**Montoursville Presbyterian Church**

900 Elm Street, Montoursville, PA

March 11, 2018 8:15am & 10:45am

**Morning Worship**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**



**God’s People Gather**

*Please observe prayerful silence when the prelude begins.*

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross w/There is a Redeemer”

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE/CHORAL INTROIT (10:45)

*The Wanner family*

**We Praise the Lord**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 107:1-2, 17, 19-21)

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.

**P: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story, those He redeemed and gathered:**

L: Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities.

**P: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them from their distress.**

L: He sent out His word and healed them; He rescued them from the grave.

**P: Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for people.**

\*Lenten Hymn: 76 “My Song Is Love Unknown”

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to Confession

**O God of mercy: You sent Jesus to this world to save the lost. We give thanks to You, God our Father, for mercy that reaches out, for patience that waits our returning, and for Your love that is ever ready to welcome sinners. We praise You that in Christ You came to us with forgiveness, and that, by Your Holy Spirit, You move us to repent and receive Your love. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior, Amen.** *(Silent Confession)*

Assurance of Pardon

\*Response of Praise: 579 “Gloria Patri”

Passing the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

**Hear God’s Word**

CHILDREN’S LESSON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE EPISTLE: Ephesians 2:1-10 (pg. 1174/1776)

THE GOSPEL: John 3:14-21 (pg. 1065/1617)

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:15) “The Look” *Debbie Keller*

CHORAL ANTHEM (10:45)

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”  *Chancel Choir*

THE LAW: Numbers 21:4-9 (pg. 155/220)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord! **People: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON Make a Snake?! *Rev. David C. Smith*

\*Hymn of Response:

374 “Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace”

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the French Confession, 1559, XVII)

**We believe that we are reconciled to God through the unique sacrifice offered by the Lord Jesus on the cross. By that sacrifice we are justified before God, for we cannot be acceptable to God or receive adoption unless God pardons our sins and covers them over. So we confess that Jesus Christ is our full and perfect cleansing. In His death we are fully justified, acquitted of the offenses and iniquities of which we are guilty. We can be delivered by this remedy only.**

**The Disciples Give Thanks**

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: “From Deepest Woe I Cry to Thee” *Matthew McConnell*

\*Doxology: 592 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

\*Prayer of Dedication

THE SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS *Faye Konkle*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE The Lord’s Prayer (pg. 16)

**We Go Forth to Serve**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*Hymn of Sending: 485 “To God Be the Glory”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Crown Him With Many Crowns” *George Elvey*

\*Please stand, if able

**Worship Leaders** Pastor: *Rev. David C. Smith*

Greeters & Ushers: (8:15) *Betty Edkin & Marge Bieber*

Greeters*:* (10:45)  *Bradley family*

Ushers: *J. Lapinski, D. Peace, J. Fetterman, M. Bogart*

Liturgist: (8:15) *Carol Wagner* (10:45) *Wendy Smith*

Organist: *Debbie Keller*

Choir Director: *Amy Peck*

**This Week at MPC**

**Sunday, March 11th**

8:15am Worship Service (S)

9:30am Sunday School (C)

10:45am Worship Service (S)

**Monday, March 12th** *(Food Pantry/Shep. of the Sts. Delivery)*

8:30am Prayer Group (MCEC)

10:15-Noon Yoga Class (FH)

**Tuesday, March 13th** *(bulletin announcements due)*

6:30pm Trustee Meeting (MCEC)

**Wednesday, March 14th**

6:00pm Lenten Supper (FH)

7:00pm Worship Service

**Thursday, March 15th**

6:15pm-8:15pm AA Meeting (FH)

7:00 Choir Practice

**Friday, March 16th** Office Closed

10:15-Noon Yoga Class (FH)

**Saturday, March 17th**

Noon-4:00pm Rental (FH)

**Sunday, March 18th**

8:15am Worship Service (S)

9:30am Sunday School (C)

10:45am Worship Service (S)

Noon Session Meeting (MCEC)

1:00pm-6:00pm Rental (FH)

S – Sanctuary C – Classroom FH – Fellowship Hall N – Nursery

MCEC – Mendenhall

Last Week’s Attendance: 8:15 am – 25 10:45am - 100

**Pastor’s Office** (570) 368-4747 **E-mail:** presbysmith@gmail.com

**Church Office:** Mon-Thur 9:00-noon (570) 368-1595

**E-mail:** [montourpc@gmail.com](mailto:montourpc@gmail.com) **Website:** [www.montourpres.org](http://www.montourpres.org)

**Announcements for the week of March 11, 2018**

Welcome to the Montoursville Presbyterian Church

Visitors: Please complete a Visitor Card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. If you are looking for a church home or membership, please see the Pastor, an Usher, or call the office.

**To assist with your worship experience, we offer:**

**Personal hearing devices** – please see an Usher

**Pew cushions** – stored above the coat racks in the Narthex

**Large print hymnals** – in the Narthex

**Handicap/family restroom** – off the far end of Fellowship Hall

**Worship bags for children** – in a basket in the Narthex

**Nursery care** for children ages up to 5 years old

**Staff:** Deb Rupert, Dorothy Casella and Gaetan Casella

**The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of *Jim Wirt* from *Priscilla Wirt.***

**Lenten Dinner Sign-ups!**

Only 2 more Wednesday evenings the MPC church family will gathers for worship at 7:00 p.m. and enjoy a time of fellowship with a simple meal before each service at 6:00 p.m.

