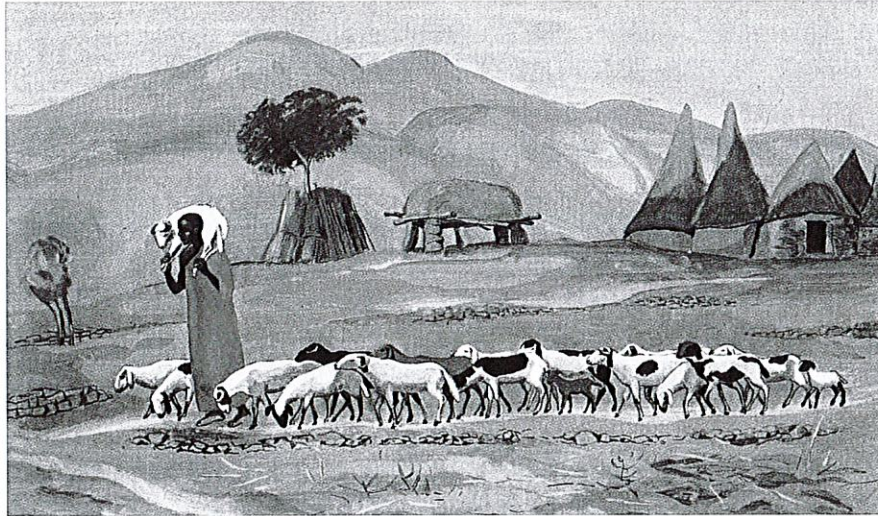




**MECHANICSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
300 East Simpson Street • Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6596  
717-697-0351 • [www.mechpresby.org](http://www.mechpresby.org)  
April 21, 2024 • Fourth Sunday of Easter • 8:15 & 11:00am



"The Good Shepherd" | Jesus Mafa | from Art in the Christian Tradition

**Gathering Around the Word**

*We gather knowing God is with us.*

**Quiet Meditation –**

"It would be a powerful invitation to proclaim we are invited to God's table [...] God our shepherd prepares the feast at the Table, where our cup overflows, and where our enemies who betray us are invited to sit next to us." Rev. Marci Auld Glass

**Prelude**

*Christ is Arisen!*

JSB, BWV 627

**Welcome**

**Moment for Mission**

**Response #240, v. 1**

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

Alleluia No. 1

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. Alleluia...***

**\*Call to Worship**

A translation of Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing.

**In pastures green, the Lord makes me lie down and leads me beside the quiet waters.**

The Lord restores my soul and guides me in the paths of justice for the sake of God's holy name.

**Indeed, though I walk through the narrow valley of death's dark shadow, I will fear no evil. For you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they console me.**

You prepare a table before me in the sight of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil and my cup overflows with abundance.

**Surely, goodness and faithfulness will follow me my whole life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever and ever.**

**\*Hymn #441**

*Hear the Good News of Salvation*

Nettleton

**\*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.

**Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we ignore the cries of the oppressed, and are indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen 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.*

**\*Response #589**

*Alleluia*

Honduras Alleluia

***Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Now the Lord is Risen indeed.***

**Proclaiming the Word**

*We experience the Word of God.*

**Beloved Children of God Moment**

We invite children to remain in worship. The nursery is available with parental supervision.

**Response #48**

*Rain Down*

Cortez

***Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people.  
Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.***

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson**

Acts 4:1-7

NT pg. 121

The story of God for the people of God... **thanks be to God.**

**Anthem (11:00)**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*  
MPC Chancel Choir

John Rutter

**Second Lesson**

Acts 4:7-14

NT pg. 121

The story of God for the people of God... **thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Expect the Unexpected*  
*Unexpected Power*

Rev. Emily D. Sutphin

**Selah: A Holy Pause for Silent Reflection**

*A chime will sound to mark the transition to the next element of worship.*

**Responding to the Word**

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

**\*Hymn #834**

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Dorsey

\*Declaration of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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.

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Response: In your mercy Lord, hear our 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

Offertory

*Prelude and Choral on Duke Street*

David Schack

\*Doxology #609

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Praise God, in Jesus fully known. Creator, Word, and Spirit one.***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Bearing & Following the Word**

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

\*Hymn #187

*Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Bradbury

\*Charge & Benediction

\*Response

*Thank You Lord*

Spiritual

***Thank you Lord, Thank you Lord, Thank you Lord, I just want to thank you Lord! Praise You Lord...***

Postlude

*Trumpet Voluntary*

Jeremiah Clarke

**Welcome to worship this morning!**

**Bold print** indicates congregational reading or response.

**An asterisk \*** indicates when to stand in body or in spirit.

**Offerings are welcome!** Place in the plates at each of the entrances or give online.

**New here?** Check out our website: [mechpresby.org](http://mechpresby.org)

**The yellow rose** symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

**The white rose is in memory of Patricia Schmidt.** Patricia was a 46-year member of MPC. She joined the Church Triumphant on April 16, 2024. Please keep her daughter, son, friends, and family in your prayers.

