

Florida's first Presbyterians, since 1824

February 23, 2025

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Children's bulletins are available at each door for children to take upon entering the sanctuary and use during worship. Activity bags will be available during the Children's Moment. Please leave the bags in the pews after the service.

GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

The prelude marks a time of preparation for worship. Please be considerate of those who seek to use this time for prayer and reflection through the gift of music.

PRELUDE

"If I Can Help Somebody" (Greer Sullivan, Soloist) Alma Androzzo

If I can help somebody, as I pass along, If I can cheer somebody, with a word or song, If I can show somebody, he is travelling wrong, Then my living shall not be in vain.

If I can do my duty as a Christian ought, If I can bring back beauty in a world up wrought, If I can spread love's message that the Master taught, Then my living shall not be in vain.

INTROIT

"O Come, Let Us Worship"

Richard Shephard

O come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His flock.

*Please stand as you are able

11:00 a.m.

Embodying Jesus' All-Encompassing Hospitality GREETING (*responsive*)
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us take a moment of silence to center ourselves on God.

Psalm 100, adapted

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)
Make a joyful noise to the LORD.
Serve the LORD with gladness.
Come into His presence with singing.
Know that the Lord is God.
The Lord is good.
His steadfast love endures forever.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN NO. 543	"God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"	GREEN TYLER
	(words and music on next page)	

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, You have commanded us to love You above all and to have no other gods. You have called us to love others as You love them. But we are personally and socially deformed by the love of other "gods" — the false gods of prosperity, materialism, and feelings of superiority. Forgive us our sins and transform us by Your Spirit so that we might learn to love as You love and live as people baptized as Your own children. Amen.

A brief silence for individual confession is kept

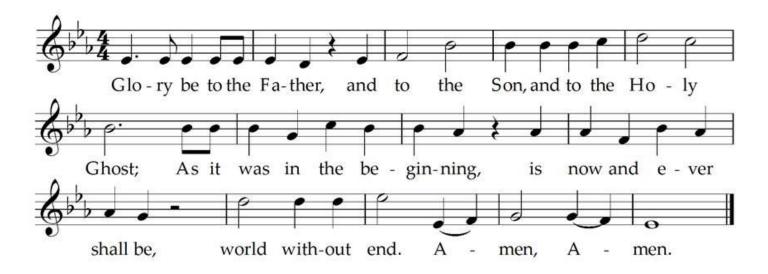
ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

Friends, hear the good news of the gospel — God's radical forgiving, transforming and justice-seeking love will not let us go and is ever bringing resurrection and new life. Let us remember our baptisms and trust in God's mercy to restore our right standing as God's own.

Thanks be to God



*GLORIA PATRI



*THE PEACE (responsive)

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we also ought to forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please greet those around you with words and signs of God's reconciling peace

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

The children of the church gather at the baptismal font

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the Friendship Registers

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	O.T. pg. 39
The Word of the Lord.		
Thanks be to God.		
GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 6:27-38	N.T. pg. 56
The Gospel of the Lord		
Praise to You, O Christ.		

"Are You Listening?"

Silent meditation on sermon

 *HYMN NO. 771
 "What Is the World Like"
 NEW WORLD

 (words and music on next page)
 NEW WORLD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*) (excerpt from Brief Statement of Faith) We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Please use this time to reflect on how we might offer ourselves, and our resources, to God

Four ways to give: Please drop a check in the offering plate as you exit the sanctuary, mail a check to the church office, click the GIVE NOW button on our website, or text STAMPC to 73256



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Be Still, My Soul"

Be still, my soul, for God is near The great high priest is with thee now; The Lord of life Himself is here, Before whose face the angels bow

To make thy heart His lowly throne Thy savior God in love draws nigh. He gives himself into His own, For whom He once came down to die

I come, O Lord, for Thou dost call To blend my pleading prayer with Thine: To Thee I give myself, my all And feed on Thee and make Thee mine. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

(some substitute "God" for "Him")

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (responsive)

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Lord of life, for those gifts of Yours which make us what we are, for talents of mind and eye and hand, for every opportunity to be of service, for those who love us and cherish us, for those whom we value as neighbors and friends:

Lord, from our hearts we thank You.

