



Grounded in the grace of God, we are a vibrant Christian community, disciples of all ages, gathered for worship and nurture, scattered to serve and to love.
MPC Mission Statement adopted by the Session March 31, 2008

WORSHIP for JUNE 6, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY
after PENTECOST

PRELUDE — *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

SOLID ROCK

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

Refrain:

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.*

Refrain

*His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.*

Refrain

*When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.*

Refrain

CALL to WORSHIP

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

One: Children of God, come to the waters.

All: **We gather to be restored and renewed.**

One: Come, with your faith both big and small.

All: **We respond to the one who claims and calls us.**

One: Come, Christ summons us to draw near.

All: **Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!**

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Rev. Jack McAnlis

Lord, we long to draw close to you, but we are afraid. We are afraid to heed your summons for we do not know what awaits us when we step out in faith. We are wary of taking risks for your sake because the forces of chaos seem stronger than your assurances to us. We worry that we will not have enough faith in you or in the gifts you've given us to do the things you ask. Forgive us Lord, and save us. Reach out your hand, and lift us from our fear that we might follow you faithfully.

(Time for silent prayer and confession.)

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, the God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us. The God who comforts us is also the God who accepts us. Be assured that God is with us even now, accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!**

RESPONSE to GOD'S GRACE — *Glory to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING — *Matthew 14:22-33*

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION

Pastor Lester-Abdalla

AFFIRMATION of FAITH — from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

HYMN — *Jesus Calls Us*

GALILEE

*Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."*

*Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying "Christian, love me more."*

*In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."*

*Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.*

POSTLUDE — *How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.*

*"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.*

*"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.*

*"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."*

QUESTION *for* REFLECTION

- What have you noticed yourself pushing against recently?
- How might God break into your life with joy, rest, or support?

OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Tim Carpenter – Director of Music

Patricia Guth – Organist

Video Ministry Volunteers

Photos may be found on unsplash.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please note all announcements for Sunday bulletins are due by noon the Tuesday before they are to be published. Please email announcements to Bulletin@MPCusa.net.*

MPC CLOTHING CENTER SEASONAL CLOSING

The Clothing Center will be closing for the summer on June 17. Please **DO NOT** leave any clothing donations at the church. We will reopen again mid-September. Donations will resume at that time. Thank you for all your support throughout the year.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Habitat for Humanity needs MPC volunteers in Bristol, Chalfont and Warminster. MPC has a history of supporting Habitat for Humanity, both financially and “hands on” and they need our continued support!

Faith Build 2021 is a project of Habitat for Humanity and has designated Bristol Borough as one of its locations. This is an opportunity for faith groups and congregations based in Bucks County to come together and put their faith into action. Let’s make MPC one of those congregations!

There are many ways and levels in which MPC (that’s you!) can get involved:

1. Join a painting crew for the day in Bristol (through May) or provide a prayer or lunch for the day.
2. Assist at the Restore location in Warminster to unload trailers of furniture and/or put the furniture together.
3. Assist at the Restore location in Chalfont in preparation for its move to Warminster.

If you have questions, please contact Ray Hendrickson at 215 495-3114 or hrh1453@gmail.com.