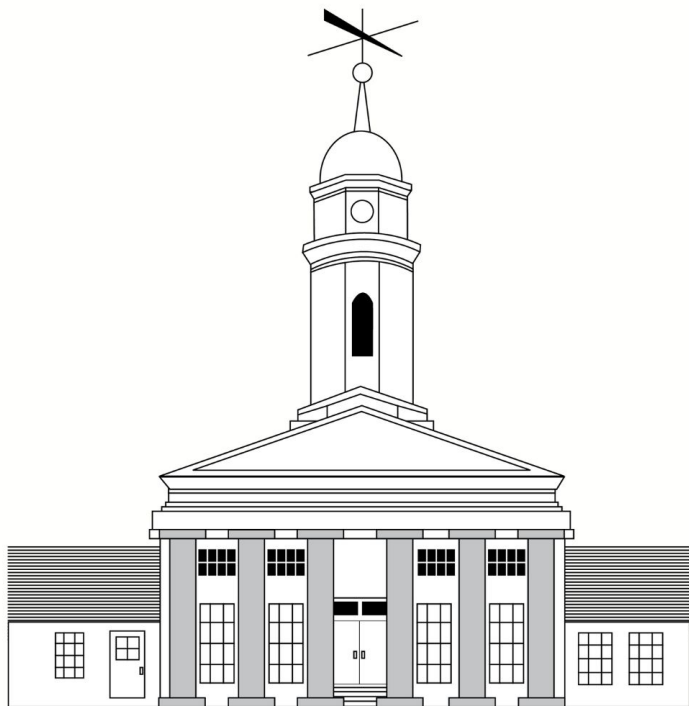


Media Presbyterian Church



“Don’t Look Back!”

Worship. Grow. Serve.
Together

Sunday, December 29th, 2024

Welcome

MPC'S MISSION

Worship. Grow. Serve.
Together

VISITING TODAY?

If this is your first time worshipping with us, we hope you will feel welcome. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us by phone at 610-566-3944.

We also invite you to visit our website at www.mediapresbyterian.org

Leading Worship This Morning...

Reverend Rose Sparrow, Parish Associate
Emily Barth, Organist
Dave Layton, Worship Leader

Today's chancel flowers are given with love in honor of the blessing of our granddaughters: Avery Belle, Emery Rae, Olivia Noelle, and the newest, born 11/29, Madison Jane.

~ Belle Patton

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Psalms 34:1-10 NKJV)

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

All: My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.

Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together.

All: I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Leader: They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed.

All: This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

Leader: The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

All: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

Leader: Oh, fear the LORD, you, His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.

All: The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing.

*Opening Hymns (Blue)

#25 Away in a Manger (v.1)

#38 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (v.1)

#53 What Child Is This? (v.1)

#43 O Little Town of Bethlehem (v.1)

Call to Confession (1 John 1:8-9)

Leader: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

All: If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Now, have a few moments of honesty before God in silent confession)

Prayer of Confession (All)

Almighty God, who sent a star to guide men to the holy child Jesus: we confess that we have not followed the light of your word. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world, or trusted good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth, and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little, and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew in us all fine desires, so we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Romans 5:6-8)

Leader: You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Song of Praise** *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

Henry Smart

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One;
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ,
the newborn King!**

***Sharing the Joy of Our Faith**

EQUIPPING

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Dave Layton

Dave Layton

Scripture Reading I: Philippians 3:4-11 pg. 954

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading II: Philippians 3:12-14 pg. 955

Rev. Rose Sparrow

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Don't Look Back!"

Rev. Rose Sparrow

RESPONDING

***Affirmation of Faith (A/I)**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Stewardship

Offertory Anthem

(MPC Choir)

*Doxology

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymn #31 (v. 3) Blue **Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

There are prepackaged communion cups located in baskets at the back of the sanctuary if you prefer not taking communion by intinction.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues...

Sanctus (All)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Richard Proulx

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer (A/I)

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 sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer

SENDING

***Closing Hymn #92**

The Solid Rock

(Red)

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

GENERAL INFORMATION

Restrooms -A restroom is located in the parlor at the back of the sanctuary. Handicap-accessible restrooms are located through either side door at the front of the sanctuary, then around the corner.

