



MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A community of faith where all are welcomed and encouraged to
actively live out God's love with energy, compassion and joy*

December 29, 2024 • 10 AM
College Sunday

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE

Noël Grand Jeu et Duo

Louis Daquin • Lee Kohlenberg, organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Glenna Durbin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Abigail Scruggs

One: We have welcomed the Christ child and declared the glory of God's salvation that comes to live among us. And yet, still, we wait.

All: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

One: We prepare to welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year and anxious to discover what the new year might bring.

All: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

One: Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next.

All: Come, let us worship as we live in anticipation of God's kingdom on earth as it is heaven. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

Hymn #132

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Carter Limbert

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of stars and angels, God of sheep and lambs, God of abundance and grace:

You know us well, better than we know ourselves. You hear us cry "Gloria!" and "Praise!" And you watch us tear things apart with our words and deeds. You hear us say "Thy will be done" and "Use me, O God" And you watch us do nothing in response to cries for help. You know us, and you love us, and you forgive. Hear us now say, "Help us to change; turn us around, Make us more loving and courageous and hopeful." This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(The congregation is invited to share signs of Christ's peace and reconciling love with one another.)

*GLORIA PATRI #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION & FIRST READING

Matthew 25:31-40 • Rachel Spach

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.”

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

Kennedy Hughes Tome, child of Will and Kelsey Tome

BAPTISM HYMN (11:00)

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit’s sign,
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.**

CONGREGATION WELCOMES THE CHILDREN

Please sing “What Does the Lord Require of You” *What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you? To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.”*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Rev. Bart W. Edwards

No Kids Praise today. The nursery is available in Grace Hall for children birth through age three.

*HYMN

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Hymn #121

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-1

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

MESSAGE

Reflections on “The Work of Christmas” • MPPC College Students

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

We are grateful for your gifts that support the mission and ministry of the Body of Christ. Please visit onreal.m.org/mppc/give/now to give online.

OFFERTORY

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

Ernst Pepping

OUR PASTORS

**Rev. Dr. Nicole Partin
Abdnour**
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. Bart W. Edwards
Associate Pastor for Missions

OUR STAFF

Lori Baney
MPPC Learning Center Director

Ellen Creed Branham
*Commissioned Pastor for
Adult Education*

Glenna Durbin
Director of Youth Ministry

Suzu Edwards
Director of Children's Ministry

Logan Prochaska Garabato
Director of Communications

Glenn Hair
Director of Finance

Stacy Hanling
Director of Daily Operations

Beth Moore
Director of Hope House

Tony Sane
Director of Music Ministries

Trish Snead
Administrative Assistant

Wayne Stewart
Sexton

Joann Westberry
Finance Assistant

Alexis Wright-Singleton
Receptionist

SESSION & DIACONATE

A list of our session members and deacons can be found at mppc.net/about. Find session documents and more at mppc.net/our-session.

PASTOR ON CALL

After hours: 843-901-9977.

SANCTUARY WIFI

Network & Password:
MPPC Sanctuary

*DOXOLOGY

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

*HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" Hymn #113

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Swiss Noel" Louis Daquin

There is no Sunday School today, but here are some of our options most Sundays!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Children & Nursery

Children's Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. in the Seabrook Building every Sunday: 3K-4K (SB 102), K-1st (203), 2nd-3rd (204) and 4-5th (205).

Childcare for children (infant through Pre-K) is available for all worship and education times in the Nursery. Kids Praise takes place every Sunday of the month (except the first Sunday)! It is a worship experience for children preschool-kindergarten. Pick up is in Grace Hall 122.

Children's activities, Bibles and Bible story books are provided for children at the back of the Sanctuary on both sides and in the balcony.

Youth

Middle School Sunday School will meet in the Basement at 9:45 a.m. High School Sunday School will meet on the porch of Grace Hall at 9:45 a.m.

Adults

Academy of St. John (SB 206, 9:30 AM)
Connect 3 (Parlor, 9:30 AM)
The Middle (GH 226, 9:45 AM)
Youngish Adults (GH 221/23/225, 9:45 AM)

FLOWERS

Consider placing flowers in the Sanctuary in memory or in honor of a loved one, or in celebration of an event, at mppc.net/sanctuary-flowers.

