

## MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 East Simpson Street

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596

717-697-0351 • [www.mechpresby.org](http://www.mechpresby.org)

September 24, 2017 • 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time • 8:15 & 11am

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*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: We Quietly Think About God**

"We must therefore beware of those who have reduced the power of baptism to such small and slender dimensions that, while they say grace is indeed in-poured by it, they maintain that afterwards it is poured out again through sin, and that then one must reach heaven by another way, as if baptism had now become entirely useless. Do not hold such a view, but understand that this is the significance of baptism, that through it you die and live again."

– Martin Luther, *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church*, 1520

## ENTER TO WORSHIP – DEPART TO SERVE

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### Prelude: We Prepare our Hearts to Worship God

*Two Organ Preludes, in C and F Major*

J. Gloger

### Welcome & Concerns of the Church: We are Welcomed

*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: We Prepare our Hearts to Worship God

#### \*Introit #405, v. 1: We Pray By Singing

HEYMONYSTRAAT

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

#### \*Call to Worship: We Name Who God is and Say Why We Are Worshiping God

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Live in a way that is worthy of the Gospel.

**Stand firm in the Spirit, side by side.**

Let us worship God!

**It is right to give the Lord our thanks and praise!**

#### \*Hymn #667

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

#### \*Prayer of Confession: We Tell God What We Have Done Wrong

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 fill our lives with the fear of scarcity, assuming there is not enough money, time, patience or love. We turn away when a stranger asks for nourishment, claiming there isn't enough even for ourselves. We often sit with arms crossed and fists clenched, crying out that you have turned away and left us empty handed. We easily give thanks for the good things in life, turning away from those which lead us to deeper community or second-guessing blessings as too good to be true.**

**Forgive us when we reject your abundance and neglect the possibilities in what we have been given... (time of silent confession)**

#### \*Assurance of Pardon: We Hear That God Forgives Us

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

Take comfort:

**We, and the whole world with us, are always embraced in Christ's love. In Christ, there is always enough.**

#### \*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: We Share God's Love with Others

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

## Proclaiming the Word

*We experience the Word of God.*

### **Children's Moment: We Talk About God** (8:15 & 11)

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

### **Sacrament of Baptism: We Receive God's Grace and Respond to It** (11:00)

Freya Camille and Felicity Marilyn Russaw, children of Starro and Alison Russaw

**\*Response #482** (11:00)

*Baptized in Water*

BUNESSAN

### **Prayer for Illumination: We Ask God to Help Us Understand**

#### **First Lesson: We Listen to God's Story**

Psalm 105:37-45

O.T. p. 557

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

#### **Hymn #87** (8:15)

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

GENEVAN 42

#### **Anthem: Music is Played to Thank God** (11:00)

*The Beatitudes*

*E. Butler Based on Matt 5:3-12*

Chancel Choir

*Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom  
of God.*

*Blessed are they who mourn for they shall be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth.*

*Blessed are you.*

*Blessed are those that thirst for righteousness for they  
shall be satisfied.*

*Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.*

*Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall see God,  
For they shall be called sons of God.*

*Blessed are you.*

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for theirs is the  
Kingdom of heaven,*

*Persecuted for righteousness' sake heaven is theirs.*

*Rejoice and be exceeding glad.*

*Blessed are you.*

#### **Second Lesson**

Matthew 20:1-16

N.T. p. 21

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

#### **Sermon: We Listen For What God is Saying to Us**

Kathryn Z. Johnston



*Why Today is the Best Day: Abundance*

*Sunday School Word of the Day: Generosity*

## Responding to the Word

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

#### **\*Hymn #250**

*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

PROMISE

#### **\*Declaration of Faith: We Say What We Believe**

The Apostles' Creed

*Our church states its faith and bears witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ by using eleven creeds and confessions.*

*In these confessional statements the church declares to its members and to the world who and what it is,  
what it believes and what it resolves to do. These confessional statements are subject to the authority of Jesus Christ  
and the Word of God. 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: We Pray for the World and Other People**

**Offering of Tithes & Gifts: We Give Money**

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

**Offertory: We Listen to Music that Praises God**

*Les Baricades Mystérieuses (The Mysterious Barricades)*

F. Couperin

Written in 1717, *Les Baricades* is from The Second Book of Couperin's *Pieces for Harpsichord*. Handel's famous *Hornpipe* from the *Water Music Suite* premiered in the very same year on July 17, 1717 (I played *Hornpipe* for Postlude on July 23<sup>rd</sup>). Both pieces are entirely different in style and instrumentation, yet their sound is well suited to the atmosphere of worship. The beauty of this music still endures as we celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of two great keyboard works by influential composers! An interesting note; *Les Baricades* was voted #76 in the Australian countdown of 100 Classical Pieces from France (2012).

