
Marple Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“We love because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
105 N. SPROUL ROAD | BROOMALL, PA 19008
610-356-1098 | marplepc@gmail.com | www.marplepres.org

Welcome

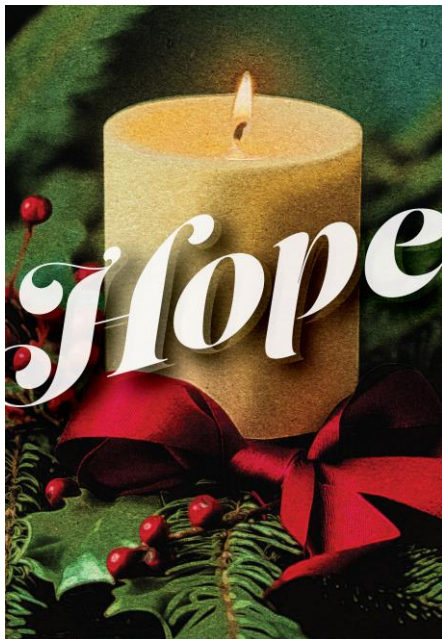
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025



Today – 1st Sunday of Advent

LITURGIST: John Strain

HEAD USHER: Tom Trumbetas



New Here?

Welcome to Marple Presbyterian Church! We're so glad you came to worship with us and want to do all we can to help you feel at home.

- *All visitors are encouraged to take the information brochure in the pew and place the visitor's section in the offering plate.*
- *Children are welcome in the service! Children's bulletins are available from the ushers.*
- *Nursery care is also available for children thru age 3. The nursery is located directly underneath the sanctuary.*
- *Assistive Listening Units are also available – please see any usher.*

RESOURCES

Contact Us | 610-356-1098

marplepc@gmail.com

Website | www.marplepres.org

facebook.com/MarplePresbyterian

HOW DO I CONNECT?

Clerk of Session | [Kristen Mitchell](#)

Christian Education | [Ben Mitchell](#)

Deacons | [Linda Pursley & Joyce Holmwood](#)
marplepresdeacons@gmail.com

Fellowship | [Debbie Pettinelli](#)

Finance | [Kerri Robinson](#)

Membership Development | [Alfie Wilkes](#)

Mission | [Session Members](#)

Music | [Susan Greene](#)

Nursery | [Amy Eckels](#)

Personnel | [Ben Mitchell](#)

Property Management | [Paul Avazier](#)

Rentals | [Church Office](#)

Stewardship | [Joanne Trumbetas](#)

Treasurer | [Bill Brower](#)
marlepctreasurer@gmail.com

Worship | [Amy Eckels](#)

Youth Group | [Ben Mitchell](#)

For more contact info, please contact the church office.

"If you want to know who you really are, as distinct from who you like to think you are, keep an eye on where your feet take you."

- Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude | Susan B. Greene

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed;

People: the night is far gone, the day is near.

Leader: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise:

People: I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness.