Give us grace, we pray, to accept Your gifts joyfully and to use them generously to Your glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 756

"O God of Every Nation" (words and music on next page)

LLANGLOFFAN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"Danish Amen"

*POSTLUDE "King of Kings"

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Ralph Simpson

*Please stand as you are able

Children's Worship Activity Bags: Please leave activity bags in the pews at the conclusion of the service

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT Called by Jesus Christ to love God, neighbor, and self by the power of the Holy Spirit

> VISION STATEMENT Embodying Jesus' all-encompassing hospitality



WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Rachael McNeal, Associate Pastor of Youth and Outreach: Greeting, Call to Worship, Prayer of the Day, Children's Moment, Celebration of Community, Prayer for Illumination, Sermon, Charge and Benediction

Mary Scine, Director of College Ministry: Invitation to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, The Peace, Gospel Lesson, Affirmation of Faith, Prayers of People, The Lord's Prayer, Offering, Prayer of Thanksgiving

Matt Daniel, Director of Music and Organist

Lector: Linda Matuza

MPC SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES February 23, 2025 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School: "Gospel Diorama"

- Preschool: Room 204 with Lindsey Nix
- K 1st: Room 224 with Judy Robb and Clara Broos
- 2nd 4th: Room 209 with Beth Upchurch and Kimberly Budd

Youth Sunday School:

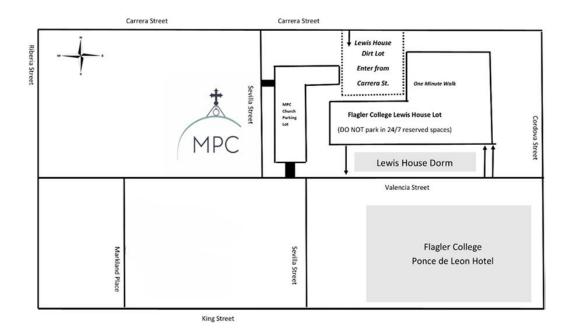
- 5th/6th: Room 207, "Church Scavenger Hunt"
- 7th/8th: Youth Loft, "Who is the Holy Spirit?"
- 9th 12th: Youth Loft, "What Did Jesus Do?"

Adult Sunday School:

- The Friendship Class (Dr. Proctor's Class): "Do You Understand the Bible?", Chapel History Room
- APEX Young(ish) Adults: "Making Sense of Your Worth" with Kyla Salmond, Room 218
- Spiritual Formation: "Discovering God's Vision for Your Life, Spiritual Gifts", Lewis Hall Parlor
- New Perspectives: "The Road to Wisdom", with Parrish Jones, Room 205
- Christian Meditation: "Meditation and Contemplative Prayer", Room 215 and via Zoom (hybrid format). Contact Marc Craddock for any questions at <u>marccraddock@mac.com</u>. Join Zoom Meeting: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/371289063?pwd=NHdCdFU2THRUbVh4ZFpWTGsyR</u> <u>WV5UT09</u>; Meeting ID: 371 289 063; Passcode: 083593

MPC SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE PARKING:

In addition to the MPC lot and street parking, you may park in the Flagler College Lewis House dorm parking lots. The Lewis lots are accessed via the Valencia Street and Carrera Street entrances. These lots are only available to Memorial on Sunday mornings. At times, Flagler is charging for public parking. Please let the attendant know you are attending Sunday Services at Memorial and they will not charge you.



As we take our vision statement seriously, practicing Jesus' all-encompassing hospitality, let's remember to be welcoming to parents with children, being grateful for young ones in our church.

MISSION & MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS THIS WEEK 2-23-25

Condolences: It is with a heavy heart and in the hope of God's promises that we share that Neil Houston joined the saints eternal on February 19, 2025. Thank you for your prayers for Neil's family, especially long-term member and Neil's wife, Kathy Houston. Cards can be sent to Kathy Houston, 148 Southwind Circle, St. Augustine, FL 32080-5352. Jesus said, "Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." – John 14:27

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given by Bob Elliot to the glory of God and in loving memory of his wife Barbara and son Scott.

