

MERRITT ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Leading in Worship: Rev. Christina Greenawalt and Mary Lou Tipton

May 12, 2024

In Person and Facebook Live

10:00 a.m.

Seventh Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day

May our worship connect us more deeply with God, with others and even with ourselves this week.

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Pastor Christina

Call to Worship (**responsive**):

Liturgist

One: From comfortable pews, from tricycle seats, from easy chairs in front of TVs:

All: God gathers us in, giving us the words with which to proclaim the gospel.

One: At kitchen sinks, at laptops and blackboards, at nursing stations:

All: Christ calls us to share in serving all creation.

One: In communities gathered to pray, in memories of those who served, in families grilling in the backyard:

All: The Holy Spirit fills us with God's joy.

Opening Hymn # 451:

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.

Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.

And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.

Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Time with the Young and Young at Heart

Call to Confession

Liturgist

Prayer of Confession (**unison**):

Lord Jesus Christ, you called your followers to carry the Good News of God's love and forgiveness to the ends of the earth. Yet we confess we cannot always find the words to tell others of our faith. We try to act out your love. but it's hard to tell others why we do what we do for you. Forgive us. Give us the courage to speak openly of our commitment to you. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

One: Friends, remember the promise the Apostle Paul declares: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us rejoice that, no matter what is happening around us, no matter what we have done, God's deep love will never let us go.

**All: In Christ we are forgiven. May we go out and share the Good News with our community and beyond.
Amen.**

Response: **Gloria Patri** Hymn # 581
*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.*

Prayer for Illumination Liturgist
First Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Page 143, NT
One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music Jennavon Brown
Second Reading: John 17:6-19 Page 136, NT
One: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Message: *Unity in a Connected Community* Rev. Christina Greenawalt

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

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** Hymn # 606
*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: **Spirit Song**
*O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy.
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness; give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*Ushers: Anne Cole, Craig Smoot, Marsha Strickland
Attendance Last Week: In Person: 39, On Line: 9*

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.

Welcome and thank you to Jennavon Brown, who is filling in as our substitute pianist/organist while our search for a full time music director continues. Jennavon most recently was the organist for First Presbyterian in Titusville; she has played for many local churches, theaters and musical groups in Brevard County.

Worshiping with Children: We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us, and we pray that your family feels welcome and at home here at MIPC. Children's Church is available for Preschool-6th grade in our Activities Room, right after the first hymn.

Nursery Care: If you have infants or toddlers that need care during our worship service, we can help. Please ask one of our Ushers and they will direct you to someone.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to all the moms, grandmothers, stepmoms, aunts, godmothers, and all who love and nurture.

Ways to Serve

Faith Formation Ministries: Here are 2 ways you can be of service to our ministry:

1. Vacation Bible School: July 15th- 19th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: We are in need of volunteers to help with many different aspects of this program. (Snacks, games, crafts, activity stations, transporting kids to various stations.) If you love to work with children, and are looking for a fun summer activity please come and join us. Interested in helping, please contact Pam Poland or Karri Fjeldheim. There is also a sign-up sheet available in the Narthex.
2. Men's Bible Study: There has been some interest expressed regarding forming a men's Bible study group. We are in need of people to lead the study, and participants. Please contact Pam Poland or Karri Fjeldheim if you are interested in helping to start this new program. There is also a sign-up sheet available in the Narthex.

Ways to Connect

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

Join us for coffee and snacks in the Narthex after worship today. Thank you, Pastor Christina and Dale, for providing today's goodies! There is a signup sheet in the Narthex for anyone who would like to bring food one week.

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 May 17.) Our study is titled "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts." For more information and questions: cj2hill@bellsouth.net or 321-431-5333.

Church Directory: We have set the date of June 1 to print a new official MIPC directory! There are interim directory copies in the Narthex; please check to make sure your contact information is correct, and contact the church office if there are any changes. There will be opportunities for new individual and family photos if you would like your picture updated - but you can also email the church office with a photo of you/your family that you would like us to use. (mipresbyterian@gmail.com) Thank you for helping keep our church directory information updated!

Celebrations & Concerns

Happy Birthday to:

May 12: Stacy Boote

May 13: John Heenan

May 14: Karri Fjeldheim

Our Prayers are with:* Cindy Bottomley, Dot Corbett, Carolyn Crockett, Andre Koodie, Elaine Krieger, Janet Post, Kelly Shephard, George Wilcox, and Bob Willett.

** 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, Jennavon Brown and Jeana Lutz, for the beautiful music today!

THIS WEEK AT MIPC:

Monday, May 13, 11:15 AM:	Staff Meeting
Monday, May 13, 1:00 PM:	FFM Meeting
Monday, May 13, 4:50 PM:	Deacons Meeting
Monday, May 13, 6:00 PM:	Scouts Court of Honor, Sanctuary
Tuesday, May 14, 5:00 PM:	Preschool Meeting
Tuesday, May 14, 8:00 PM:	AA, Fellowship Hall
Thursday, May 16, 6:00 PM	Square Dancers, Fellowship Hall
Thursday, May 16, 7:00 PM	Session, Zoom
Friday, May 17, 2:00 PM:	Fabulous Friday, Activities Room
Saturday, May 18, 12:00 PM	Scout Graduation, Fellowship Hall
Sunday, May 19, 9:00 AM:	Adult Faith Formation, Session Room/Zoom
Sunday, May 19, 10:00 AM:	Worship Service (in person or Facebook Live) - Day of Pentecost
Sunday, May 19, 11:00 AM:	Christ the King Worship Service (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, May 19, 3:00 PM	Girl Scouts, Activities Room

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

Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Pastor

Pam Poland, Faith Formation Ministries
Leslie Mitchell, Financial Secretary
Mary Lou Tipton, Director of Performing Arts
Dale Greenawalt, Sound Operator
www.merrittislandpc.org

(321) 452-5689

Tammy Lewis, Preschool Director
Robyn Mills, Preschool Director
Jennavon Brown, substitute pianist/organist
James Neihouse, Live Feed Director/Producer
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