
GATHERING

PRELUDE — *Aria* - Caleb Simper

Yun Kang

CALL to WORSHIP — based on *Revelation 1*

Karl Helland

One: Grace and peace to you from the One who is, who always was, and who is still to come—

All: The Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

One: This is our God—the one who loves us, and who gave himself for us;

All: The one who gathers us together in wonder and in praise. Let us worship God together!

HYMN — *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICAEA

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

PRAYER of CONFESSION -

Pastor Alex Lester-Abdalla

Glorious and gracious God, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. The entire universe is yours, yet we confess we often do not believe in your final victory over sin and death. We fail to trust in your promise to reveal your new heaven and earth, and to restore your creation at the end of time. In our pride, we focus on our abilities. In our faithlessness, we focus on our struggles. In our self-centeredness, we focus on our failures. Forgive us and free us from our sin, O Lord. Remind us of your glory and help us to find freedom in your majesty alone.

SILENT PRAYERS of CONFESSION

Here each worshiper may offer silent prayers of confession.

PROMISE of FORGIVENESS

One: At the beginning, at the end, and in every time between, the good news speaks to us of God's tender mercy and love for us. God comes not to punish, but to give us peace; not to judge, but to save us. Together let us rejoice and proclaim the good news of the Gospel:

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.*

LITURGY of the WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING — *Psalm 29*

One: The Lord is king, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength.

All: He has established the world; it shall never be moved; your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

One: The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.

All: More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord!

One: Your decrees are very sure;

All: Holiness befits your house, O Lord, for evermore.

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM — *Build Thee More Stately Mansions* - Gordon Young

Chancel Choir

*Now glad of heart be every one!
The fight is fought, the day is won,
The Christ is set upon his throne. Alleluia!*

*Who on the rood was crucified,
Who rose again, as at this tide,
In glory to his Father's side. Alleluia!*

*Who baffled death and harrowed hell
And led the souls that loved him well
All in the light of lights to dwell. Alleluia!*

*To him we lift our heart and voice
And in his Paradise rejoice
With harp and pipe and happy noise. Alleluia!*

*Then rise, all Christian folk, with me
And carol forth the One in Three
Who was and is and is to be. Alleluia!*

--German carol translated and adapted by A.H. Fox-Strangeways

NEW TESTAMENT READING — *Revelation 1:4b-8*

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of the Lord will stand forever.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Last Day

Pastor Rachel Rhodes

HYMN — *Of the Father's Love Begotten* (verses 1, 2, 5, & 6)

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!*

*By his Word was all created; he commanded; it was done;
heaven and earth and depths of ocean, universe of three in one,
all that sees the moon's soft shining, all that breathes beneath the sun,
evermore and evermore!*

*O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises sing.
Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent; every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!*

*Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore! Amen.*

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.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts and debtors*)

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

Invitation to Give

Doxology — *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

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.*

Offertory Music — *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* - William M. Runyan

Prayer of Dedication

S E N D I N G

HYMN — *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

*Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heavens, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.*

*Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.*

*Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.*

*Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored to thee:
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

POSTLUDE — *Now Thank We All Our God* - Johann Cruger

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

- As we enter this new church year, how do you see God at work in your life?

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.***

ADVENT BAGS

The season of Advent is approaching and your Worship, Education, and Congregational Ministry Committees assembled bags which include a devotional and other activities to do throughout the season. Advent Bags will be available for pick up (one per family, please) in the Communication Center before and after worship today and November 28. If you are unable to pick one up during these times, please contact the church office to make arrangements to get one.

NO CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SUNDAY, 11/28

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday and family travel, we will not be having Sunday School for grades Pre-K-12 on November 28. We hope you will spend time with family and friends in thanks and prayer and we look forward to seeing you on December 5!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Calling the priesthood of all believers! During this Advent Season, Adult Sunday School will be exploring the many dimensions of the Incarnation. Carol Carpenter and Travis Keys will be leading a four-week conversation centered around the Incarnation video series by Adam Hamilton. If you are interested, you can attend in-person in room 220 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 or via Zoom from a Zoom link Pastor Alex sends each week. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please contact Pastor Alex at alexlester-abdalla@mpcusa.net. We hope you will join us!

CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

We are happy to announce that this year we are bringing back the Church Angel Tree for the Christmas Holiday! We are once again working with the Food Center to prepare toiletry bags for the many individuals we service each week from the Lower Bucks County and greater Trenton area. The Angel Tree will be in the Communication Center starting today, Sunday, November 21. We are asking anyone interested in taking an Angel from the tree to put together a 1.5 gallon Ziploc bag filled with the following items:

- A few tooth brushes
- Mouthwash - small bottle
- Bar of wrapped soap
- Deodorant (neutral scent)
- Razors
- Chapstick
- Hand lotion
- Hand sanitizer
- Mask

Ziploc bags will also be available next to the tree, if needed.

A "blessing" from MPC will be printed on the back of the angel and should be included inside each bag letting the recipients know that God loves them! We also know how generous our congregation is, but ask that you not include extra items in the bag. Instead, perhaps fill another bag!

The Ziplock bag can be dropped off in the box marked "Angel Tree" in the Communication Center from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Monday evenings, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday mornings, or before/after the worship service on Sunday mornings. We ask that all bags be delivered no later than December 28 for distribution to our Food Center clients beginning in the New Year! We are so grateful and thankful for all of you, and for all you do each year to make the Angel tree such a success!

If you have any questions, you can email Patti Sheffer at patricia.sheffer@yahoo.com or Lori Newman at mne4444276@aol.com.



Scouts BSA Troop 3
Annual
Christmas
Tree Sale

Our annual Christmas Tree sale begins on Saturday, November 27 at 1p, and we will be open daily through Thursday, December 23 or when we sell out.

Weekdays 6-9 | Saturdays 9-9 | Sundays 10-9

Morrisville Presbyterian Church
771 N Pennsylvania Ave - Morrisville, PA

