

MERRITT ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Leading in Worship: Rev. Christina Greenawalt and Karri Fjeldheim

February 25, 2024

In Person and Facebook Live

10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Lent



Gathering Music

"Return to You" video

Words of Welcome

Pastor Christina

Prelude:

Near to the Heart of God

Maryrose Beerman & Joyce Walker

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 welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,

All: the courageous and the fearful,

One: the hungry and the hopeful,

All: the impatient and the reserved.

One: God welcomes the young and the old,

All: the poets and the prophets,

One: the faithful and the tired,

All: the curious and the convicted.

One: Wherever you are on your journey, wherever your boat is at sea,

All: there is room for all to gather here.

One: This is God's house.

All: Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.


Congregational Hymn # 475:

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.*

*Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

Time with the Young and Young at 

Call to Confession

Liturgist

Prayer of Confession (**unison**):

Gracious God, there are days that threaten to swallow us, days when the storms of life feel too big. In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.

Forgive us for doubting ourselves. Forgive us for doubting you. Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us. With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness (**responsive**):

Liturgist

One: Family of faith, you could get out of the boat and walk on water like Peter, or fall to your knees and stay in one place. No matter what you do, Christ's love for you is unchanging. Fearful or brave, faithful or doubting, Christ is always walking toward you. So hear and believe this good news: God's love is stronger than any storms. On our best days, and on our worst days, we are seen, forgiven, and loved. God is always walking toward you.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response to Assurance:

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Hymn # 582

*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.*

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

First Reading:

Psalm 22:23-31

Page 616, OT

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

Special Music:

You'll Never Walk Alone

Ted Beerman, soloist

Second Reading:

Matthew 14:22-33

Page 19, NT

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

Message:

Wandering Heart: "Rescue me from Danger"

Rev. Christina Greenawalt

Responding to the Word

Pastoral Prayer

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: *The offering basket is near the back door of the sanctuary.
You may also give online at 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:

Across The Sea

Tune: The Gift of Love

*Across the sea you stand alone, far from this boat where winds have blown.
What pow'r could span a rift so wide? "Take heart my friends, I'm by your side."
On swell and sand you teach the crowd with words to heal both poor and proud.
Where is our hope and daily bread? "Cast in the deep and you'll be fed."
Along the shore you called my name and strangely moved by grace I came.
How can I serve? Who shall I be? "Come follow me on land and sea."*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude:

The Church's One Foundation

Maryrose Beerman & Joyce Walker

*Ushers: Lynn Pemberton, John Shuford, Nancy Shuford
Attendance Last Week: In Person: 39, On Line: 19*

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.

Lenten Series: We are using the Sanctified Art series *Wandering Heart*, which focuses on Jesus' disciple Peter. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us. There are devotionals in the Narthex; watch for our daily Facebook posts throughout Lent as we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of the Resurrection.

Ways to Serve

Scouts: Our Troop 343 is having a yard sale in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 2 from 8 AM to 12 PM. Come, shop for treasures and support the troop! Also, on March 19, if you have dinner at Sonny's BBQ in Merritt Island between 5 PM & 9 PM, a portion of the sales benefits our Scouts.

Girl Scouts: Troop 278, who meet here at MIPC, will have Girl Scout Cookies for sale after worship on March 3.

Next Week is our monthly collection of canned goods and toiletries for the Preschool Food Pantry and Central Florida Sharing Center.

CPR Class: On March 9, Tammy Lewis will teach a CPR class in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 AM. Cost is \$15. Call or email the Preschool for more information. mipcpreschool@gmail.com, (321) 453-1640.

Ways to Connect

Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Narthex after worship. Thank you, Lynn Pemberton, for providing goodies today! If you'd like to bring snacks one week, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Adult Faith Enrichment Class: Join us for Adult Faith Formation at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or on Zoom. Our Lenten study is *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms* with Milt Seapker. All are welcome at any time! The Zoom link is emailed weekly.

Women's Ministry: Fabulous Fridays! Come and join us in the Activities Room every other Friday @ 2:00 p.m. for our Women's Bible Study Group. (Our next gathering is March 8.) 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 or 321-431-5333.

Celebrations & Concerns

Happy Birthday to:

February 25: Lorrie Peek
February 28: Tom Boekhout
March 2: Chuck Downen

Happy Anniversary to:

March 1: John & Nancy Shuford

Our Prayers are with:* Sis Beckman, Cindy Bottomley, Dot Corbett, Carolyn Crockett, Andre Koodie, Elaine Krieger, Janet Post, 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, or make a note on the Prayer Request card in the pew.

Thank you, Maryrose & Ted Beerman and Joyce Walker, for the beautiful music today!

THIS WEEK AT MIPC:

Monday, Feb. 26, 11:15 AM	Staff Meeting
Monday, Feb. 26, 6:00 PM	Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Feb. 27, 3:00 PM:	Kids Klub, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Feb. 27, 8:00 PM:	AA, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, Feb. 28, 10:30 AM:	Heavenly Handmade, Activities Room
Wednesday, Feb. 28, 3:30 PM:	One Purpose
Thursday, Feb. 29, 6:00 PM:	Square Dancers, Fellowship Hall
Friday, March 1	Scouts set up Fellowship Hall for sale
Saturday, March 2, 8:00 AM	Scouts Yard Sale in Fellowship Hall
Saturday, March 2, 9:30 AM	Central Florida Presbytery (Maitland, or on Zoom)
Sunday, March 3, 9:00 AM:	Adult Faith Formation, Session Room
Sunday, March 3, 10:00 AM:	Worship Service with Communion
Sunday, March 3, 11:00 AM:	Girl Scout Cookie Sale, Narthex

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

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