



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*

February 8, 2026 • 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE *Though Deepening Trials* G. Careless, arr. L.H. Pedersen • Dr. Shenwei Geng, organist

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Nicole Partin Abdnour
Fix-It, Sarah Wendell and Sue Verner

INTROIT (11:00) *O Gladsome Light* Genevan Psalter

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Ps. 112, Ellen Creed Branham

One: Praise the Lord!

All: Happy are those who worship the Lord, who delight in God's commandments.

One: The righteous will never be moved;

All: they will be remembered forever.

One: Their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

All: Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid.

OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN** *Come, Great God of All the Ages* Hymn #309

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we have asked for your righteous judgment against others, but we have not acknowledged the sin in our own lives. We have worshiped you with our lips, but we have dishonored you with our actions. We have prayed for you to end the suffering in our world, yet we have not practiced compassion and generosity toward others. Our religion has become the source of quarreling rather than a testimony to your grace. Forgive our self-righteousness and give us integrity of heart, that we may shine forth the light of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 5:13-16, Stephanie Jones (8:30), Rob Crowder (11:00)*

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00) *Mason Barron Barton, child of Peter and Jessica Barton*

*Please stand as you are able. • Please turn off your cell phones or place them on "vibrate."

BAPTISM HYMN (11:00)*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (Hymn #486)*

*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

Following the children's message at 11, PreK-K age children can go to Kids Praise. Parents, please walk children to Grace Hall to sign them in and pick up after worship.

ANTHEM (11:00)*True Light*

Keith Hampton, Chancel Choir, Taryn Phelan, soloist

SECOND READING & SERMON*Matthew 5:17-37 • Rev. Dr. Nicole Partin Abdnour*

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder,' and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITHThe 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: onrealm.org/mppc/give/now to give online or scan the QR.

**OFFERTORY***Song of a Shepherd Boy (8:30)*

Samuel Arnold

When the Poor Ones (11:00)

Arr. David Cherwein, Chancel Choir

***DOXOLOGY #609**

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!

OUR PASTORS

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

OUR STAFF

Jill Adams
Children's Ministry Assistant

Ellen Creed Branham
*Commissioned Pastor for
Adult Education*

Jill Chapin
Executive Assistant to the Pastor

Glenna Durbin
Director of Youth Ministry

Suzu Edwards
Director of Christian Education

Logan Prochaska Garabato
Director of Communications

Dr. Shenwei Geng
Organist

Glenn Hair
Director of Finance

Stacy Hanling
Director of Daily Operations

Lauren Houston
Music Ministry Assistant

Beth Moore
Director of Hope House

Tony Sane
Director of Music Ministries

Lindsey Skinner
Director of the Learning Center

Trish Snead
Administrative Assistant

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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Hymn #757

*BENEDICTION

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE (11:00)** *Amen* DANISH

POSTLUDE *Marching Tune in G* P. Fay

Worship Notes:

The Prayer of Confession liturgy comes from "Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year A, Vol.1" pg. 61; Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.

FAITH FORMATION SUNDAYS

9:45-10:45

Children & Nursery

Children's Sunday School is in the Seabrook Building every Sunday: 3K-4K (GH 122), K-1st (207), 2nd (204), 3rd (208) 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 GH 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 meets in the Basement.
High School meets in SB 210.

Adults

Academy of St. John (SB 206)
Bible 4 Everyone (GH 123)
Connect 3 (Parlor)
The Middle (GH 226)
NextGen (formerly Young Adults) (GH 224)
Youngish Adults (GH 221)

FLOWERS:

The flowers in worship are given to glory of God and in loving memory of Kevin Sutton given by the Sutton Family.

SANCTUARY WIFI

Network & Password:
MPPC Sanctuary

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

ADOPT A DAY AT HOPE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 2

In Honor of Pam and Rick Spivey, for their leadership roles in our church; given by Dick and Susanne Query

FEBRUARY 3

In Honor of Billy and Moo Kirk; given by Harry and Allyson Smith

FEBRUARY 4

On behalf of our children; Smith, Harry and Blair Passe; given by Ryan Passe

FEBRUARY 5

In Honor of Martha Waters, for her leadership of the Connect 3 Sunday School class; given by Dick and Susanne Query

FEBRUARY 6

In Honor of Beth Moore; given by Harry and Allyson Smith

FEBRUARY 7

In Honor of Stacey Burrell; given by Harry and Allyson Smith

FEBRUARY 8

In Honor of Dixie and Jerry Garner; given by Kim Iverson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri., Feb. 13, 5:30 p.m.

