

***Affirmation of Faith**

A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,

**to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

***Hymn 482**

“Baptized in Water”

***The Charge** (responsive)

Isaiah 42:6-7

I have called you in righteousness, says the LORD,

I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,

**a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.**

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

“We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom”

Hopson

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

A hearing loop is active; set hearing aid to “T-coil.” Scripture passages are read from the NRSV. The Prayer of Confession is from Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2 by Lavon Bayler, © 1992 The Pilgrim Press. MPC is a congregation of the PC(USA), an Earth Care Congregation and a Living Wage Certified Employer.

**MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY: THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

January 12, 2020, 10:00 A.M.

Morning Meditation

Will Willimon

“The needs of the world are too great, the suffering and pain too extensive, the lures of the world too seductive for us to begin to change the world unless we are changed, unless conversion of life and morals becomes our pattern. The status quo is too alluring. It is the air we breathe, the food we eat, the six-thirty news, our institutions, theologies, and politics. The only way we shall break its hold on us is to be transferred to another dominion, to be cut loose from our old certainties, to be thrust under the flood and then pulled forth fresh and newborn. Baptism takes us there.”

Chimes of the Trinity

Ritual of Fellowship

Introit

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Bateman/Spanish

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 29:1-4

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

**The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

***Hymn 475**

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *followed by silent prayers of confession*

**Merciful God, in a world full of injustices,
we have been chosen to bring light and comfort and healing.
We confess that often we have turned away from that mandate,
and from people who seem unacceptable to us.
We have become easily discouraged,
and failed to live up to our baptism. Forgive us, we pray,
and bless us with renewed recognition of our purpose. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison 480

“Take Me to the Water”

**Take me to the water. Take me to the water.
Take me to the water to be baptized.
I love Jesus. I love Jesus. I love Jesus, yes, I do.
He’s my Savior. He’s my Savior. He’s my Savior, yes, he is.
Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah to be baptized.**

Assurance of Pardon

***Response 582**

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

**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.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Anthem

“Loving Shepherd”

Psalm 23/J.S. Bach

*Loving shepherd, comfort and guide us, keep us in thy tender care,
and in thy mercy stay beside us, safely thy lambs now gather.
Bring us in faith together, and thy pastures now prepare.
And when I walk with darkness around me, thou art near and I will fear no ill.
So with thy love and kindness surround me, goodness and mercy bringing,
from living water springing, Lord of Love grant me thy comfort still.*

Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 3:13-17

Hymn 288 (sung twice)

“Spirit of the Living God”

Sermon

“Given as a Light to the Nations”

Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People and 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.**

Offertory

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

arr. Raney

***Doxology 607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore, amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**