Happy Birthday to our members and friends celebrating birthdays this week, February 23 – March 1: John Bauer, John Bowler, Carl Blow, Savannah Brown, Anna Brown, Steve Charles, Susan Cox, Grace English, Shelley Givan, Dan Gray, Daniel Hutton, Georgia McElroy, Sue McMurray, Aaron Meyer, Palin Meyer, Cross Millard, Matthew Posey, Chuck Snavely, Rosemary Thomas, Brian Thompson, Gail Twombly, Dr. Jim Vande Berg, Liz Welsch, Gail Woodcum **Food Bank Collection:** Next week, the first Sunday of the month, from 8:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m., there will be a donation box in Lewis Hall for your gifts of healthy non-perishable food, personal hygiene and home cleaning products for the Homeless Coalition. Be part of the solution! Direct questions or request a flyer with more guidance regarding desired and acceptable donation items via email to <u>clerk@memorialpcusa.org</u>.

Next Sunday, March 2 is YOUTH SUNDAY! The youth of our church will be leading our congregation in worship at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services. Be praying for our young people as they prepare to lead, and show up to support their leadership in worship.

Pop-Up Class - The Real Housewives of Henry Flagler Today: Most of us know about Henry Flagler and the impact that he had on our congregation and city, yet his wives also contributed to that impact. It's fascinating to consider how these women influenced not just Flagler personally but also his vision for St. Augustine. Join us today during the Sunday School hour in the sanctuary for our next pop-up class.

FEAST Wednesday Night Dinner and Program: Come to the church for dinner at 5:15 p.m. and programs (Children's Choir, Youth Lounge in the Loft, and Adult Program) at 6:00 p.m. It's a great opportunity to get to know your church family with a shared meal. The Nursery is available as well.

This Wednesday, February 19, 2025:

- Dinner at 5:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. "Baked Potato Bar." Cost is \$7.00/Adult and \$4.00/Child. Children's Meal: Chick-fil-A with side, sweet treat & bread.
- Grab 'N Go Meals: If you would like a Grab 'N Go meal, please text your order to Chef Cheryl at 240-285-3731 by 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday to pre-order. Pay at the front door of Lewis Hall.
- Program at 6:00 p.m., 2 options:
 - * "Jonah & the Whale, Chapter 4", Rev. Dr. Hunter Camp, Pastor and Head of Staff, Chapel
 - * "Doing Life with Your Adult Children, Parenting Book Study", Pastor Amy and Terri Bailey, Room 218

Maryville College Choir Concert: MPC is thrilled to welcome back the choirs of Maryville College from Maryville, TN for an exciting evening of music on Friday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This event is free and open to the public. Invite your family and friends. For more information, please contact our director of music, Matt Daniel, <u>mdaniel@memorialpcusa.org</u>.

Willing to Host? We are still looking for a few host families who would be willing to host two or three of the Maryville College choir students on March 7th for their upcoming concert at MPC. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Matt Daniel at <u>mdaniel@memorialpcusa.org</u>.

LENTEN CONCERT SERIES: We are excited to resume the annual Lenten Concert series this year. We have a wonderful lineup of performers. The concerts begin on March 12 at 12:45 p.m. with a performance by organist Colton Barber. Contact Matt Daniel for more information, <u>mdaniel@memorialpcusa.org</u>. Invite your friends and family! .

New Member Orientation: The next New Member Orientation will be held in-person meeting two times. Attending both sessions is necessary. We will meet on <u>Wednesday</u>, March 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. and <u>Sunday</u>, March 30, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. If you would like to become a member of Memorial Presbyterian Church, please email Elder Marie Mercready at <u>membership@memorialpcusa.org</u>. She will send you some paperwork that will start the process. NOTE: You MUST contact Marie Mercready and <u>submit your paperwork</u> before Thursday, March 20th if you desire to be included in this Orientation. Meeting space is at a premium and the number of people who desire membership will determine where we will meet.