**\*Doxology: We Sing Thanks to God for What God Has Given Us**

OLD HUNDREDETH

*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: We Ask God to Use Our Gifts**

**Bearing & Following the Word**

*We declare the Word of God throughout the week.*

**\*Hymn #269**

*Lead On, O King Eternal!*

LANCASHIRE

**\*Charge & Benediction: We Are Asked To Go Out Into the World and Tell People About God's Love**

**\*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**

*Postlude in a Minor*

G. Calkin

\*\*\* 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. 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 memory of Peter by Kevin, Renée, Scott and Rosemary Breen; and in loving memory of those who have gone before us by Darwin and Diane Hollinger. The yellow rose on the communion table symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

We welcome Felicity Marilyn and Freya Camille Russaw into the covenant family of the Church through infant baptism this morning. They are the daughters of Starro and Alison Russaw; sisters of Taylin and Makenzie; and granddaughters of Jack and Janice Eger. Please take a moment after the service to greet the Russaw/Eger family.


Our heartfelt thanks to all who remembered us with cards, prayers and condolences during the recent passing of our beloved son, Scott. Your concerns and support have been very helpful. – Dean & Ruth Flinchbaugh & Family

<b>Ministers</b> .....	<b>All members of the congregation</b>
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 .....mmckeever@mechpresby.org
Director of Christian Education .....	Cathay L. Snyder .....csnyder@mechpresby.org
Mission Relations.....	www.pcusa.org/missionconnections
	Jim & Jodi McGill, Malawi
Find us online! .....	www.mechpresby.org • Twitter: @mechpresby • Facebook: Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church

# More People Caring

**Participating in Worship:**  
**Greeters:** Rick & Jan Burrows (8:15); Adrian & Kate Murray (11:00)  
**Ushers:** Kim Savidge, Tom Pepper, Ken Kleinert (8:15); JoAnne Miller, Jeff & Kyle Hummel, Larry Lichty (11:00)  
**Readers:** Will Johnston (8:15); Kellen Lichty (11:00)  
**Liturgy:** Confession: *Stone Soup*  
**Nursery:** Jenn Thomson, Barbara Bell (8:15); Connie & Rachel Wonder, Holly Fawber (11:00)  
**Fellowship Hours:** John & Kelli Scurfield (8:15); Lynne Zerbe, Mark & Jamie Zerbe (11:00)  
**Church to Pray for:** St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Lebanon, PA

**Attention Grades K – 5<sup>th</sup> Graders** – Westminster Choir, directed by Kelli Fry, begins next Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 AM in the Choir Room. Don't miss out on the fun and being with your friends!!!



**Today** – Youth Group, 6-8 PM – Join us for GaGa Ball, Pizza, and Bible Study!

**Oct. 1** – Confirmation Class – Ropes Course – meet at Roundtop at 8:30. Bring lunch, water – pick up at Roundtop at 1:30.

**Oct. 8** – Pretzel making and games! 6-8 PM!

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



**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.

**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24 – OCTOBER 1, 2017**

SUN	8:15/11 AM	Worship
	9:15-11 AM	Blood Pressure Screening, Lib.
	9:35 AM	Sunday School
	6 PM	Youth Group Meeting
MON	7 PM	Session Meeting
TUE	7 PM	Book Club, Library
WED	9 AM	Presby Peelers
	6:30 PM	Bells of Celebration
	7:45 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
THU	9:30 AM	Newsletter Mailout
	12 PM	Pastor's Bible Study
FRI	6:15 AM	Men's Bible Fellowship
SUN	8:15/11 AM	Worship/Communion
	8:30 AM	Confirmation Class @ Roundtop
	9 AM	Westminster Choir
	9:35 AM	Sunday School

**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.



**JOIN Adult**  
**Sunday School**

Dave Petko Class – *Numbers*..... Conference Room  
 Joyful Hearts – *Book of Acts*..... Parlor  
 Adult Topics .....Fellowship Hall, Stage End

You are invited to any class at 9:35 AM

**ADULT TOPICS: Today** is *Mission in Mission Recap*. Join us as our Sr. High Mission Trip Team shares stories, pictures, and memories from their amazing trip to Mission, TX this past July.

