



## MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 East Simpson Street

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596

www.mechpresby.org • 717-697-0351

September 3, 2017 • 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time • 9:30 AM

*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!*

**LOVE** from the center of who you are  
**don't fake it.**  
**Run from evil hold onto good.**  
Be good friends **love deeply**  
**Don't Burn Out Smile.**  
Keep yourself fueled  
**Be Alert. Don't Quit. Pray Hard.**  
**Bless** the needy and  
your enemies.  
**LAUGH** with happy friends, **CRY** with sad  
**Get along with OTHERS**  
Don't be the great **somebody**  
**Discover** Beauty in Everyone  
**Don't get even. Be generous**

*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.*

*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. ~ Romans 12:9-21*

## ENTER TO WORSHIP – DEPART TO SERVE

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### Prelude

*Dawn Hymn*

A. Hovhaness, Op. 138

Featuring our organ's chimes

Alan Hovhaness (1911-2000) was a prolific American composer.

### 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 #413

*Come into God's Presence*

COME INTO HIS PRESENCE

#### \*Call to Worship

We are called to be people of faith in the midst of the world,  
**and so we mix our worship and our work, our faith and our life.**

We gather here as people who live in the world and yet,  
**we gather as people who have been called to see the world from a different viewpoint.**

God has called us together, God has called us to be part of a community.

**God challenges us to consider questions of priority as we engage with the world.**

In this time together,

**may God open our hearts, minds and eyes,**

allowing us to see deeper,

**helping us to live in the world while still offering a challenge to the ways of the world.**

Let us worship God!

#### \*Hymn #14

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

#### \*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.

**God of great mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you. We trust the wisdom of this world and ignore the teaching of your Word. We tremble in the wind and rain and forget your firm and certain promise.**

**Forgive us, by your steadfast love. Strengthen us to grow each day in faith, hope, and love, bearing good fruit into your holy realm; through Jesus Christ our Lord...** (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!*

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**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.*

**Moment with the Children**

*All children are welcome to stay in worship. There is a nursery available for children up to age 5.*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson**

Romans 12:9-13

N.T. p. 162

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

\*Hymn #729

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

**Second Lesson**

Romans 12:14-21

N.T. p. 162

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

**Sermon**

Do I Have To?

Kathryn Johnston

**Responding to the Word**

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

\*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. 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**

**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**

*Worshippers: Please place the top sheet of the fellowship pads in the offering plates.*

**Offertory**

*Religious Meditation, Pastorale*

W. Schutze

**\*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 #719**

*Come, Labor On*

ORA LABORA

**\*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**

*Postlude in F*

Christian Cappelen, Op. 28, No. 7

**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.

The flowers are placed to the glory of God in memory of Jim Appleby by Amy Berry; and in honor of Crist and Ellie Karakantas on their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by Sue Karakantas. The yellow rose in the Sanctuary symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

**KNOWN TO BE HOSPITALIZED**

Charlene Bojalad – ManorCare, Camp Hill

Linda Randall – Harrisburg, #405

Another successful peach festival! At this time our gross profit is just over \$2100. Thank you to everyone supporting PW in this event – from volunteers peeling, cutting, baking, serving, cleaning as well as those who came out and enjoyed some good food and fellowship. THANK YOU!! ~**Presbyterian Women**

On August 15, **Karen Taylor**, Director of Playful Beginnings, celebrated her first year anniversary with MPC. **Pastor Mark Allio** celebrated his 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary with MPC on September 1st. The congregation thanks both for their dedicated service to MPC.

**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.

<b>Ministers.....</b>	<b>All members of the congregation</b>
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff.....	Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston.....
Associate Pastor for Youth & Young Adults.....	Rev. Mark A. Allio.....
Director of Music .....	Mark G. McKeever .....
Playful Beginnings Director .....	Karen P. Taylor.....
Deacons .....	(Class of 2017) Sharon Chizar, Jeff Hummel, Elizabeth Knott, Bonnie Savage, Richard Startzel, Karen Weigel
	(Class of 2018) Amy Berry, Grace House, JoAnne Miller, Cindy Walters, Carol Winston, Lynne Zerbe
	(Class of 2019) Laura Bricker, Marybeth Cauffman, Gail Foor, Sue Karakantas, Mary Love, Joanne Neimer
Mission Relations.....	www.pcusa.org/missionconnections
Find us online! .....	www.mechpresby.org • Twitter: @mechpresby • Facebook: Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church

# More People Caring

**Participating in Worship:**  
**Greeters:** Jack & Jan Eger  
**Ushers:** Ted & Gail Foor, Catherine Gray, Larry Lichty  
**Reader:** Lori Heenan  
**Liturgy:** Gord Waldie, *re:Worship* (Call to Worship),  
**Nursery:** Terry Cornish, Adrian & Kate Murray  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Judy Dell  
**Church to Pray for:** Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg

**September 10 at 10:30am**

**Worship & Potluck at Memorial Park, Mbg**

The park is where the football field and pool are (1 Memorial Park Dr. on your GPS).  
 Drive into the park and look for the MPC sign by the pavilions on the left hand side.  
 You can park your car along the road beside the pavilions.  
 There will be chairs provided.  
 Please bring a potluck dish to share.  
 There will be people at the park to help carry chairs and potluck items from your car to the pavilion.  
 Thank you Fellowship Committee for providing the grilled hot dogs and drinks!