Learn All About St. Francis House: St. Francis House, provides food, clothing, temporary and permanent shelter for men, women, and families with minor children. To learn more about this great Outreach ministry there are five dates to "Get on the Bus" and take a tour of St. Francis House: March 11, May 13, July 8, Sept. 9 and Dec. 9. You'll board the bus at the Limelight Theater, 11 Old Mission Ave. To reserve a space, email Sarah Del Cid, Development/Volunteer Coordinator, at <u>sarah.delcid@stfrancisshelter.org</u>.

Stephen Ministry: Is life more than you can handle alone right now? Are your health, your attitude, or your relationships suffering? Are you adjusting to a change in marital status, a serious illness, or the death of a loved one? Would you like to have someone in your life that really cares? For more information on receiving care please contact one of the Stephen Ministry Leaders: Kelly Fox - <u>kellymfox90@gmail.com</u>; Mike Nimitz - <u>mikenimitz-mpc@outlook.com</u>; Amy Camp - <u>amycamp@memorialpcusa.org</u>

Upcoming Pop-Up Class Schedule: Pop-Up classes will take place at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary and will be live-streamed.

- February 23 (today) The Real Housewives Of Henry Flagler
- April 6 The Amazing Life of Dr. Andrew Anderson
- June 22 Old Hymns and Why Matt Daniel Loves Them
- August 24 A Day In the Life of Our Pastors
- October 12 An Exciting and Informative Flagler Fireside Chat

Garden Committee Volunteers: As we approach the Spring season the Garden Committee is seeking new members. The Committee places flowers in the urns in the garden and alternates the watering duties, trims and keeps gardens clean and twice a year does general clean up. We keep an eye on the gardens and grounds to report any problems identified. If you are interested in keeping the campus looking attractive for our members and many visitors please contact Susan West, <u>susancarrolwest@gmail.com</u> or 540-840-1333.

Now on Sale MPC Cookbooks: All delicious recipes, all contributed by current and past parishioners. These cookbooks can be purchased for just \$15. They will be on sale every Sunday during Café and Wednesday FEAST. Get yours today, Bon Appetit!

Change In Dining With Dignity Meals Delivery Schedule: For the faithful who provide meals for Home Again St. Johns and the Homeless Coalition, please make note that beginning in March, the delivery dates will change. On-line sign-up sheets ("SignUpGenius") will be sent out in advance of the events.

- Home Again meals will be delivered on the first Monday
- Homeless Coalition meals will be delivered the second Monday

Al-Anon at MPC: Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. in Room 205. You will find love, understanding, and a lot of hope from the Al-Anon family groups, where we share our experience, strength and hope. This helps us focus on ourselves and our recovery from the effects of the disease of alcoholism. It's a safe place, the right place to be. Your anonymity is protected at all times.

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation: For more information about what that means for MPC, contact Barbara Alford, Chairperson of our Session's Peacemaking Committee, <u>babs50@gmail.com</u> or Tom Eyerly, Matthew 25 Point Person: <u>tom@eyerly.org</u>. Visit this website for more information: <u>https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/</u>.

ARE YOU STRUGGLING? You are not alone. Call the church office 904-829-6451 and make an appointment with one of our pastors.

Church Officers: Are you curious about our Elders, Deacons, and Trustees---who they are and the capacities in which they serve? If so, please check out the page on our church website called "Church Officers." It can be found under the "About" tab at <u>memorialpcusa.org</u>. We're thankful for all of our leaders who have been called to serve as church officers!

