
Marple Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026



“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, FEBRUARY 22, 2026



Today – First Sunday in Lent

LITURGIST:

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 |

Mission | [Session Members](#)

Music | [Susan Greene](#)

Nursery | [Amy Eckels](#)

Personnel | [Ben Mitchell](#)

Property Management | [Paul Avazier](#)

Rentals | [Church Office](#)

Stewardship |

Treasurer | [Bill Brower](#)

marlepctreasurer@gmail.com

Worship | [Amy Eckels](#)

Youth Group | [Ben Mitchell](#)

For more contact info, please contact the church office.

Certainly, God remains "the Lord," sovereign in all ways. Nonetheless, God is also "our Lord," a divinity we can imagine holding shares in our enterprises, caring what happens to us. Is any thought more consoling? What are human beings that God should care for us? . . . These are deep matters, ultimate mysteries, driving to the roots of what it means to be human. If we derive from the providential will of a God all-powerful and all-good, then our lives may make great sense, despite their apparent chaos. If God holds our hand, then even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of darkness, we may fear no evil.

*John Carmody
Psalms for Times of Trouble*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** | Psalm 139:23-24

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart;

People: try me and know my thoughts!

Leader: See if there is any wicked way in me,

People: and lead me in the way everlasting.

***Opening Hymn** | Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days | #81

***Opening Prayer**

Holy God,
your Word, Jesus Christ, spoke peace to a sinful world
and brought humanity the gift of reconciliation
by the suffering and death he endured.
Teach those who bear his name
to follow the example he gave us.
May our faith, hope, and charity
Turn hatred to love, conflict to peace, and death to eternal life;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Choir Anthem | *Seek Ye First* by Marques L.A. Grant

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy,
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride,
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,
and great when we are small.
We have failed in love,
neglected justice,
and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Moment for personal confession and reflection.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ,

People: And Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

People: The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

***Congregational Response *Gloria Patri* | #579**

*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.*

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: We are a forgiven people. Let us then forgive one another. And in the spirit of unity to which Christ calls his church, let us greet one another with the peace of Christ, saying,
The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 32

Matthew 4:1-11

Old Testament pgs. 479-480

New Testament pg. 3

Sermon | Wilderness | Pastor Jim Reisner


*Hymn | When We Are Tested

LAMENT AND LONGING FOR HEALING

When We Are Tested


783

Capo 2: (Dm) Em (Am) Bm (Dm) Em (Am) Bm




1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,

(Em) F#m (B7) C#7 (Em) F#m (Dsus) (D) Esus E




fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the power to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,

(G) A (D) E (Em7) F#m7 (F) G



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,

(Am6) Bm6 (C) D (Dm) Em (Am) (E) Bm F#



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Although the Temptation of Christ is mentioned in all three synoptic gospels (Matthew 4:1–11/Mark 1:12–13/Luke 4:1–13), this hymn is based on the Lukan version. It is notable that each stanza begins “when,” not “if”; temptation is not an optional feature of the spiritual life.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1996
MUSIC: Carlton R. Young, 1996
Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1996 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

ANGELS OF HEALING
10.10.10.10

*Please stand as you are able

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* **Affirmation of Faith** | A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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**

God of mercy, we praise you that in love you have reached across the abyss of our sin and brought us into your embrace. By your Spirit, give us the grace of your repentance and guide us in the ways of righteousness. Take our humble offerings, and all the ways we seek to serve you, as tokens of our commitment to follow Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.

*Please stand as you are able

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

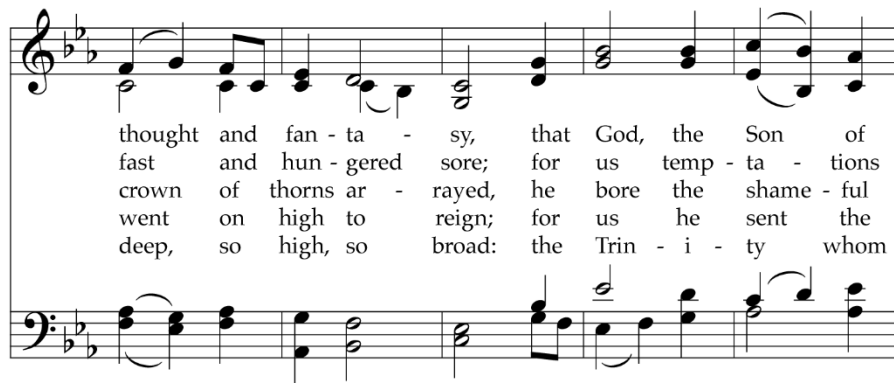
*Closing Hymn | O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

