

# MERRITT ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Leading in Worship: Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Craig Smoot, and Troop 343

February 4, 2024

In Person and Facebook Live

10:00 a.m.

## SCOUT SUNDAY

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*But they who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. ~ Isaiah 40:31*

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Pastor Christina

The Presentation of the Colors

Prelude

Call to Worship (**responsive**):

Liturgist

*God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.*

One: God has invited us to come.

**All: So we gather.**

One: God has spoken to the world.

**All: So we listen.**

One: God has given us glimpses of grace and mercy.

**All: So we wait, longing for healing, eager for hope.**

One: God has been faithful to all generations.

**All: So we offer our praise to God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.**

Congregational Hymn # 339:

***Lift Every Voice and Sing (verses 1 and 3)***

*Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty.*

*Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; let it resound loud as the rolling sea.*

*Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;*

*sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.*

*Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won.*

*God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;*

*Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray.*

*Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;*

*lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;*

*Shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.*

Time with the Young and Young at 

Call to Confession

Liturgist

Prayer of Confession (**unison**):

**We cannot hide from you, Everlasting God, even if we were to go from one edge of creation to the next. You speak to us of compassion, but the ways in which we treat others show we have not been listening. You explain your hopes to us, and we act as if we don't have a clue as to what is going on. We run as fast, and as far, from you as we can, and wonder why we have no energy to follow Jesus. Yet you search for us in all the deserted places we flee to, Never-weary God, so you can take us by the hand to show us the way to life with you. You heal our broken hearts so we can offer them to others. You fill us with your strength so we can bind ourselves to Jesus, our Savior, following him to serve all of your children. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness (**responsive**):

Liturgist

One: Have you not been listening? God never tires out, nor is there an expiration date on God's forgiveness. God is ever with us, healing us with mercy, and strengthening us for service.

**All: If God numbers the stars, surely our names are known by the One who loves us and offers us grace.  
This is indeed good news for all! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Response to Assurance:

***Freely, Freely***

*God forgave my sin in Jesus' name; I've been born again in Jesus' name  
And in Jesus' name I come to you to share His love as He told me to  
He said freely, freely you have received; freely, freely give  
Go in My name And because you believe, others will know that I live*

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

First Reading:

Isaiah 40:21-31

Page 817, OT

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

Special Music:

*Strength of My Heart*

Jeana Lutz, soloist

Second Reading:

Mark 1:29-39

Page 43, NT

One: The Gospel of the Lord.    **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message:

*Intersecting with God*

*Rev. Christina Greenawalt*

### **Responding to the Word**

Invitation to Live Generously:    *The offering basket is near the back door of the sanctuary.  
You may also give online at [www.merrittislandpc.org](http://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 (**Unison**):

Liturgist

**You lift us to our feet so we can walk with you, Loving God, and you fill us with your gifts so we  
may pour them out for those around us. Take what we offer and use them in that kingdom work  
which strengthens the weary, feeds the hungry, and gives hope to the despairing. Amen.**

### **The Sacrament of Communion**

Communion Hymn # 626:

***As the Deer***

*As the deer pants for water, so my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.  
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.*

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: May God be with you.

**All: May God be also with you.**

One: People of God, open your hearts.

**All: We open our hearts to God and to each other.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Living God.

**All: With joy and praise, we offer our thanks to the  
One who offers abundant life.**

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.**

Words of Institution / Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Closing Hymn # 614:

**Great Are You Lord**

*Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just; by your power we trust in your love.*

*Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true; by your mercy you prove you are love.*

*Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.*

*Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice:*

*Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

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*Ushers: Libbi Moore, Kathy Porche, Marsha Strickland*

*Attendance Last Week: In Person: 39, On Line: 10*

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome!** Thank you for joining us today, whether you are here in person or online! We gather together as a church family, from wherever we may be. If you would like to know more about MIPC, how you can be more involved, or to speak to the pastor, please contact the church office at the number/email below.

**Today is Scout Sunday.** We welcome Scouts and their families to worship today as we celebrate the long-standing relationship between MIPC and Pack 343. The scouts will serve as ushers/liturgists and will present the colors at the beginning of worship.

**The flowers today** are given by Milt Seapker in loving memory of his wife Carol Jo.

**The flowers last week** were given by Anne Cole, in loving memory of Grant B. Cole.

### **Ways to Serve**

**2023 Giving Statements** are available in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Mitchell ([mipresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:mipresbyterian@gmail.com)).