We need individuals or group to sponsor the March 14th meal. Please consider preparing a simple meal and call or e-mail the church office at 368-1595 or [montourpc@gmail.com](mailto:montourpc@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Blood Drive:** MPC is sponsoring a Blood Drive with the American Red Cross in Fellowship Hall on Monday, March 19th from 1pm-6pm. There is no substitute for blood and volunteer donors are the only source. Please consider donating. Volunteers are also needed to help with the canteen food area. Please contact Don Konkle 570-368-1408 if you would like to help.

**It’s not too late to bring in Easter candy!**  FISH is planning an egg hunt for the youngest members of our congregation (nursery through 4th grade) during the Palm Sunday breakfast, as is our tradition.  We would welcome donations of candy or other small items (stickers, small toys, etc.) so that we can stuff eggs.  Please bring in any donations that will fit into a small plastic egg.  We will be stuffing eggs tonight, so candy can be dropped off at the Mendenhall Center up until 5:30 pm tonight (left in the basket by the front door).

**FISH Calendar**

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| **TONIGHT -**We will prepare for the Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt by stuffing egg |
| stuffing eggs. In addition, Doris Messersmith will be helping us to make cards to send to some of the older members of our congregation. Please bring your  Please bring your creativity and join us for dinner too! Come to MCEC at 5:30pm.  **March 25 -** Egg hunt as part of the Palm Sunday breakfast. Please  arrive at the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am to help hide eggs before  breakfast. Egg hunt in the evening too-meet at MCEC at 5:30 pm.  **April 1** - Christ is Risen!  Hallelujah!  Enjoy the day with your family.  **April 8** - Movie Night at the MCEC.  Come enjoy pizza, popcorn, and a movie at 5:30 pm.  a movie at 5:30pm |

**Yoga Class at MPC:** Classes will be held Mondays and Fridays from 10:15-Noon. It is a “senior” or “gentle” yoga to accommodate for neck, shoulder, knee, hip, and ankle issues. Open to anyone. You will need to bring a yoga mat, beach towel or blanket, and a small pillow. Contact Nancy Bergen for more information at 570-220-8162. No class March 19th.

**Ushers & Greeters for March 18th**

(8:15am) Ushers and Greeters: *Bill & Ocie Hoffman*

(10:45am) Greeters: *Bradley family*

Ushers:  *J. Lapinski, D. Peace, J. Fetterman, M. Bogart*

**Ushers & Greeters for March 25th**

(8:15am) Ushers and Greeters: *Bill & Ocie Hoffman*

(10:45am) Greeters: *Prindle family*

(10:45am) Greeters:

*G. Casella Jr, D. Casella, J. Bergen, D. Konkle*

**Prayer List**

**Illness, recovery and support:** Florene Arbogast, Bill Armstrong, Tom Bailey, Harriett Bernier, Doug Bird, Nancy Bradley, Sandie Bradley, Nancy Butler, Callie Cavanaugh, Mary Christie, Saundra Cillo, Marge Danley, Dekker family, Eric Dawnkaski, Jerry Dunham, Larry Emery, Ellie English, Danny Fagnano, Kylie Fenstermacher, LuAnn Firth, Janine Fisher, Bob Folmar, Jeff Fowler, Tim Garman, Ryder Getchis, Trista Hackenberg, Donna Hall, Winifred Hess, Tom Hoy, Kathleen Keller, Liese Kimble, Rob Kline, Gary Koons, Myra Kovalak, Marcy Kremser, Natalie Mathias, Jim Maule, Anthony and Trent Mazzullo, Gordon McCarty, Patty McGinniss, Charlotte Anne Merres and family, Clayton Merrill, Larry Merrill, Jim Mexdorf, Joe Mifsud, Angela Mitchell, Eva Moser, Evelyn Joy Mowery, Kara Mowery Herr, Kathleen O’Brien, Frank Odell, Wayne Packard, Joshua and Henry Reinsburrow, Olivia Rogers, Ethel “EJ” Ruddy, Frances Rush, Steve Rush, Roberta Shadle, Bob and Doris Shandry, Jim and Shirley Shaner, Jim Swan, Michele Terpolilli, Dawn Thompson, Newell Thompson, Stella Walmer, Virginia Wentzler, Cheri Will, Chris Williams, Marieva Williams, Sandy Wright

**Grief:** Family and friends of Ginger Walters (Lana Dougherty’s cousin)

**Military:** Duane (DJ) Burleigh, Ryan Burns, Joe Cardone,

Maj. Brady Cillo, Jessie Confer, Capt. Calvin Farrell, Maj. Laurie Fontaine, Caleb Frantz, Julia Glosek, Ben Hepburn, Ethan Jones, Dani Kline, Sgt. J. Patrick Lawracy, Specialist Eric Littlefield, Jeremy Loveland, David McCollin, Marissa Patterson, Paul Wenner, Jason Yurek, All military families

**Others:** Nthemba Church (Sister church in Africa), Missing pastors in Malaysia, Ministries of MPC, Peace in the World, Camp Krislund