

MERRITT ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Leading in Worship: Rev. Christina Greenawalt and Karlene Mohan

October 24, 2021

Facebook Live and In Person Worship

10:00 a.m.

(Please turn your mobile devices OFF or to AIRPLANE mode - they can interfere with our sound system. Thank you!)

Centering Prayer: Open our eyes, Lord. Help us to see Jesus as he reaches out to heal our blindness. Help us to let go of all those things that keep us in darkness. This day, as your word is proclaimed, let our hearts and souls respond with joy. Transform our lives to do your will. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Rev. Greenawalt

Call to Worship (**responsive**):

Liturgist

One: Like water drenching a desert,

All: God's grace is poured into our hearts.

One: Like an optometrist putting a pair of glasses on a child,

All: Jesus helps us to see the wonders around us.

One: Like a mother wiping tears off a child's cheeks,

All: The Spirit comforts us when everything falls apart.

Hymn # 65:

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (verses 1 & 2)

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

Time with Children - Young and Young at 

Call to Confession

Liturgist

Prayer of Confession (**unison**):

Gracious and holy God, we admit that it is easier to have pain-causing words on our lips, than praise for another. Our foolishness often keeps us from seeing the deep hurts and hunger of the suffering who are around us. We stand by the side of the road, afraid to step forward in faith, afraid to trust that you are with us, afraid to cry out for healing and hope.

We are not people who repent in ashes and dust, but we do know we need your mercy, and ask that you forgive our faithlessness, our fears, our hurts. Healer of all people, we lift our hearts and souls to you, that through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we might find your grace, discover your love, and serve your people in your name. (Silence is kept) Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (**responsive**):

Liturgist

One: Take heart: God hears your prayers. Get up: God has healed your brokenness. Listen: God calls to you with hope, with forgiveness, with life.

All: Now, our eyes are opened and we can see; now, our ears are opened and we can hear; now, we can follow Christ into the kingdom. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

Response to Assurance: **Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (Hymn # 582, verse 1)**

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,

And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Passing of the Peace (**responsive**):

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ,

All: let us forgive one another.

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

All: **And also with you!**

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

Old Testament Lesson:

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Liturgist

One: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Welcome our New Members and Regular Attendees

Gospel Lesson:

Mark 10:46-52

Rev. Greenawalt

One: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to You, O Christ!**

Message:

Was Blind But Now I See

Rev. Christina Greenawalt

Hymn # 649:

Amazing Grace (verses 1-3)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

Responding to God's Word

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (unison):

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 Live Generously:

www.merrittislandpc.org

Response:

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow: praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen!

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn # 306:

Blest Be The Tie That Binds (verses 1 & 5)

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

*From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Attendance Last Week: In Person: 39 Online: 24

Ushers: Linda Whitten, Craig & Marilyn Smoot

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! We are so happy to have you with us, whether in person or online. We worship together as a church family, from wherever we may be! If you would like to know more about the church, how you can be more involved, or to speak to the pastor, please contact the church office, ask an usher, or let Pastor Christina know.

Worshipping with Children: We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us, and we pray that you feel welcome and find a home here at MIPC. The ushers have children's bulletins and bags of colored pencils available. We offer Children's Church for children grades preschool through 6th grade. Following the time with the pastor, the children will be escorted to the Activities Room for Children's Church and then returned to the sanctuary at the end of service. If you have any questions please see an usher and they can direct you to Pam Poland.

Adult Sunday School meets at 9 AM in the Session Room. Join us any Sunday for a study of the book of Romans. We now have a ZOOM option! Join online by using the Meeting ID: 823 3859 2904, Passcode: 823604.

Stewardship: Why Pledge This Year? - Pledging has an even greater urgency this year. It is greater because MIPC has important ministry ahead of us during an epoch year of turmoil. Just like any year, our generous financial gifts are the building blocks for this ministry. Yet unlike other years, the economic uncertainty demands caution from over-committing. Pledging informs the Session in advance what financial resources will be available for planning our critical ministries this coming year. As such, we are inviting you to prayerfully consider your ability to participate in our ministry next year through sharing your pledge as you are able. You should have received your pledge card in the mail – if you haven't, please contact the church office.

The Flowers last week were given by JoJo Hentschel in loving memory of her cousin (and Ana Turpin's nephew), Jose Hoover Montano.

Can you help? Heather McPhail is doing a "Take Action" project to earn her "Think like an Engineer" Journey in Girl Scouts. She is collecting unused technology items to be recycled, such as: laptops, cell phones, tablets, ink cartridges, leapfrog tablets, etc. If you have any items like these collecting dust at home, please bring them to the church office to help Heather earn her award.

Our Fall Festival is this Saturday, October 30 (See attached flyer). We are still in need of some volunteers to help with activities and decorated cars for Trunk or Treat. Contact Pam Poland for more information, mipcffm@gmail.com

Bible Study: Please join us on Tuesday evenings on Zoom from 7-8 PM (with informal time of fellowship afterwards) for study of "Lessons from Acts" by Max Lucado, led by Julie Hill. The link is emailed out on Tuesdays. On Oct. 26, we will be learning about Saul's conversion and how Ananias ministered to him. Poignant reflections from Max Lucado will help us apply this inspirational story to our lives.

Weekly Prayer: Light a candle in a quiet space and gather with your MIPC family for an evening of prayer & reflection. We share scripture and joys & concerns with each other via Zoom, every Wednesday at 7:30 PM.

Happy Birthday to:

October 24: Sharon Hertzler

October 28: Bob Willett

October 27: Brittney Fjeldheim

October 29: Dave Hertzler

October 28: Mary Hoffman

Thank you, Maryrose Beerman and Jeana Lutz, for the beautiful music this morning.

Our Prayers are with:* Dot Corbett, Andre Koodie, Sophia and Zane Loulaf, Tom Page, Courtney Penderson, Debra Smoot, and George Wilcox.

** Please contact the office with any additions or subtractions to the prayer list. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested.*

Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Interim Pastor

Maryrose Beerman, Organist/Handbell Director

Tammy Lewis, Preschool Director

Leslie Mitchell, Financial Secretary

Gregory Walters, Sexton

www.merrittislandpc.org

Chad McClellan, Choir Director

Robyn Mills, Assistant Preschool Director

Pam Poland, Faith Formation Ministries

Mary Lou Tipton, Performing Arts Director

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DID YOU KNOW?

You can scan this code with your phone's camera and be connected directly to our online giving page!