**Family Promise:** Help! If you are able to provide a meal for the families (1-3) being housed at Grace Methodist in Merritt Island on either Feb. 27, 28, or 29, please contact Cheryl Mahan at 321-421-9623. MIPC has supported the Family Promise organization for many years.

### **Ways to Connect**

**Join us for coffee and fellowship** in the Narthex after worship. If you'd like to bring snacks one week, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

**Into the Woods:** Our own Jeana Lutz is appearing in this wonderful show that opened Friday at the Holy Name of Jesus Life Center Hall in Indialantic. The show continues this afternoon at 2, Saturday the 10th at 7 and Sunday the 11th at 2. You can visit Eventbrite ([www.eventbrite.com/e/into-the-woods-musical-tickets-780876742357](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/into-the-woods-musical-tickets-780876742357)) or the HNJ website ([www.hnj.org](http://www.hnj.org)) for tickets, or just see Jeana.

**Women's Ministry: Fabulous Fridays!** Faith Formation Ministries is offering a Women's Bible Study Group. Come and join us in the Activities Room every other Friday @ 2:00 p.m. (Our next gathering is Feb. 9.) Our study, led by Julie Hill, is titled "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts." Please contact Julie Hill for more information and questions. [cj2hill@bellsouth.net](mailto:cj2hill@bellsouth.net) or 321-431-5333.

**Name Tags:** Building our faith community is easier if we know each other's names. Please help us by wearing your clip-on name tag that is in the Narthex. (If you prefer, we can provide a lanyard.) See Cheryl Mahan (321-431-9623) or your deacon.

**Adult Faith Enrichment Class:** Join us for Adult Faith Formation at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or on Zoom. We have started a new study, led by Milt Seapker, called *Understanding the Prophets*. All are welcome at any time! The Zoom link is emailed weekly.

### **Celebrations & Concerns**

#### **Happy Birthday to:**

Feb. 9: Randy Eastep  
Feb. 10: Alecia Dutter  
Feb. 10: Olivia Carden

#### **Happy Anniversary to:**

Feb. 7: Ted & Maryrose Beerman

**Our Prayers are with:\*** Sis Beckman, Cindy Bottomley, Dot Corbett, Carolyn Crockett, Andre Koodie, Kelly Shephard, and George Wilcox.

*\* Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested.*

**If you would like** your prayer concern to be shared on our Prayer Chain Email (or if you'd like to be on the email distribution list), contact Jill Franklin at [mipcprayerchain600@gmail.com](mailto:mipcprayerchain600@gmail.com), or make a note on the Prayer Request card in the pew.

**Thank you,** Maryrose Beerman and Jeana Lutz, for the beautiful music today!

### **THIS WEEK AT MIPC:**

Monday, Feb. 5, 11:15 AM: ..... Staff Meeting, Session Room  
Monday, Feb. 5, 1:00 PM: ..... FFM Committee, Session Room  
Monday, Feb. 5, 6:00 PM: ..... Scouts, Fellowship Hall  
Tuesday, Feb. 6, 3:00 PM: ..... Kids Klub  
Tuesday, Feb. 6, 8:00 PM: ..... AA, Fellowship Hall  
Wednesday, Feb. 7, 3:30 PM: ..... One Purpose  
Thursday, Feb. 8, 6:00 PM: ..... Finance Committee (Zoom)  
Thursday, Feb. 8, 6:00 PM: ..... Square Dancers, Fellowship Hall  
Friday, Feb. 9, 2:00 PM: ..... Fabulous Friday Women's Bible Study, Activities Room  
Saturday, Feb. 10, 8:30 AM: ..... COLE leadership training (Orlando, also available on Zoom)  
Sunday, Feb. 11, 9:00 AM: ..... Adult Faith Formation, Session Room  
Sunday, Feb. 11, 10:00 AM: ..... Worship Service; 5 Cents Per Meal Offering

*For more information on any of these events, check with the church office.*

### **Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Pastor**

Maryrose Beerman, Acting Music Director  
Tammy Lewis, Preschool Director  
Leslie Mitchell, Financial Secretary  
James Neihouse, Live Feed Director/Producer  
[www.merrittislandpc.org](http://www.merrittislandpc.org)

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