FIRST AID

In case of an emergency, please call 911. AEDs (defibrillators) are located around MPPC in the narthex, in the front office, outside Fellowship Hall 2, and in the lobby of Grace Hall.

HEARING DEVICES

Available in the narthex (11:00)

PASTORAL CARE

If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care, please inform the office at 843-884-4612 so that we can have a pastor visit or reach out in times of difficulty.

STEWARDSHIP

Please visit onrealm.org/mppc/AddPledge/2025 or scan the QR to the right to submit your Estimate of Giving for 2025.

Thank you!



ADOPT A DAY AT HOPE HOUSE

DECEMBER 29 In Honor of the dedicated volunteers and supporters of the Hope House Ministry; Given by Beth Moore	JANUARY 2 In Loving Memory of Sharon Ann Warren; Given by Carolyn Moreland	JANUARY 4 In Honor of Beth Moore; Given by Carolyn Hash
JANUARY 1 In Honor of Sharon Ann Warren; Given by Greystar Ga./Tn. Region	JANUARY 3 In Memory of James Fleming; Given by Mickey and Theresa Seabrook	

Visit mppc.net/hope-house for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 25 - Jan. 1
Church Office Closed
(MPPC Campus)

Fri., Jan. 10, 5:30 p.m.
Pacesetters
(Fellowship Hall)

Wed., Jan. 15, 5 p.m.
Chili Cook Off
(Fellowship Hall)

Thur., Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m.
ESOL Training
(GH 226)

Jan. 24-26
Women's Retreat
(Kiawah Island)

See more details at
mppc.net/events!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Pacesetters**, our fellowship program for adults 55+, is back in action for the new year! We will meet on Friday, Jan. 10 in the Fellowship Hall. Our speakers this month are Rev. Dr. Nicole Partin Abdnour and MPPC member Platte Moring. Platte served our military in Afghanistan. He will speak about his time there as well as his interactions with the people in Afghanistan. Pastor Nicole will discuss adult programming at MPPC! Dinner is \$20/person, collected at the door. Doors will open at 5:30 for appetizers and fellowship, followed by a catered meal at 6 p.m., and then the presentations will begin at 7 p.m. Please RSVP to at susanmell@mac.com or 843-697-2111 by Jan. 6.
- The MPPC pastors and staff want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas! The **church office will be closed** Dec. 25-Jan. 1. We'll see you in the new year!
- The **MPPC Nominating Committee** requests your prayerful recommendations for church officers (Deacons, Elders, CNC & Trustees) who are of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. Recommendation forms are available at mppc.net/nominations.
- Our **ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)** classes are expanding this winter and we will also need more volunteers. If you speak English, you are already qualified to help! Classes are offered Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. late January till just mid-April. To learn more, please reach out to Maryanne Davis at maryanne.biddix@gmail.com. There is a meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2025, 6:30 p.m., in Grace Hall 226 to go over registration, introduce any new volunteers, answer questions, etc.

GIVING & FINANCIALS

Visit onrealm.org/mppc/give/now to give online or scan the QR code below. Please reach out to Finance Director Glenn Hair with any questions.



	YTD	WE 12/22/24
Total Giving & Other Revenue	\$ 2,366,233	\$ 189,430
Total Expenses	\$ 2,222,056	\$ 25,495
Operating Cash Balance including below transfer at 12/22/24		\$284,018

I'M NEW!

Thank you for your presence today, worship is such a special time and we are glad you chose to spend that time with us! If you would like to learn more about MPPC, here are a few suggested next steps:

- Visit mppc.net/new to find the answers to your most frequently asked questions. (You can find information about our new member classes there as well).
- Read our quarterly newsletter, *The Pelican*, at mppc.net/newsletter or subscribe to our weekly newsletter at mppc.net/sign-up-for-updates.
- Follow our Facebook and Instagram (@mtpleasantpres).
- Check out some of our upcoming events and volunteer opportunities at mppc.net/events or mppc.net/volunteer.
- Stop by and say hi! Whether its during the week or after worship, our pastors, staff and members would love to meet you and show you around MPPC. Our office is open Monday-Thursday from 9-5 and on Fridays from 9-1.
- Call us at **843-884-4612**.