Please Remember in Prayer or Correspondence:

Bayview: Bill and Verna Bacon; The Haven at Regency Point, Rainbow City, AL: Eileen Coleman; Moultrie Creek: Barbara Michael; Riverside Cottages: Carolyn Smith; Wellington Place of Brentwood, Brentwood, TN: Sue Holder

Recovering at Home:

Vickie Gard, Betsy Haynes, Bob Mullen

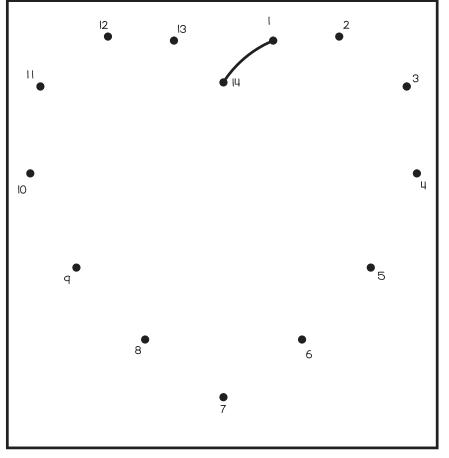
Our Military Personnel Serving Overseas and at Home:

Private 1st Class, Jackson Arthur Sharpe, serving at Ft. Hood, TX; Air National Guardsman Medic, John David Sessums, serving on the Medical Team with the National Guard; Sgt. Max Worthington deployed to Washington DC with his FL National Guard Unit

		CHURCH CALENDAR
Sun. 2-23-25	8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 12:30 – 3:30 pm 5:00 pm 5:30 pm	Worship Service Sunday School (Dr. Proctor's Class starts at 9:40) Pop-Up Class, "The Real Housewives of Henry Flagler" – Sanctuary (also Live-Streamed) Worship Service (also Live-Streamed) Sanctuary Open for Tours Youth, "Worship Rehearsal" – LH & Youth Loft Seekers Group Study – Zoom
Mon. 2-24-25	3:30 – 8:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:45 pm	Sacred Music Academy – Rooms 204, 205, 207, 215, 218, Nursery, Choir Room Session Supper – LH Upper Landing Session Meeting – LH Parlor
Tues. 2-25-25	10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 – 7:00 pm 5:30 – 9:00 pm	Al-Anon Meeting – Room 205 Outreach Meeting – Office Parlor Handbell Choir – Room 211 SACC Rehearsal - LH
Wed. 2-26-25	10:00 am 2:30 pm 4:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:15 – 7:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Gentle Easy Outdoor Yoga Stephen Ministers Training – Room 205 Handbell Choir – Room 211 Ukirk – College – LH FEAST Dinner (LH) and Program (Chapel or Room 218) Confirmation Class – Room 207 Children's Choir Rehearsals – Rooms 224 and 215 Adult Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
Thurs. 2-27-25	8:30 am 10:30 am	Sew and Sow – LH Upper Landing GriefShare – LH Parlor
Fri. 2-28-25	11:00 - 3:30	Sanctuary Open for Tours
Sat. 3-1-25	9:00 am 9:30 am	Beginners Al-Anon – Room 205 Al-Anon – Room 205



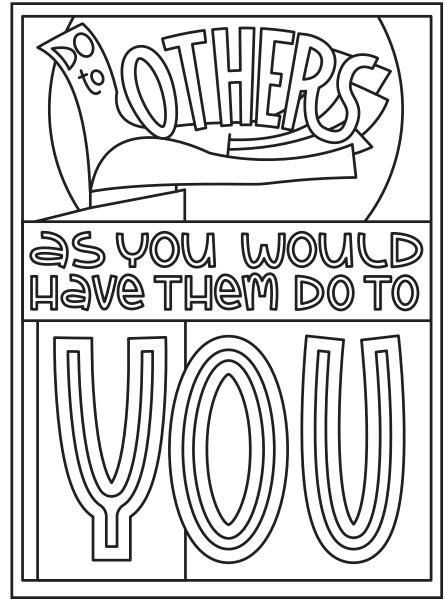
Memorial Presbyterian Church 32 Sevilla Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084 Memorialpcusa.org In Luke 6, Jesus says that he wants us to love everyone—including our enemies. Connect the dots to form a heart. Inside the heart, write or draw some ways you can love people that are hard to love.





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DRAW IT

Genesis 45 shares the story of Joseph seeing his brothers for the first time after many, many years. His brothers had been very mean to Joseph, but Joseph forgave them. He gave them big hugs and cried when he saw his brothers. Draw what you think this looked like in the first box. In the second box, draw a picture of a time you forgave someone.