**JOIN US IN THE THOUGHTFUL CHRISTIAN CLASS**

**Today!** – As Christians, we know that the Earth is God's gift, and we are called to be good stewards of God's creation. We'll explore how creation care is a part of our Matthew 25 calling.

**Next Week** –We will learn how to be respectful of gender diversity and how to talk about it. And, if you are thinking about volunteering with B.O.W., this class is an opportunity for some introductory training.

## GIVING + \$5



**WE'VE DONE THE MATH!!!**

**JUST \$5 MORE P/WEEK  
CLOSES THE DEFICIT!**

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!

**Bumping up your giving just \$5 per week WILL make a difference!**

- \$5 helps buy snacks for Be Out Wednesday (BOW).
- \$5 is one copy of music for the choir.
- \$5 is sugar and cream for Coffee Fellowship.
- \$5 is nametags for Courageous Conversations.
- \$5 is caulk for a fixed leak.
- \$5 is a slice of pizza for 4<sup>th</sup> @ 304!

**\$5 per week or \$25 per month or  
\$200 for the year WILL make a difference!**

**Forget how to change your online gift? See below:**

- 1) Go to mechpresby.org and click "Give" and then "Give Now" in the pull-down menu OR text "MechPresby" to 73-256.
- 2) If you already have an account, on the top right-hand corner, click "Sign In".
- 3) Use your email address and password to sign in. Please note, the MPC office does not have this information.
- 4) Once logged in, click on "Giving" on the left-hand side of the screen.
- 5) Your current pledge should show up on the screen. To increase your amount, click on the 3 dots on the right-hand side (...) and then choose "Edit."
- 6) This will give you access to your current pledge donation so that you can easily add \$5 more per week.

## Mulch Madness – TODAY!

Join us at 1:00pm today for our Spring clean-up of the MPC gardens! Please plan to come out for fresh air and fellowship as we prepare for the growing season. Many hands make light work!

## April Spiritual Retreat

Join us Saturday, April 27 at 10:00 am for MPC's April Spiritual Retreat at Monaghan Presbyterian Church! Together, we explore trees as a spiritual metaphor and spend time in silence, prayer, and meditation. This retreat is open to all ages and is free to attend. Please bring a bagged lunch. For more information or to sign up, please contact Pastor Emily.

### Our Worship Leaders

Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston – Pastor | Rev. Emily D. Sutphin – Associate Pastor  
Cathay L. Snyder – Christian Education Director | Mark G. McKeever – Director of Music  
Amy Berry & Katie Chase (8:15), Marti Derr & Susan Van Zile (11:00) – Liturgists

### **Ministers**

Senior Pastor/Head of Staff .....	Rev. Kathryn Z. Johnston (she/her) .....	kjohnston@mechpresby.org
Associate Pastor .....	Rev. Emily D. Sutphin (she/her) .....	esutphin@mechpresby.org
Christian Education Director.....	Cathay L. Snyder (she/her).....	csnyder@mechpresby.org
Director of Music .....	Mark G. McKeever (he/him).....	mmckeever@mechpresby.org
Church Administrator .....	Angela J. Weir (she/her).....	aweir@mechpresby.org
Playful Beginnings Director .....	Karen P. Taylor (she/her) .....	playfulbeginnings.mpc@gmail.com

### **All members of the congregation**

**MECHANICSBURG  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

[mechpresby.org](http://mechpresby.org)



300 E. Simpson St.  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
717-697-0351

**SESSION**

Class of 2024

Dan Alex, Bob Bell, Katie Chase,  
Becky Giovagnoli, Lori Heenan

Class of 2025

Amy Berry, Ted Foor, Sue Karakantas,  
Larry Stoner, Rick Whitcomb

Class of 2026

Nils Hagen-Frederiksen, Kelli  
Scurfield, Ran Singiser, Jenn  
Thomson, Tim Wonder

**DEACONS**

Class of 2024

Marybeth Hummel, Ken Kleinert, Rich  
Marlin, Cathy Petko, Kim Savidge,  
Jan Whitcomb

Class of 2025

Martie Bricker, Shannon Hammel,  
Grace House, Bill Klebe, Judy Klebe,  
Keni Melphis

Class of 2026

Heather Barto, Jan Burrows, Dave  
Donat, Lara Frymark, Debi Gross,  
Patti Hinkson

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**Church Office Hours**

**9-4:30 Monday-Thursday**  
**Closed Fridays**

4/21/2024

**WELCOME TO MPC**

**More People Caring**

Whether you're a first time visitor, a long time member, or  
anywhere in between—

**We're glad you're here!**

**3 WAYS TO GIVE**



**IN SERVICE**  
Offering stands  
by doors



**TEXT**  
Text "MechPresby"  
to 73256



**ONLINE**  
[MechPresby.org](http://MechPresby.org)  
Click "Give"



**WEEKLY SERVICES & THINGS TO KNOW**

**Sundays: 8:15 & 11am Worship; 9:35 Sunday School**

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**Children are welcome** in worship and are invited to participate in Communion. Activity packets can be found in the back and there are children's tables in the front and back of the Sanctuary.