ADORATION

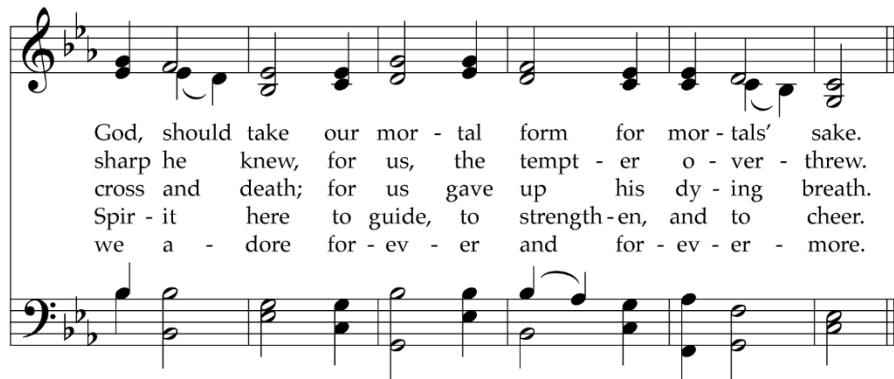
618 O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed, for us, in
4 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
5 All glo - ry to our Lord and God, for love so



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
crown of thorns ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
went on high to reign; for us he sent the
deep, so high, so broad: the Trin - i - ty whom



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
sharp he knew, for us, the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
Spir - it here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
we a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Reducing a twenty-three-stanza Latin text to these five English stanzas intensifies this survey of the mystery of the Incarnation and strengthens the repeated reminder that all was done "for us." A comparable tone of proclamation animates this 15th-century song celebrating a military victory.

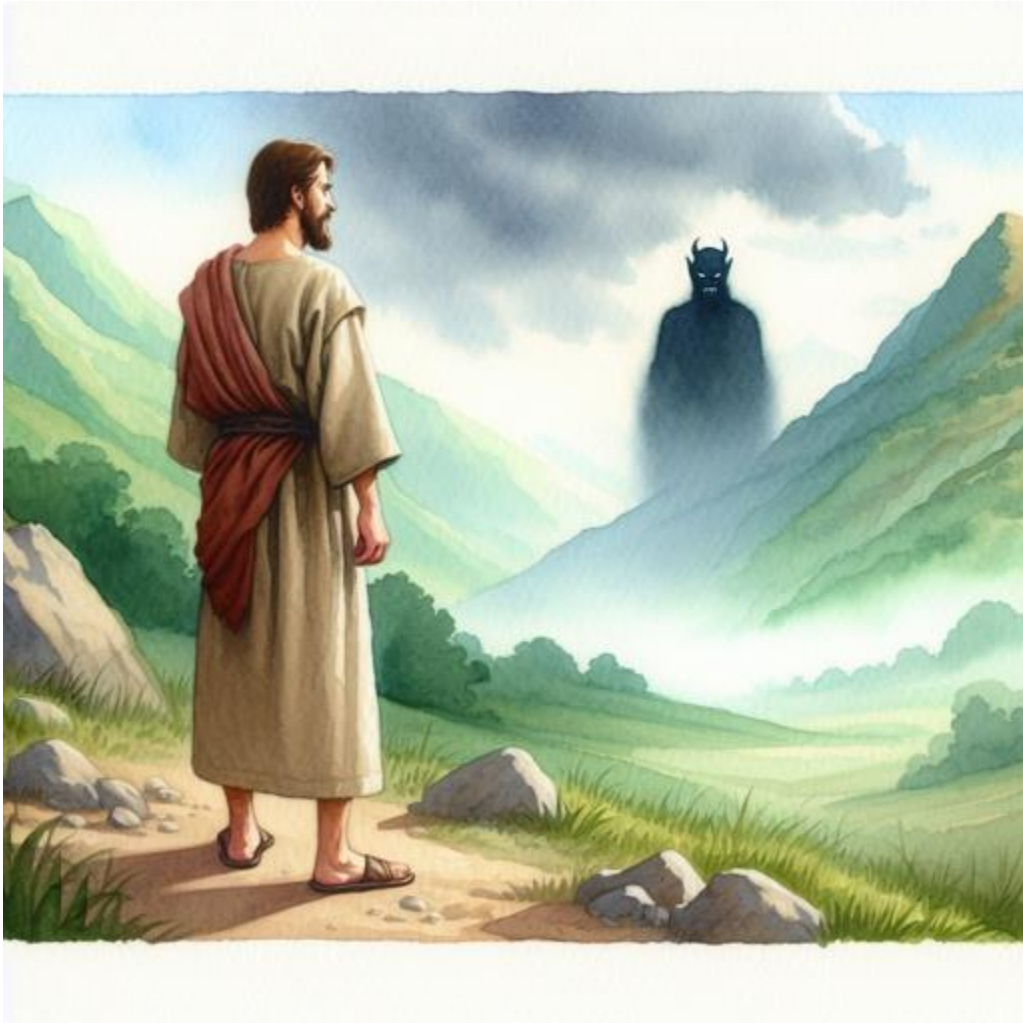
TEXT: Thomas à Kempis, 15th cent.; trans. Benjamin Webb, 1854, alt.
MUSIC: "The Agincourt Song," c. 1415; harm. Alfred V. Fedak, 1993
Music Harm. © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