Pacesetters
(Fellowship Hall)

Wed., Feb. 18

Ash Wednesday
(See Announcement)

Wed., Feb. 18

Small Groups Begin
(Through April 3)

Thur., Feb. 19, 5:30 p.m.

Youngish Adults Pickleball
(Crush Yard)

Tues., Feb. 24-Mar. 24

Lenten Soup Suppers
(All Saints Lutheran)

Sun., Mar. 8, 9:45 a.m.

Inquirers Class
(SB 208)

Sun., Mar. 29, 11 am-1pm

Easter Fair
(GH & Playground)

*See more details
and register at*

mppc.net/events!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us on **Ash Wednesday at MPPC!** There will be opportunities in the morning and evening to receive the Imposition of Ashes, find time for reflection and prayer, and fellowship with one another.
 - 8-9 a.m., Ashes to Go on the Sanctuary Porch – Receive the Imposition of Ashes and a cup of coffee to go.
 - 5-6 p.m., Interactive Prayer Stations on the Fellowship Hall Porch – Seven stations for reflection and prayer.
 - 5:30-6:30 p.m., Dinner in the Fellowship Hall – Join us for a meal and table discussion around our Lenten study: Lent in Plain Sight.
 - 7 p.m., Worship in the Sanctuary with the choir.
- Join us on **Wonderful Wednesdays:**
 - W@W for children starts at 5.
 - Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the FH. Dinner is fried chicken, tater tots, mac and cheese, salad, dessert
 - Pastor-led Adult Bible Study in the Parlor at 6 p.m.
- On Friday, Feb. 13 from 5:30-8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, come and meet MPPC Choir Soprano Taryn Phelan as she presents a **Pacesetters** Valentine's Day program of song and music accompanied by Dr. Shenwei Geng. Taryn is a soprano with a grand voice who leaves her audiences breathless and the windows rattling. She will offer a variety of musical genres that were popular when Pacesetters were even younger than they are now and first in love. Menu will include chicken breasts, pork loin, potatoes, vegetables, salad, and a chocolate dessert. Contact Susan Mellichamp at susanmell@mac.com to register by Monday, Feb. 9, cost is \$20/person paid at the door.
- The **Youngish Adults Pickleball Night** has been rescheduled for Thursday, Feb. 19 from 5:30-8:30 at Crush Yard. The cost is \$30/person and include pickleball and food. Please register at mppc.net/events.
- **Taste of Community: Lenten Soup Suppers & Worship:** Each Tuesday in Lent, from Feb. 24 to Mar. 24, we will gather at All Saints Lutheran Church (2107 N Hwy 17, Mt Pleasant) for an evening of fellowship and reflection. Share a simple, delicious soup supper with friends and neighbors from across the East Cooper area starting at 6:30 p.m. Then, join us from 7-7:30 p.m. for a service of word and song to nourish your soul during this Lenten season.
- Our next **Inquirers Class** will be held on Sunday, March 8. Participants will meet in person at 9:45 a.m. in SB 208. This class is open to anyone in the community who is interested in learning more about MPPC. There is no pressure to join the church, although we would love to have you! Pastors, Elders and other church leaders will talk about life at MPPC and answer any questions you may have. Please spread the word and ask any friends and neighbors who may be considering our church home to contact Dale Conrad with any questions. Register at mppc.net/new.

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:

- Join us Sundays during the Education Hour at 9:45 or for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall!
- Visit mppc.net/new to find the answers to your most frequently asked questions. (You can find info about new member classes there as well).
- Read our quarterly newsletter, *The Pelican*, at mppc.net/newsletter or subscribe to our weekly e-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 8:30-5 and on Fridays from 8:30-1.
- Call us at **843-884-4612**.