*Opening Hymn | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | #9

*Opening Prayer

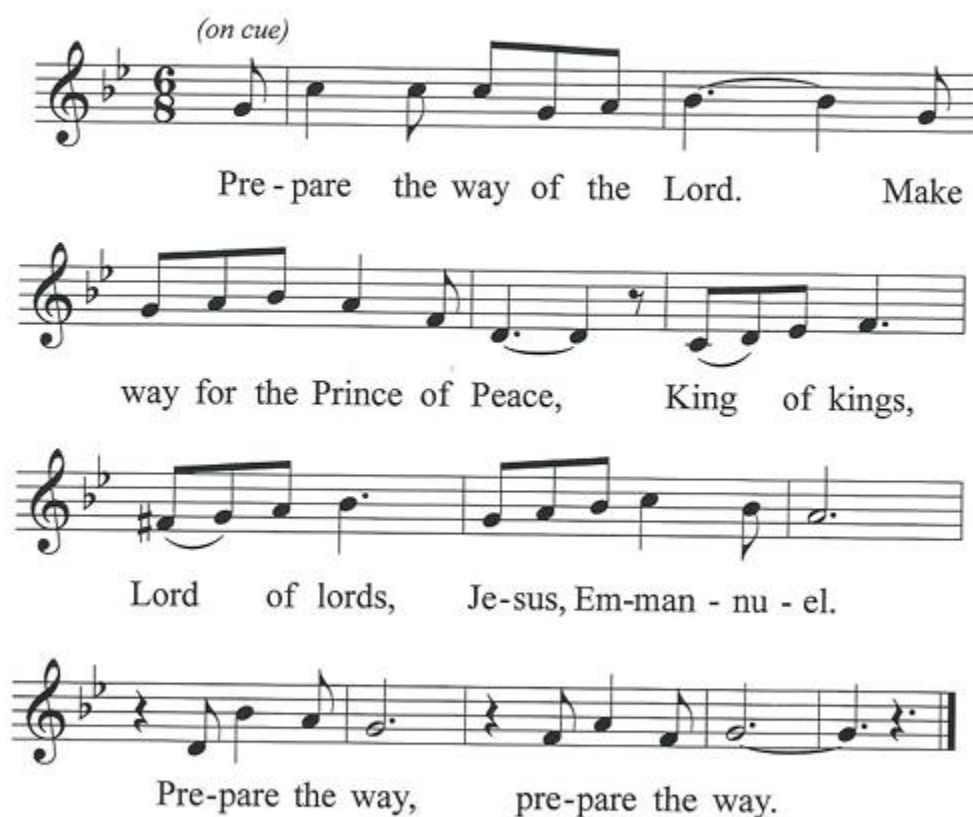
Eternal God, you taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand. Keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith, so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth, we may joyfully give him praise; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PREPARE THE WAY

CONGREGATIONAL PART

JOEL RANEY

(on cue)



Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Make
way for the Prince of Peace, King of kings,
Lord of lords, Je - sus, Em - man - nu - el.
Pre - pare the way, pre - pare the way.

(repeat this chorus after the candle lighting and litany)

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Lighting of the Advent Wreath (the first candle is lit)

Leader: As we enter this season of Advent, we gather with anticipation, waiting for the arrival of the one who brings light into our darkness. This first candle represents the hope we have in Christ. We await the coming of Emmanuel with hearts full of expectation, knowing that he will bring new life to all creation.

People: **Prepare the way of the Lord with hope.**

Leader: When we feel weary or burdened, we trust in the God who renews our strength and fills our hearts with hope.

People: **Prepare the way of the Lord with hope.**

Leader: When we see injustice and suffering, we are reminded of the coming Christ who will make things right.

People: **Prepare the way of the Lord with hope.**

Leader: In our times of struggle, may we remember the promises of God who is with us, guiding us toward a future of restoration.

People: **Prepare the way of the Lord with hope.**

Leader: As we wait for the Christ child, may our hearts be open to his light, and our lives be ready to reflect his love and grace.

People: **Prepare the way of the Lord with hope.**

Leader: As we walk this Advent journey, may we be bearers of hope to those around us, proclaiming with our lives that Christ is near. O Emmanuel, God with us, we place our hope in you.

People: **Prepare the way of the Lord with hope.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We often accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

Grant us wisdom to live in expectancy of Christ's Advent, and to seek the things that will endure when Christ comes again. Amen.

Musical response for personal confession and reflection.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: These are words you may trust, words that merit full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save us.

People: He personally bore our sins in his body on the cross that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good.

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Congregational Response**

*All praise to You, eternal Son,
Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit, evermore.*

Passing of the Peace

Leader: As God's own people, be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind.
Be always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above everything else, be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for you.

