

God keeps covenant forever. Our world belongs to God!

God is King! Let the earth be glad! Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah! The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation. Praise the Lord!

Come, Lord Jesus! Our world belongs to you.

*Hymn #624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

*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.

Please do not grow weary of us, O God. Forgive us when we corrode love, bruise those closest to us, and turn cowardly at the summons of justice. Forgive us, O God, when we fray the ties of community. Restore our souls to singing, our hearts to loving, and our hands to doing justice. May we know in our blood and our bones that nothing can separate us from your grace and love in Jesus the Christ... (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!*

For by grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing;

it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Beloved children of God, rejoice!

We are forgiven!

***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.

Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)

JessicaLynne and Braelyn Marie Barton

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Romans 5:1-11

N.T. p. 155

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

Hymn #819 (8:15)

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

Anthem (11:00)

With a Voice of Singing

M. Shaw

MPC Chancel Choir

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.

The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

O Be Joyful in God, all ye lands,

O sing praises to the honor of His name,

Make His praise to be glorious.

Second Lesson

Romans 8:28-30

N.T. p. 158

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

Sermon

Reformation 500: Justified

Kathryn Johnston



Sunday School Word of the Day: Giving

Responding to the Word

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

***Hymn #432**

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

***Declaration of Faith**

The Heidelberg Catechism, 4.001

The Reformation was not a singular movement. Soon after Luther posted his ninety-five theses, reform movements sprang up throughout Europe. Tensions grew between Lutherans and other Reformed Christians mainly because of arguments over the Lord’s Supper. Lutherans believe in the real, bodily presence of Christ in the bread and wine, The Reformed do not. In Germany in 1562, Frederick the Elector brought together a preacher and a professor and charged them with writing a catechism that was acceptable to both sides.

Q. 1. What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

A. That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

debts/debtors

Offering of Tithes & Gifts

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

Offertory

Aria from Harpsichord Suite No. 8

G. F. Handel, HWV 441

*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 #373

O Day of Peace

JERUSALEM

*Charge & Benediction

*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

We All Believe in One True God

J. S. Bach, BWV 680

For Braelyn Marie and JessicaLynne ~ On the occasion of your baptism, here is one of my favorite works by the great master of Baroque organ composition, and a great Reformer in his own right, Bach. Wherever your Christian life may take you, always know that We All Believe in One True 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 and in loving memory of Paul A. Miller by Gordon and Paula Logan and Susan Miller and in memory of Janette and John Shultz by Bertha Stewart. The yellow rose on the communion table symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

We warmly welcome JessicaLynne and Braelyn Marie Barton into the covenant family of the Church through baptism this morning. JessicaLynne and Braelyn are the wife and daughter of Mark McKeever, our Director of Music.



The children's Sunday School classes are also using the lectionary. In worship we will be including a word that they highlighted in their classrooms and let them know where to look for it using the symbol of the liturgical season. The footprints symbolize Ordinary Time.

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.

KNOWN TO BE HOSPITALIZED

Darwin Hollinger

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.


Ministers.....	All members of the congregation
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff.....	Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston.....kjohnton@mechpresby.org
Associate Pastor for Youth & Young Adults.....	Rev. Mark A. Allio.....mallio@mechpresby.org
Director of Music	Mark G. McKeever
Director of Christian Education	Cathay L. Snyder
	mmckeever@mechpresby.org
	csnyder@mechpresby.org

More People Caring

Participating in Worship:
Greeters: Rick & Jan Whitcomb (8:15); Al & Alice Zamboni (11:00)
Ushers: Ran & Andrea Singiser, Carol Winston, Ken Kleinert (8:15); Beverly Bahl, Jean George, Dan Hajnik, Pat Schaal (11:00)
Readers: Kelli Scurfield (8:15); Mary Polson (11:00)
Nursery: John & Joanne Neimer (8:15); Gloria Chiwaka, Larry Lichty, Danielle Martin (11:00)
Fellowship Hours: Carol Winston, Joanne Walton (8:15); Kim Wright (11:00)
Church to Pray for: Waynesboro Presbyterian Church, Waynesboro, PA

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.

Financial Statements for the third quarter are available in the Gathering Area. Please pick up your statement on your way home this morning.



Today – GaGa Ball and Make Your Own Pizza, 6 PM
 Bring your favorite pizza toppings!

Oct. 29 – Pumpkin Party, 5 PM! We'll be carving and painting pumpkins. Wear old clothes and bring your favorite pumpkin or pumpkin spiced food to share!

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

A New Member Class will be held **today** following 11:00 Worship in the Conference Room (lunch will be provided). You will be received into the congregation during the worship service on October 29.

CROP Walk today. Help support Mechanicsburg Meals On Wheels, New Hope Ministries, and Church World Service. The run/walk, registration will begin at 1 PM at St. Mark Lutheran Church.