Nursery -Our Nursery is available for infants and children up to 4 years old during our 9:00am Sunday School hour and the 10:00am worship service.

Sunday School -Adults meet at 9:00am in Room 102. Children's Sunday School is in the Children's Wing. Youth Sunday School is in the Youth Room.

Prayer Chain -If you are in need of prayer or would like to receive prayer chain updates, please email Reverend Rose.

Attention Mothers of Infants -The parlor at the back of the church is available for privacy during church services.

Church Office Hours- Monday through Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm.
The Church Office will be closed for the holidays, starting December 25th and we will reopen on the 6th of January. If anything is urgent please either call the office at (610) 566-3944 or email office@mediapresbyterian.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

◆ Confirmation Class

MPC will offer a Confirmation Class for high school students who are interested in exploring their faith more deeply and in becoming members of Media Presbyterian Church. We will have an informational meeting for interested students and parents in mid-December, and the class will begin in late January. Here is a description of the curriculum we will be using from the PCUSA called "Big God, Big Questions." "Focused on preparing students to authentically answer the traditional membership questions, this Confirmation curriculum will equip students with the vital skills of asking and seeking answers using scripture, tradition, and church to tell their own story as Christian believers." For more information, please contact Tom Jackson at tjack713@hotmail.com, or 610-299-4326.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

◆ Adult Sunday School

- Adult Sunday School meets each Sunday from 9-9:45am in Room 102. You may begin attending at any time! For additional information, please contact: Reverend David Cagle (david@mediapresbyterian.org).

◆ Cornerstone Kids Children's Ministry

– Building Lives on Christ (BLOC) is available most Sundays for children in 2nd grade and younger. The children are dismissed after the Children's Moment and should be picked up from Room 201 when the service is over.
– Contact Jeanne Cunningham (fuselloj@gmail.com) for more information.

◆ MPC Youth Ministry

– Youth Sunday School meets from 9-9:45am in the Youth Room.
– Youth Group meets on Thursday from 7-8:30pm in the Youth Room.

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 29th, 2024

Sunday, Dec 29th

8:30am Choir Practice, Sanctuary
8:45am Nursery opens for drop-off
9:00am Adult Sunday School, Room 102
9:00am Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
9:15am Worship Team, Sanctuary
10:00am Sunday Worship Service (BLOC), Sanctuary
11:30am Worship Team, Sanctuary

Monday, Dec 30th

6:30pm PNC, Room 102

Tuesday, Dec 31st

7:00pm Property cmt. mtg., Room 103 & Zoom

Wednesday, Jan 1st

Thursday, Jan 2nd

7:00am Men's Bible Study, Court Diner, Media

Friday, Jan 3rd

Office Closed

Saturday, Jan 4th

6:00pm NA Meeting, Dale Hall

Sunday, Jan 5th

8:30am Choir Practice, Sanctuary
8:45am Nursery opens for drop-off
9:00am Adult Sunday School, Room 102
9:00am Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
9:15am Worship Team, Sanctuary
10:00am Sunday Worship Service (BLOC), Sanctuary
11:30am Worship Team, Sanctuary

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Transitional Pastor	Reverend Dr. David Cagle	David@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1001
Parish Associate	Reverend Rose Sparrow	Rose@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1002
Interim Business Administrator	Sandy Campbell	Sandyc@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1006
Director of Children & Youth Ministries	Ty Harvey	Ty@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1003
Facilities Manager	Scott MacDonald	Scott@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1008
Director of Traditional Music	Lisa VanHeldorf	Lisa@mediapresbyterian.org
Director of Contemporary Music	Andrew Behringer	Andrew@mediapresbyterian.org
Organist	Emily Barth	Emily@mediapresbyterian.org
Church Administrator	Camryn Gavula	Camryn@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1005
	Main Kitchen	Ext. 1021
	Parlor <i>(Back of Sanctuary)</i>	Ext. 1022
	Nursery	Ext. 1023
	Benevolence Hotline	Ext. 2000

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sign up to receive our weekly digital newsletter by going to our website or by emailing camryn@mediapresbyterian.org

ONLINE GIVING

Visit MediaPresbyterian.org/GiveOnline or scan the QR code to give your tithes.