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: Peace be with our family members, our friends and neighbors.
Peace be with all the stranger and the sojourner in our midst.
Peace be with us all.**

Choir Anthem | Flute Gloria (*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*)
feat. Joanne Trumbetas, Flute

Time with Children

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 52:7-10

Old Testament pg. 642

Matthew 24:36-44

New Testament pg. 26

Sermon | Beautiful Feet | Pastor Jim Reisner

***Hymn | *Comfort, Comfort, Ye, My People* | #3**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*** Affirmation of Faith | Philippians 2:5-11**

Christ Jesus, though he was in form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

The 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;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

***Congregational Response** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology) | #592*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Eternal God, as you led your people in ages past, you direct our journey into the future.
We give you thanks that you came to us in Jesus Christ, and we eagerly await his coming again.
Then we will feast at his royal banquet, and sing his praises with the choirs of heaven.
By your Spirit, open our eyes to the generosity of your hand, and nurture our souls in all spiritual gifts.
Fill us with gratitude overflowing that we may share life and love in praise to you, God of all ages,
in the gracious name of Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

***Closing Hymn | Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth | #7**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude | Susan B. Greene

*Please stand as you are able

This Week

MONDAY

Cub Scout Troop 151 Meeting | *Hall* 7-9 pm

TUESDAY

Thrift Shop 10 am–3 pm

Joys & Concerns Chat | *Zoom* 3-4 pm

zoom.us/j/6103561098 PW MPC

WEDNESDAY

Joys & Concerns Chat | *Zoom* 3-4 pm

zoom.us/j/6103561098 PW MPC

Boy Scout Troop 151 Meeting | *Hall* 7-9 pm

AA Meeting | *Lower CE Bldg.* 7-8 pm

Deacon's Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm

SATURDAY

Thrift Shop 10 am-4 pm

SUNDAY

AA Meeting | *Lower CE Bldg.* 8-9 am

Deadline to Order Poinsettias

Looking Ahead

DECEMBER 13

Breakfast with Santa 9 am – 12 pm

DECEMBER 14

Cantata 10:30 am

DECEMBER 21

Longest Night 7:00 pm

DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Service 7:30 pm

Learn More



Sunday School - MPC Sunday School is open to children ages 3 and up and runs weekly during the 10:30 am Sunday Worship Service.



Youth Group is open to all youth from 6th to 12th grade and meets twice a month between October and May. Please see the full Youth Group calendar for meeting dates, special events, and retreats. Contact the Youth Group Leaders at youthgroup@marplepres.org for additional information.



Angel Tree 2025

Marion Brower is again leading our Angel Tree Campaign. CYS is assisting with the clothing for the children and resources for clothing for the parents.

However, the parents will need household items as they transition to permanent housing.

Household items needed – laundry detergent, light bulbs, dish detergent, towels, small appliances, plates, cups, glasses, silverware, kitchen utensils, etc.

Robes – unisex, one size (15 needed)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

End of Year Apportionment Appeal

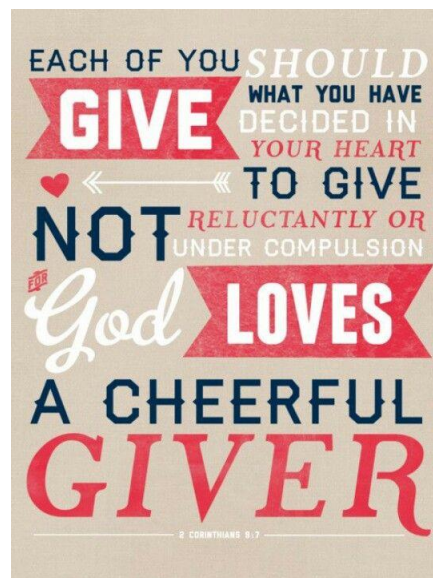
As we approach the end of the year, it is not too late to contribute to the Apportionment Fund. As you recall, Presbyterian Apportionment, also known as Per Capita, is an annual per-member fee that local congregations pay to support the higher governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) including their presbytery, synod and the General Assembly. Paying per capita is seen as a way for members to demonstrate their connection and interdependence with the wider church community. It is about joining together as a community and being one body, the body that is Christ's church in the world.

The annual contribution per member is \$37.00 which is broken down as follows;

- \$23.76 annual contribution to support Presbytery infrastructure necessary for mission in Philadelphia, Delaware, Bucks, and Montgomery Counties
- \$2.40 annual contribution to the Synod, which consists of 16 Presbyteries across Pennsylvania and parts of West Virginia and Ohio
- \$10.84 annual contribution to the Office of General Assembly, which supports our Synods, Presbyteries, and over 10,000 congregations

Please designate your contribution to the "Apportionment Fund"

2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."



YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR 2025-2026

MPC's Youth Group is open to all youth currently in 6th to 12th grade, regardless of membership at Marple Presbyterian Church. We typically meet a few Sundays per month from 4 – 7 pm in the Rowland Room at MPC, 105 N. Sproul Rd, Broomall, Pennsylvania. See below for meeting dates and special events!

Youth Group Meeting Dates:

October 19	February 15
November 2	March 1
December 7	March 15
December 21* – Christmas Party!	April 5
January 11*	April 19
January 25*	May 3
February 1	May 17

**For the Christmas Party, Youth Group will run from 3 pm to 6 pm. Youth are invited and encouraged to stay and attend MPC's Longest Night Service which is from 7-8 pm.*

**For January meetings, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at the normal time.*

Special Events:

November 15-16 – Lock-in @ MPC

December 27 – Go Karts Trip

***We would like to plan an away retreat once we have a sense availability for our members in the Spring. We will announce dates and information after the holiday season.*

June 6 – Youth Group BBQ

***We are considering turning the BBQ into a campout at the Mitchells' house if members are interested in trying this. We have access to two campers, some indoor accommodations and may be able to procure tents for anyone really wanting to "rough" it.*

For more information, contact Kristen Mitchell at klizzano@gmail.com or 302-494-1146.



Volunteers needed for Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 13th.
Please call the church office or speak to Debbie Pettinelli if interested in helping with this festive event.
We will also need homemade baked goods and treats.
Sign-up sheets available in the narthex.



Please fill out this form and return to the church office with your payment, no later than Sunday, December 7th, if you would like to place a poinsettia in the Church Sanctuary for Christmas. Poinsettias may be taken home at the conclusion of the Candlelight Service on December 24th.

Names will appear in the bulletin exactly as printed below.

Quantity: _____ @ \$8/plant Paid via: ☐ Cash ☐ Check # _____

Given by: _____

In honor/memory of:

In honor/memory of:

In honor/memory of:

In honor/memory of:



Upcoming Events

Breakfast with Santa

12/13, 9 am – 12 pm

Cantata

12/14, 10:30 am

Longest Night Service

12/21, 7 pm

Christmas Eve Service

December 24 at 7:30 pm

MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
105 N SPROUL RD, BROOMALL
marplepc@gmail.com



Our Thrift Shop is open:

Tuesdays from 10 am – 3 pm

Saturdays from 10 am – 4 pm

Please come by to shop the new arrivals.

We are thankful for Amy and her team of faithful volunteers. We are always grateful for any help. It is a great way to volunteer at MPC.

During this time of pastoral transition please be aware that the Deacons will be available for addressing and communicating any pastoral needs.

You can email or text/call:

Joyce Holmwood

jholmwood433@comcast.net

610-888-7458

OR

Linda Pursley

lpursley1981@gmail.com

631-942-5758

or any Deacon listed in the bulletin.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Listening devices are available for individuals who have a hearing impairment.

Please speak to an usher for more information or to request a device.



SESSION**DEACONS**

<i>Paul Avazier '26</i>	<i>Douglas Ballard '25</i>
<i>Amy Eckels '25</i>	<i>Marion Brower '27</i>
<i>Ben Mitchell '27</i>	<i>Bette Downs '27</i>
<i>Kristen Mitchell, Clerk</i>	<i>Virginia Geisbert '25</i>
<i>Debbie Pettinelli '27</i>	<i>Patricia Gwartz '26</i>
<i>Kerri Robinson '26</i>	<i>Greg Hoffman '27</i>
<i>John Strain '27</i>	<i>Joyce Holmwood '26</i>
<i>Joanne Trumbetas '25</i>	<i>Linda Pursley '27</i>
<i>Kim Wertz '25</i>	<i>Diane Valaitis '26</i>
<i>Alfie Wilkes '25</i>	<i>Shirley Wise '26</i>