

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Elder Martin

God is peace: the ever-present, ever-loving, ever-compassionate power that governs the world. Like generations before us, we fail in our efforts to live in the peace and harmony God desires. We become unclean and our righteous deeds become as filthy cloths. We alone cannot wipe clean the slate of our transgressions. We fade like leaves and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. Yet, You O God, are our Creator like the potter you fashioned us from clay in your holy image. Mold us anew, O God, recreate a right image within us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Martin

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

† **Response** (*refrain*)

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

(hymn no. 23)

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo;

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.



Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Jodi Martin

Scripture Lesson (*p. 47NT*)

Mark 13:24-37

Dr. Joe B. Martin

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

This morning's anthem is the first movement of the Christmas Cantata which will be presented by the choir in the 11:00 service next week.

Anthem/Special Music

"Ring Them, Sing Them"

by Steve Dobrogosz

Ring them, ring them, Chiming a song of hope from every spire

Gold in the window, In the season of the child

Sing them, sing them, Good will and rectitude in every voice

Warm in the winter, 'Tis the season to rejoice

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Glory, this glorious holy night

Gloria in excelsis Deo, O day O day of light

Come O come - and see the miracle, Come O come - the miracle birth

Come O come - and flourish the trumpets, Heralding peace on earth

Peace in the heart is peace on earth

Children's Time

Rev. Martin

See children's options on back page

Communion Meditation

Get Woke

Dr. Martin

† **Affirmation of Faith**

from the Westminster Confession of Faith (1643)

God has appointed a day, wherein he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ, to whom all power and judgment is given of the Father... The end of God's appointing this day, is for the manifestation of the glory of his mercy in the eternal salvation of the elect... For then shall the righteous go into everlasting life, and receive that fullness of joy and refreshing which shall come from the presence of the Lord... As Christ would have us to be

certainly persuaded that there shall be a day of judgment, both to deter all people from sin, and for the greater consolation of the godly in their adversity; so will he have that day unknown to us, that we may shake off all earthly security, and be always watchful, because they know not at what hour the Lord will come; and may be ever prepared to say, Come Lord Jesus, come quickly.



† **Passing of the Peace**

Dr. Martin

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of peace and welcome with your neighbor.

† **Hymn No. 20**

"Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night"

Church Family Life

Dr. Martin

Please take this time to pass the attendance notebooks located at the end of the pew row. If you are a visitor, we invite you to visit our information center located in the Narthex.

The Eucharist

After you are invited to come forward for communion down a center aisle, take bread from the first elder on your side of the sanctuary and eat; a cup from the next elder and drink; and place the empty cup in the tray held by the third elder before returning to your pew by the side aisle. If you prefer gluten-free bread, go to the pastor in the center. Those unable or uncomfortable coming forward will be served in their pew. Please raise your hand at the pastor's request.

Communion

"We Remember"

*We remember your mercy, We remember your grace
And we ask you Holy Spirit, Will you come and fill this place
We remember God Creator, We remember God the Son
And we come to this table, to remember what You've done.*



Offering

Offertory

"Elevation"

by A. Guilmant

† **Response**

The Doxology

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 Thanksgiving**

Rev. Martin

(over)

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving will begin with singing the refrain of "We Remember." After the refrain, a short prayer will be said. Then, when directed, the refrain of "We Remember" will again be sung. The alternation of praying and singing will continue until the president prays "Amen."

† **Closing Hymn No. 17**

“Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us”

† **Benediction**

Dr. Martin

† **Congregational Response** (*refrain*) “Go Tell It on the Mountain” (hymn 29)

Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

† **Postlude**

“Voluntary No. 5, Op. 6”

by John Stanley

† Those who are able, please stand

Worship Enrichment. Worship Enrichment is led by Rev. Jodi Martin at the 11:00 service after the Children’s time. Children, kindergarten - 2nd grade, are invited to join Jodi in the chapel for worship enrichment activities. The children will return to their parents during the Hymn following the “Passing of the Peace.” Children 4 years and younger who opt to attend 11:00 worship until the children’s time, will depart for childcare to room 120 for the remainder of the service.



MVPC Mission Statement



Blessed to Be a Blessing

We are a Presbyterian church filled with love and energy – an inclusive congregation committed to spiritual growth through *worship, study, fellowship, and service.*

- As **children of God**, we seek to *praise* God in worship and in all that we say and do
- As **disciples of Jesus Christ**, we *listen* to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God’s will for us as individuals and as a community
- As **members of a family of faith**, we strive to *love* one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles
- **Moved by the Spirit**, we *serve* our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others.



Giving to MVPC is easy online
<http://mvpchurch.org/index.php/donate/>