

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

FEBRUARY 25, 2018
10:15 A.M.



Morristown United Church
Christ Centered † Spirit Led

*The mission of our church is to engage all people in knowing,
loving, and serving God to transform lives, communities, and the world.*

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

February 25, 2018

Second Sunday in Lent

10:15 a.m.

† Identifies time to stand, as you are able.

Centering Words

*God's voice calls to us, naming us in holy love.
Christ's voice chastens us, correcting us when we lose our way.
The Spirit's voice sounds within us, drawing us back to the paths of righteousness.
God's voice heals us, naming us as God's own.
Your pathways are loving and faithful, Holy One.*

PRELUDE

Verset in F Major

L.J.A. Lefébure-Wely
Jennifer Yang

† INTROIT

*Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above
God, in whom we move and live, let every creature sing,
glory to our Maker give, and homage to our King.
Hallowed be thy name beneath, as in heaven on earth adored,
praise the Lord in every breath, let all beings praise the Lord.*

Sarah A Michal
No. 96

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Brandon Cho

Leader: From generation to generation, God's voice names us and claims us.

People: Let heaven and earth praise God's holy name.

Leader: From our earliest steps, Christ guides our wayward feet.

People: Let all who draw breath come back to the Lord.

Leader: From death to life, the Spirit sets us free.

People: Let the faithful rejoice in God's holy covenant.

Leader: From generation to generation, God names us and claims us.

People: Let heaven and earth praise God's holy name.

† OPENING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

No. 64

† OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

Kevin Powell

Spirit of ages, as you called to Abram and Sarai, renaming them according to your purposes, call to us this day. Open our ears to the sound of your voice, that we may respond to your call and pick up our cross to follow you. Name us anew this day, and raise us to newness of life, that we may be children of your promise, people of your covenant, and disciples of your grace. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jack Scharf

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, whose name is above every name, when our vision dims, and we prefer human thoughts to your thoughts, heal our eyes of faith. Grace above every grace, when our suffering closes us off from the joy on the other side of suffering, grant us your strength to follow Christ in hope and promise. Wisdom of the ages, when we seek to save our lives in destructive ways, love us back onto the right paths and restore us to life. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: By saying "yes" to the good news of God's Spirit working within us, we find faith and wholeness. God's promises are sure; God's love eternal. By God's grace, we are forgiven and made whole.

People: In God's grace, we are forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Draw the Circle Wide
Chancel Choir

Mark A. Miller

CHILDREN'S STORYTIME

Dr. Cho

A TIME OF COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Dr. Cho

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Jack Scharf

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

† HYMN

Seek Ye First

No. 405

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Kevin Powell

Faithful God, as your word is proclaimed, we pray for purity of heart, mind, and action. Through the gift of your message, breathe your Spirit within our lives, in the name of the one who came to embody your word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 12:28-34

Kevin Powell

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "**The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'** The second is this, '**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'** There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—**this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.**" When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." **After that no one dared to ask him any question.**

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"What Matters Most?"

Dr. Cho

† PASSING THE PEACE

(During this active flu season, we invite you to warmly greet each other verbally, and without physical touch such as hugging or handshaking. Thank you.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Cho

- Reconciling Ministry Meeting—today at 12:00 in the Library
- Abendmusik—Echoing Air on March 17; MUMC Chancel Choir "Messiah" on April 21
- Rummage Sale—March 3, 2018—this Saturday! Set-up begins today.
- "Take the Lead"—Tools for Laity (Resource Day for the Northern Region), Saturday, March 3, 2018, 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m. at Bethany UMC, Wayne

Jack Scharf

INVITATION TO TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Cho

OFFERTORY

Chaconne in F Major

Louis Couperin

† DOXOLOGY

No. 95

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

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Jack Scharf

Bless us this day, Eternal God, that we may be a blessing to a world in need. Bless our gifts and our offerings in your name, that they may light the way home for those who have wandered far and lost

their way. As these gifts go forth to do your work, may they help others hear you call their names and bring them peace and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

- † HYMN *I Am Thine, O Lord* No. 419
- † BENEDICTION *Dr. Cho*
- † POSTLUDE *Magnificat in G Major* Alexandre Guilmant



THE FLOWERS THAT GRACE THE CHANCEL are given by Lillian and Steve Mueller in honor and with thanks to Pastor Brandon, Winifred Bunch, Kris Hansen and Mary Ann Scharf for their thoughtfulness and care following Steve's back surgery.

THE FLOWER CALENDAR FOR 2018 IS IN PLACE. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CALENDAR HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE BULLETIN BOARD NEAR THE COURTYARD. Please consider honoring a loved one on any Sunday. The cost for the two arrangements is \$70.00, and any given Sunday may be shared with the agreement of both donors.