**October 1<sup>st</sup>:** *A Heritage of Wisdom*-We kick-off our Heritage of Wisdom series with Wayne Yost. As a member, Wayne has served our MPC family throughout the years with a passion for our youth, Krislund Camp, and the spiritual depth of our congregation. Wayne is currently a member of Session and Chair of the Spiritual Life Committee. Please join us as Wayne shares his life and faith with us.

The **Dave Petko Class** will resume their study of the Book of Numbers with Chapter 28 on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, meeting in the Conference Room.

The **Mission Committee** appreciates the paper donations made during our recent CROSS Paper Drive! In the near future, we will be taking 223 rolls of toilet paper, 383 rolls of paper towels, 1,420 napkins and a box of tissues out to Cumberland Vista in Dillsburg for their use. Thanks for supporting this mission!

**HEALING & WHOLENESS** – If you wish to receive prayers, the laying on of hands and/or anointing with oil for you or another, walk up to the waiting church leaders by the prayer room at the left side of the Sanctuary during the postlude and express your need. Petitions are offered for healing and wholeness (physical, mental and spiritual) for ourselves and for others. This time is for concerns, burdens and grief, as well as for the need of feeling God’s presence in one’s life.

**Pastor’s Bible Study** – Join Pastor Kathryn Thursdays at noon in the Conference Room for lunch (BYO) and Bible study. We will spend about an hour with the time divided between discussing the Scriptures from the previous Sunday and the Scriptures for the next Sunday.

**Pillars of the Church Reception** – Every 5 years we are thrilled to recognize the long-term membership of our MPC Pillars of the Church. On Sunday, October 15, we will honor those members who have belonged to our church for 50+ years! Please join us in acknowledging their lifelong membership at a reception following the 11:00 worship service. You will enjoy the hors d’oeuvres and fellowship along with a chance to greet our Pillars. All are welcome!

**Bakers for Meals on Wheels:** Members and friends of MPC have participated the past 5 years in providing dessert once a month to Meals on Wheels. We need to provide enough desserts to feed the 130+ community clients receiving the meals. Typically you would be asked to bake about twice a year and recipes are provided. If you like to bake and would like to add your name to our list of bakers, please contact Pat Heintzeman at (717-766-2001).

**Mix ‘n Mingle/Pep Set** - The October 18<sup>th</sup> event has been cancelled due to a schedule problem. Our next event will be in November. More information will follow or contact Rich Trout (717-697-1608).



<b>Rummage Drop Off</b>	Sun., Oct. 15, 1-8PM
<i>These days only</i>	Mon., Oct. 16, 9AM-8PM
<b>Sale Set-up</b>	Tue., Oct. 17, 9AM-2PM
<b>Sale days</b>	Wed., Oct. 18, 9AM-8PM
	Thur., Oct. 19, 9AM-12PM
<b>Bake Sale</b>	Wed., Oct. 18, 9AM – Sold Out
	(Baked goods available until sold out on Wed. only.)
<b>Clean-up</b>	Thur., Oct. 19, 12-2PM

We will need LOTS OF HELP to make this mission fundraiser a success. Please plan to donate items for the Bake Sale *and your time*. **You can sign up on the clipboard in the Gathering Area.** See the October **Cornerstone** for further details. Contact Paula Logan (717-697-3798) if you can help, need to have rummage picked up, or have any questions. **WANTED: Paper Grocery Bags.** Thank you for your support.

**Blood Pressure screening today.** Screenings are every fourth Sunday, in the church library. You can drop in after the 8:15 service, around 9:15 until just before the 11:00 service begins. **DON'T FORGET** that high blood pressure often goes undetected and is often without symptoms. Get yours checked!

**Book Club** – The group meets to discuss the chosen book on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the church library. This month’s book is *A Gentleman in Moscow*. Contact Terry Cornish (717-761-7840) for more information.

**Harvey & Irma Help** – For those who wish to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's emergency response and recovery efforts, you can give through Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church (Memo Line: PDA).



**The Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry Fundraiser Banquet** will be held Saturday, October 7, 5:30 PM, at the New Fairview Church of the Brethren, York, PA. The evening features a silent auction, full-course dinner, the musical group, *Harmony*, an update of the ministry and door prizes. Tickets are \$12 and available at [carlisletruckstopministry.org](http://carlisletruckstopministry.org) until September 23.