**Restrooms** with baby changing stations can be found through the middle Sanctuary door, to the left of the kitchen. Non-gendered restrooms are located through the front right Sanctuary door, down the hallway and on the right.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (9:35am)

Age 2—K | Center Room (Nursery Wing)  
**1st-5th grades** | Lower Fellowship Hall  
**6th-8th** | Confirmation Class | Mission & Student Center  
**9th-12th** | Chat & Chew | Mission & Student Center  
**Joyful Hearts** | P.W. Conference Room  
 Women's class, Philippians  
**Dave Petko Class B** | Library  
 Bible study currently looking at the Wisdom of Solomon  
**Thoughtful Christian** | Upper Fellowship Hall  
 Short-term studies focused on current events & issues.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Singles First Friday | April 21 | 2:30pm

We will be attending the matinee performance of *Forever Plaid* at the Mechanicsburg Little Theater.

### Courageous Conversations | April 21 | 6:30-8:00pm | St. Paul's United Church of Christ

The topic will be "white Christian Nationalism."  
 Questions? Contact Pastor Emily.

### Election Day Soup Sale | UFH | April 23 | 10:00am-6:00pm

The Women of MPC will be making chicken corn and hamburger vegetable soups for sale on Election Day. Sandwiches and desserts will also be available for purchase. Quarts are \$8.50 and bowls are \$3.00.

### Untapped | April 25 | 7:00 PM

Join us for Untapped Conversations at the Mellow Mink. Questions? Contact Cathay Snyder.

### Dinner & a Movie Night | UFH | April 26 | 5:30pm Dinner

Come join the Christian Education and Social Justice Committee's Dinner & A Movie Night. Dinner will be ready at 5:30, movie will begin at 6. Our movie this month is *Hidden Figures* (PG)

### CARES Tour | May 5 | 1:00pm |

Mission Committee is planning a tour of Community CARES. If you would like to join us, please contact Cindy Gorski, cagoski59@gmail.com

## 6th—12th Grade Events Friends Are Always Welcome!

4/28 | 4th @ 304 | 6pm-7:30 | M&S Center

5/19 | 4th @ 304 Pentecost Celebration | Time TBD

## April 21 - April 28, 2024

|           |          |                                            |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 8:15 AM  | Sunday Worship Service                     |
|           | 9:35 AM  | Sunday School                              |
|           | 11:00 AM | Sunday Worship Service                     |
|           | 12:30 PM | Spring Clean-up                            |
| Monday    | 6:30 PM  | Courageous Conversations<br>St. Paul's UCC |
|           | 8:30 PM  | Session, UFH<br>AA, LFH                    |
| Tuesday   | 6:00 PM  | Girl Scouts, LFH                           |
|           | 7:00 PM  | Book Club, PWCR                            |
| Wednesday | 3:30 PM  | B.O.W., M&S Center                         |
| Thursday  | 12:00 PM | Pastors' Bible Study                       |
|           | 7:00 PM  | Untapped                                   |
| Friday    | 6:15 AM  | Men's Fellowship, PWCR                     |
|           | 5:30 PM  | Dinner & a Movie Night,<br>UFH             |
| Saturday  | 10:00 AM | Spiritual Retreat                          |
| Sunday    | 8:15 AM  | Sunday Worship Service                     |
|           | 9:35 AM  | Sunday School                              |
|           | 11:00 AM | Sunday Worship Service                     |
|           | 6:30 PM  | 4th @ 304<br>M & S Center                  |

### Tuesday Nights @ MPC | UFH | May 7 | 5:30pm

Join us for the last Tuesday Nights of the year!  
 ALL ages are invited for dinner, fellowship, and activities. Children's choir rehearsal @ 6pm.

### Mothers & Others UFH | May 11 | 9:30-11:30am |

Join PW for a guided *Prayer Through Watercolor* session led by Spiritual Director Pam Clayborne - no experience needed! Sign up in the Gathering Area. Cost is \$10.00. Children 12 and under are free. All materials provided.

### Spring Fling Square Dance | UFH | May 11 | 7:00-9:00pm |

We will learn easy square dance, line dances, and choreographed ballroom dances. No experience necessary, lessons are provided! All are welcome!

### Race & the Church | PWCR | May 14 | 6:30pm

We discuss Chapters 8-11 of *The Color of Compromise*. Questions? Contact Cathay Snyder!

By entering an event or program on these premises, you are entering an area where photography, audio and video recording will occur. Your entry and presence constitute your consent to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded and to the release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction of any and all recorded media of your appearance, voice, and name for any purpose whatsoever in connection with Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church and its initiatives, including, by way of example only, use on websites, in social media, and advertising.