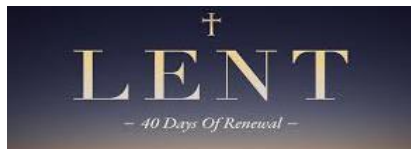
MUMC Church Staff

Senior Pastor	Rev. Dr. Brandon Cho
Associate Pastor	Pastor Charles Perez
Certified Lay Minister/Administrative Director	Jack Scharf
Manager, Finance	Mike Laba
Director of Music Ministries	Sarah A Michal
Youth Ministry Coordinators	Maria & Vince Cattano
Organist	Jennifer Yang
Administrative Assistant/Spire Editor	Mona L. Lindemann
Manager, Property	Cesar Torres
Webmaster	Kevin Vance

50 S. Park Place, Morristown, NJ 07960
973-538-2132

www.morristownumc.org; E-mail—mumc@morristownumc.com

MORRISTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



A Sermon Series for Lent 2018: **“Seven Essential Questions”**

Both lifelong Christians and people on the edges of the church have some of the same basic questions about life and faith. Lent is the perfect time to explore these questions, leading up to the big question that is answered with Easter: Is there hope for life and life beyond death?

February 25, 2018
Second Sunday in Lent
 “What Matters Most?”
 Mark 12:28-34

March 11, 2018
 Fourth Sunday in Lent
 “Where is God?”
 John 1:1-5, 14

March 4, 2018
 Third Sunday in Lent
 “Am I Accepted?”
 John 8:1-11

March 18, 2018
 Fifth Sunday in Lent
 “What Brings Fulfillment?”
 John 13:1-5, 13-17

Welcome Everybody! Our special warm welcome to our guests and friends. We are glad that we can worship God together today. Please go to the WELCOME CENTER (located in the indoor courtyard on your left as you leave the sanctuary) and receive a welcome gift and more information about our church and its people, fellowship and ministry opportunities. See you again next Sunday.



RUMMAGE SALE
March 3, 2018—9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

ABENDMUSIK CONCERT

March 17, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.
Echoing Air



An Early Music vocal ensemble with Baroque instruments.

THIS WEEK AT MUMC

Sunday, February 25

RUMMAGE SALE SET UP

9:00 a.m. Sunday School	
9:00 a.m. Breakfast Club	Wesley Room
9:00 a.m. Bible Study	Library
10:15 a.m. Worship Service—Pastor Brandon	
11:35 a.m. Asbury Choir	Choir Room
12:00 p.m. Reconciling Ministry	Library
3:30 p.m. Nueva Esperanza	

Monday, February 26

Rummage sale set-up

7:30 p.m. A.A.	Room 21
----------------	---------

Tuesday, February 27

Rummage Sale set-up

Wednesday, February 28

Rummage Sale set-up

4:00 p.m. Soccer Ministry	Gym
6:00 p.m. Wesleyan Choir	Choir Room
7:00 p.m. Jubilation Ringers	

Thursday, March 1

Rummage Sale set-up

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	Choir Room
-------------------------	------------

Friday, March 2

Rummage Sale set-up

5:30 p.m. Soccer Ministry	Gym
---------------------------	-----

Saturday, March 3

8:30 a.m. Emmaus Reunion	Wesley Room
9:00 a.m. RUMMAGE SALE	

Next Sunday, March 4

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Club Wesley Room
- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study Library
- 10:15 a.m. Worship Service—Pastor Brandon
- 11:35 a.m. Asbury Choir Choir Room
- 3:30 p.m. Nueva Esperanza

- **“LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS”** The broadcast of our services may be seen on Cable Channel 21 each Sunday at 3:00 p.m.
- **DVDs** are available for each worship service for \$5.00. Please call the office to place your order.
- **LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE USHERS’ TABLE.**

Attendance and Offering	
February 18, 2018	
<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
119	\$2,564.00



- **Nueva Esperanza Worship and Ministry**
- **Stephen Ministry**
- **Church Leaders and Ministry Teams**
- **Our Sunday School and Youth Ministry**

Our Church Family and Friends

- Family and friends of Maggie**, mourning her death
- Steve Mueller**, continued recovery after back surgery
- Lou Cattano**, undergoing treatment for kidney issues
- Jeff**, cancer
- Erico family**, mother of four battling terminal cancer
- John Leding**, strength and healing
- William E. Hettrick**, prostate cancer
- Rob W.**, to find peace and God’s direction
- Frank**, strength and healing
- Agnes**, living with cancer, healing
- Judy M.**, colon cancer

- Gary**, loss of job
- Tim Byrne**, successful treatment of cancer
- John Hyland**, contined strength and healing
- Kelly Buzalski**, fighting cancer
- Joan**, in hospice care
- Janice Harris**, colon cancer
- Stephanie**, leukemia
- Carolyn**, cancer
- Debbie’s mom**, successful treatment of cancer
- Lea O’Shea, Nancy Ruggerio’s daughter**, recovery
- Adam**, successful treatment of colon cancer
- James**, recovery from stage 4 cancer
- Jenny’s father**, treatment for prostate cancer

Serving Our Country
Pfc. Abigail Crisp , NJ Army National Guard
Jordan Dale , U.S. Marines
Sgt. Randall Ferrara , NJ Army National Guard
Staff Sgt. Steve Lantz , Army Reserves, Middle East
Lt. Karen Kraft McAllister , U.S. Navy, San Diego

On-going Prayer

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Sonya Burroughs | Bob Kennaday |
| Shannon Bain | Barbara MacHale |
| Beth & Bruce Courter | Micah |
| Erika Davis | Rick Radis |
| Neil Eriksen | Ms. So |
| Nancy Gardner | Arden & Les Sutton |
| Jack & Johnna | Emma Wyman |
| | Ken Zippler |