**September 10** –Senior High planning meeting at Marzoni’s, 6pm  
**September 17** – Progressive dinner, 5-8pm  
**September 24** – Youth Group, 6-8pm

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

**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 3 - 10, 2017**

SUN	9:30 AM	Worship CROSS Paper Drive
MON		Church Office Closed Downtown Daily Bread
TUE	11:30 AM	Board of Deacons ReGifted
WED	7 PM 7 PM	Presby Peelers Bells of Celebration Chancel Choir Rehearsal
THU		
FRI	9 AM	Men’s Bible Fellowship
SAT	6:15 AM	Elders & Deacons
SUN	9 AM	Outdoor Worship, Memorial Park, Mechanicsburg Communion CROSS Paper Drive

**Joyful Hearts** – We welcome all who love Jesus and want to know Him better. Our next study will be the Book of Acts beginning **Sunday, September 17 at 9:30 AM**. We meet in Rm. 102 of Upper Fellowship Hall. This Bible study involves reading approximately two chapters of Acts a week with a study guide. If you want to join us, please contact **Suzy Brenner by September 3** (717-497-2745 or [suzy2745@gmail.com](mailto:suzy2745@gmail.com)) so she can order a study guide for you to have for the first class.

***The Anonymous People  
Addiction and Recovery***

**Panel Discussion:** Local experts will discuss the journey to recovery on **Friday, September 22 at 6 PM** in Upper Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

**The Chancel Choir** (high school and college students and above) directed by Mark McKeever, will begin rehearsals **Wednesday, September 6** from 7:45-9:15 PM. An invitation is extended to anyone interested in singing for worship to come to choir practice. **Bells of Celebration**, directed by Eileen House, will also begin practice **September 6 at 6:30 PM**.

**Giant Gift Cards** – Orders will be taken this morning for Giant gift cards. Proceeds will go to support the MPC mission trips.

**Attention MechPresby:** We are in desperate need of 8:15 nursery volunteers. If you are willing to volunteer in our early morning nursery, please contact Laura Martin.

Home: 717-691-3627

Cell: 717-554-4140

Email: mburgmom@verizon.net

**The new photo directories** are here! See a member of the Fellowship Committee in the Gathering Area to pick up your copy. Members who were photographed receive a free directory. Directories are available for \$5.

**Women's Ministry** – Please plan to join us on Tuesday, September 12, at 11:30 AM for our Fall Kick-Off Luncheon and introduction to this year's study, *Cloud of Witnesses – The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. If you have not been a participant in one of our circle groups, come check us out! There is friendship, fellowship, and so much to learn. Sign-up sheets will be in the Gathering Area today and September 10 so we may plan for the luncheon. You may also contact Sharon Chizar at [sechizar@aol.com](mailto:sechizar@aol.com) or Margie Fealtman at [mfealtman@juno.com](mailto:mfealtman@juno.com). Hope to see you there.

**PW Horizons Bible study** books are available. If you have not picked up your copy please see Pat Heintzelman in the Gathering Area TODAY. Pastor Kathryn will lead the study of Hebrews with the three circles this year.

**Bible Sunday - September 17, 2016** - Do you remember the day you got your first Bible? If you still have that Bible bring it with you on September 17 or bring your favorite Bible. This year we will be giving Bibles to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Presentation will be at both services so families can come to their favorite service.

**Annual Paper Drive for CROSS Begins Today:** **CROSS** (Christian Residential Opportunities and Social Services) provides a homelike environment for adults with developmental disabilities. MPC will be collecting paper products for CROSS through September 17. The homes are in great need of paper towels so we are asking this year that each family donate paper towels. Toilet paper and napkins will also be accepted. Please bring in these paper items and help our friends at CROSS. Donations can be dropped off at the front of the stage in Upper Fellowship Hall.

**Untapped Conversations**, a social group for anyone 21 and older, will meet at 7 PM on Thursday, September 14 at Troegs.

**He Brews** – We'll meet at 7 PM on Thursday, September 21 at Al's of Hampden. We will begin our study in October. Send Pastor Mark any ideas you have that you'd like to discuss.

**Mix 'n Mingle/Pep Set**, the 55+ social group, will be going to Boiling Springs Tavern for lunch. Meet at the church on Wednesday, September 20, at 12:30 PM to carpool. The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area – contact Rich Trout (717-697-1608) if you have any questions.

**Adult Mission Trip Opportunity** – The members of HeBrews and Untapped Conversations have planned a mission trip to Pittsburgh October 5-8, 2017. We will be working with the Pittsburgh Project, who will house us and assign us with mission work around the city. The cost is \$135 per person plus food cost. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Pastor Mark.



**Harvey Help** – Here are some ways to give assistance to those impacted by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey:

For those who wish to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's emergency response and recovery efforts, **gifts can be designated online**

(<http://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/prayer-hurricane-harvey/>) to **DR000169-Harvey**, or you can mail a check to:

**Presbyterian Church (USA)**

**P.O. Box 643700**

**Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700**

**(DR000169-Harvey in the memo line)**



**September 17**

**Worship at 8:15 and 11:00 AM**

**Sunday School at 9:35 AM**