**Montoursville Presbyterian Church**

900 Elm Street, Montoursville, PA

September 16, 2018 8:15am & 10:45am

 Morning Worship

 

**God’s People Gather**

*Please observe prayerful silence when the prelude begins.*

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE “He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought”

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

**We Praise the Lord**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 19)

L: The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statues of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

**P: They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.**

L: By them Your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**P: May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

\*Hymn of Praise: 327 “O Word of God Incarnate”

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession **Holy and merciful God, in Your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done that is contrary to Your will for us. Forgive our sins, and help us live in Your light and walk in Your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ 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 WISDOM: Proverbs 1:20-33 (pg. 629/932)

THE EPISTLE: James 3:1-12 (pg. 1218/1842)

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:15) “I'll Fly Away”  *Debbie Keller*

CHORAL ANTHEM (10:45) *Chancel Choir*

THE GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38 (pg. 1011/1537)

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

SERMON Harder Than It Looks *Rev. David C. Smith*

\*Hymn of Response: 371 “Lift High the Cross”

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the Theological Declaration of Barmen, 1934)

**Jesus Christ, as He is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear, and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death. As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is He also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. The Church's commission, upon which its freedom is founded, consists in delivering the message of the free grace of God to all people in Christ's stead.**

**The Disciples Give Thanks**

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory “Steal Away” *Gilbert Martin*

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

\*Prayer of Dedication

THE SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

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

**We Go Forth To Serve**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*Hymn of Sending: 341 “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

 POSTLUDE “Go Your Way with Rejoicing!” *Douglas Wagner*

\*Please stand, if able

**Worship Leaders**

Pastor: *Rev. David C. Smith*

Greeters & Ushers: (8:15) *Doc & Kay Shearer*

Greeters*:* (10:45)  *Bill & Doris Messersmith*

Ushers: *V. Shearer, G. Conrad, S.Mathias, J. Mathias*

Liturgist: (8:15)  *Ellen Dunkleberger* (10:45)  *Joe LeCrone*

Organist: *Debbie Keller*

Director of Music Ministries: *Amy Peck*

 **This Week at MPC**

**Sunday, September 16th**

8:15am Worship Service (S)

9:30am Sunday School (C)

10:45am Worship Service (S)

5:00pm FISH Youth Group (MCEC)

**Monday, September 17th** *(Food Pantry/Shep. of the Sts. Delivery)*

8:30am Prayer Group (MCEC)

10:15-Noon Yoga (FH)

**Tuesday, September 18th** *(bulletin announcements due)*

7:00 Session (MCEC)

**Wednesday, September 19th**

**Thursday, September 20th**

All Day Rummage Sale Set-up (FH)

7:00 Choir Practice

**Friday, September 21st**

All Day Rummage Sale Set-up (FH)

**Saturday, September 22nd**

8:00am-1:00pm Rummage Sale (FH)

**Sunday, September 23rd**

8:15am Worship Service (S)

9:30am Sunday School (C)

10:45am Worship Service (S)

Last Week’s Attendance: 8:15am – 39 10:45am – 65

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

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

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

**Remember to pick up a copy of the**

**September newsletter.**

**SAVE THE DATE – Baked Steak Dinner- October 27th**

**Ushers & Greeters for September 23rd & September 30th**

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

(10:45am) Greeters: *Bob & Judy Shimp*

Ushers: *M. Bradley, D. Shimmel, S. Means, M. Haas*

**Announcements for the week of September 16, 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 and Dorothy Casella

**The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor of all military and first responder families from Joe and Cheryl Hopple.**

**Fundraiser:** Women’s Circle 2 is having two fundraisers from now until October 23rd. As always, we are selling the ever-popular Mixed Bags and also, Rada Cutlery. All are quality items at a reasonable cost. For more information or to place an order, contact any Circle 2 member. We appreciate your support in helping us to give to our community and to our Compassion Child. Thank you!

**FISH Youth Group**

**TONIGHT** - Destination Unknown. Come to the MCEC at 5:00pm and be prepared for an adventure.  Please bring $10 for dinner out.  We will contact parents to let you know when to pick up your FISHy (about 7:30 pm).

**September 30 -** Bible study, games and dinner at the MCEC.  Plan to come at 5:30 pm.

**October 14** - Bible study, games and dinner at the MCEC.  Plan to come at 5:30 pm.



**RUMMAGE and BAKE SALE**

The women of Circle 1 will be holding their **rummage and bake sale** on **Saturday September 22nd** from 8 am to 1 pm. Items that you wish to donate for the sale can be brought to the church following services on Sunday **September 16th through Thursday morning September 20th. In order to give us ample time to sort** **and display these items properly please don’t bring anything in after** **Thursday morning September 20th**. The Elm St. door will be open from 9 am until 7 pm each of those days.

**Please don’t** bring soiled or broken items. Bring clean clothing, workable electronics, pots, pans, dishes, glassware, toys and jewelry in good condition.

Please take all donations **directly to the Fellowship Hall** and place them on the table **labeled** with the appropriatecategory.This method of setting up has been an incredible help to us and we thank you for your cooperation**.**

The Fellowship Hall will be open the evening before the sale to accept **baked goods.**

Sign up sheets to help on Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be posted in the entryway to the church. As always, we welcome any and all **volunteers!**

**Prayer List**

**Illness, recovery and support:** Annetta Almoney, Tom Bailey, Mary Bennett, Nancy Bergen, Marge Bieber, Harriett Bernier, Doug Bird, Sandie Bradley, Joey Braunsberg, Nancy Butler, Howard Campbell, Mary Christie, Marge Danley, Eric Dawnkaski, Diane Damaska, Larry Emery, Ellie English, Karla Figlo and family, Janine Fisher, Bob Folmar, Jeff Fowler, Tim Garman, Barbara George, Ryder Getchis, David Haas, Trista Hackenberg, Kara Mowery Herr, Robin Cain Holtzman, Tom Hoy, Kathleen Keller, Peggy Keller, Liese Kimble, Rob Kline, Gary Koons, Myra Kovalak, Marcy Kremser, Sandy Kurtz, Matt & Ashley Long, Brooke Marshall, Natalie Mathias, Anthony & Trent Mazzullo, Patty McGinniss, Clayton Merrill, Doris Messersmith, Jim Mexdorf, Joe Mifsud, David & Hester Miller, Zack Moore, Eva Moser, Don Nibert, Kathleen O’Brien, Wayne Packard, Peason family, Colin Prael, Susan Quigel, Lindsay Robert, Olivia Rogers, Steve Rush, Roberta Shadle, Bob & Doris Shandry, Shirley Shaner, Bob & Judy Shimp, Betty Simpler, Arlene Skelston, Jim Swan, Michele Terpolilli, Dawn Thompson, Tom Ulmer, Andrew Venema, Carol Wagner, Drew Weiser and family, Virginia Wentzler, Leanne Wheeland, Whittington family, Jane Wick, Cheri Will, Chris Williams, Glen & Marieva Williams, Priscilla Wirt

**Grief:** Family and friends of Danny Fagnano.

**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, Eric Hopple, 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), Ministries of MPC, Peace in the World, Camp Krislund, school shooting victims’ families and friends, Gaetan Casella and Sophie Smith going to college.