DEO GRACIAS
LM
(alternate harmonization, 189)

*Please stand as you are able

Charge and Benediction

Postlude



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

THURSDAY

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

zoom.us/j/6103561098 PW MPC

Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm

SATURDAY

Thrift Shop 10 am-4 pm

SUNDAY

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

Looking Ahead

MARCH 4

Deacon's Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm

MARCH 18

Session Meeting 7:00 pm

MARCH 21

Session Meeting 9 am – 12 pm

MARCH 22

Calvary's Mountain (Cantata) 10:30 am

MARCH 29

Palm Sunday 10:30 am

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.



MPC Spring Clean Up – March 21 from 9 am to 12 pm

Rain Date March 28

A graphic for the Lenten Schedule featuring a purple background. On the left, there is a wooden cross, a thorny branch, and a green palm frond. The text on the right lists the schedule for the church.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 22 - 10:30 am
Calvary's Mountain (Cantata)

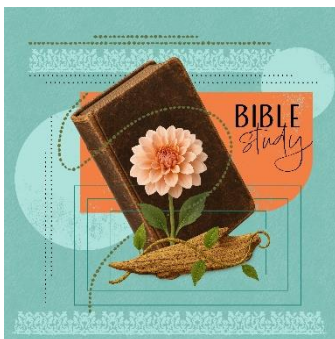
Sunday, March 29 - 10:30 am
Palm Sunday Worship Service

Thursday, April 2 - 7:00 pm, Chapel
Maundy Thursday Worship Service
Communion

Friday, April 3 - 1:00 pm
Good Friday Interfaith Service

Sunday, April 5 - 10:30 am
Easter Sunday Worship Service

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During the six Sundays, Pastor Jim Reisner will lead a Bible Study based on the Gospel of Luke. All are welcome to attend the study will take place in the sanctuary shortly after the close of worship. This Sunday we will focus on the 9th chapter of Luke where it says "[Jesus] set his face to go to Jerusalem." (Luke 9:51).



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>Faye Allison '28</i>
<i>Amy Eckels '28</i>	<i>Marion Brower '27</i>
<i>Patti Gwirtz '28</i>	<i>Bette Downs '27</i>
<i>Ben Mitchell '27</i>	<i>George Guyer '28</i>
<i>Kristen Mitchell, Clerk</i>	<i>Greg Hoffman '27</i>
<i>Debbie Pettinelli '27</i>	<i>Joyce Holmwood '26</i>
<i>Kerri Robinson '26</i>	<i>Linda Pursley '27</i>
<i>Lynn Smith '28</i>	<i>Carol Robinson '28</i>
<i>John Strain '27</i>	<i>Diane Valaitis '26</i>
<i>Kim Wertz '28</i>	<i>Shirley Wise '26</i>