WEEK OF OCTOBER 22 - 29, 2017

SUN	<i>Tree/Warmth – Nut Sale</i>	
8:15/11 AM		Worship
9 AM		Westminster Choir
9:30-11 AM		Blood Pressure Screening
9:35 AM		Sunday School
10:30 AM		Peace & Justice Com.
12 PM		New Member Class
1 PM		CROP Walk
6 PM		Youth Group
MON	9:30 AM	Playful Beginnings
	7 PM	Session Meeting
TUE	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	7 PM	Book Club
WED	9 AM	Presby Peelers
	6:30 PM	Bells of Celebration
	7:45 PM	Chancel Choir
THU	9:30 AM	Cornerstone Mailout
	12 PM	Pastor's Bible Study
	6 – 8 PM	Trick or Treat Open House
FRI	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Fellowship
SUN	8:15/11 AM	Worship
	9 AM	Westminster Choir
	9:35 AM	Sunday School
	5 PM	Youth Group

ADULT TOPICS: Today – *Reformation 500: Pit Crew*
 Pastor Kathryn will introduce a few of the numerous women who helped shape the Reformation (location: Upper Fellowship Hall).

October 29 – *Reformation 500: Victory Lane* – It's Reformation trivia-palooza! Grab some friends and come win prizes!

The Welcoming Committee will host a Trick or Treat open house at the Youth Center on October 26, 6 to 8 PM. "Treats" and hot chocolate will be served. Please consider donating a bag of candy....last year we had over 200 visitors! The candy can be placed in the back of the kitchen. If any youth would like to help hand out candy, we welcome you in person or in costume!! Thank you!



Trick or Treat Open House

The *Tree of Warmth* is at the back of the Sanctuary TODAY – November 5 to receive cozy hats, scarves and gloves. Thank you for your love and generosity to Stop the Violence clients. If you have any questions please contact Sue Karakantas (717-790-9354) or Joanne Neimer (717-691-0882).

The annual roasted peanut and cashew sale begins TODAY through November 5. 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. Both nuts are available salted or unsalted. Protein, fiber, and healthy fat are all found in a crunchy handful of heaven. These nuts are roasted and packaged by your Fellowship Committee and will be ready for pick up November 19 and 26. Profits benefit the church's bottom line!

What is...LOVE IS...LOVE IS Love? Can you be Christian and be Gay? Join the Peacemaking Committee for a panel discussion and movie **Friday, November 3, 6 PM** in Upper Fellowship Hall.

MPC Blood Drive – donors are needed to give blood on Sunday, November 12, 9 – 11:30 AM. Sign up in the Gathering Area to give the gift of life. Call Randy Rulapaugh (717-728-4401) for further information.

A very grateful THANK YOU to everyone who helped with Fall Rummage & Bake Sale. Whether you baked, received/sorted rummage, worked the sale days or did the clean-up, your time and energy is appreciated by M P W. Once again with all of the help and from our "More People Caring" congregation, this was a successful fund-raiser. As of October 19, the profit from the sale is as follows.

Bake Sale:	\$ 385
Rummage Sale:	<u>\$3,024</u>
Total:	\$3,109

An update will be in the November *Cornerstone*. The 2018 Spring Rummage Sale will be held April 18 & 19, 2018.

Election Day Soup Sale – November 7 – Women of MPC will be making chili and hamburger vegetable soup for sale on Election Day (Qts: \$6/ Bowls: \$2). This year we will also sell BBQ and drinks.

Lend A Hand (LAH) will be traveling, via the LAH vans, to Jacksonville, FL on Saturday, November 4th with an overnight stop. We will stay for the week in a dormitory, with breakfast and lunch provided and return Saturday, November 11th, arriving back in Camp Hill Sunday afternoon. The total cost of the trip is \$250. A driver is needed and spaces are still open. If interested, complete the online registration form at: lendahand.net. Any questions can be submitted through this page, which is LAH's website. Additional trips to the area start in January.

MPC's Free Thanksgiving Community Dinner – Thursday, Nov. 23, 12 – 3 PM. Volunteers needed.

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:10-13

ATTENTION: Suzy Brenner is looking for someone to take over the Thanksgiving Dinner leadership position. It is all organized and this person could shadow Suzy during preparations this year. If you are interested, please contact her ASAP to discuss what it entails (717-497-2745).

Book Club – October 24 at 7 PM in the church library when we will discuss the highly praised novel *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. The "gentleman" is Count Alexander Rostov, an "unrepentant" aristocrat who is sentenced by the Bolsheviks in 1922 to spend the rest of his life in the Metropol, a luxurious hotel near the Kremlin. We would love to hear your opinions of this masterpiece!

Volunteers are needed for an Adopt-a-Highway clean-up on Sunday, November 5, at 1 PM. PennDot provides bags and vests. Our route is Hogestown Road from the borough line to the Carlisle Pike. Please contact Laura Martin (717-691-3627 or mburgmom@verizon.net) to volunteer.

Word & Wine is a monthly gathering for all women on the first Thursday of the month. It is a time of fellowship and sharing. Mary Speedy has agreed to be our leader. Our next meeting is November 2 at 7 PM at Sue Karakantas' home. Please RSVP to Sue at (skarakantas@msn.com or 215-859-8959) or Mary Speedy (mspeedy@comcast.net or 717-580-1986 or just come if you decide at the last minute.

Fall Leaf Round-Up – join us after the 11 AM Service on November 12 for our fall yard clean-up. Please bring tarps, rakes, mowers w/baggers, leaf blowers, brooms, gloves, pruning tools and a willingness to "rake 'em up and move 'em out". (Raindate: November 19).

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. Contact Rich Trout (717-697-1608) for further details. Sign-up in the Gathering Area.

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.