

Midway Hills  
Christian Church



May

19

TRANSFORMED

*Pentecost*

Matthew 16: 13-20    Acts 2: 1-21    Romans 12: 1-16

May 19, 2024  
11 A.M. Worship Service

### **Gathering Meditation**

The Spirit is alive and moves among us as it did in the early church! We have celebrated that new life is possible, that transformation can happen no matter how dead we have felt inside or how difficult our circumstances might be. Today we will commit ourselves to some important and concrete goals for our mission in the world. We are a church called to mobilize to alleviate suffering and proclaim resurrection hope through the power of the Holy Spirit! The Spirit is alive and moves among us as it did in the early church! We have celebrated that new life is possible, that transformation can happen no matter how dead we have felt inside or how difficult our circumstances might be. Today we will commit ourselves to some important and concrete goals for our mission in the world. We are a church called to mobilize to alleviate suffering and proclaim resurrection hope through the power of the Holy Spirit!

# Order of Worship

## Day of Pentecost

### Chiming the Hour

Let us take a quiet moment to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

### Welcome

Rev. Laurie Anderson

## The Community Gathers

### Prelude

*Breathe On Me, Breath of God*

arr. Brenda Dillon

### \*Call to Worship

Joan Holland

One: The Spirit is here among us,  
within us, around us, between us.

**Many: The Spirit is here to strengthen us,  
bringing courage, bringing conviction.**

One: The Spirit is here to move us,  
making us sing and praise.  
The Spirit is here.

**Many: May we feel the Spirit as we gather.  
May we be fed by her fiery strength.  
May we be emboldened by her powerful wind.**

One: We gather in the Spirit's arms to be nurtured as we worship.

**Many: And may our worship fill us with the Spirit  
as we go back out into our daily lives.**

### \*Hymn 237

*On Pentecost They Gathered*  
(verses 1, 2, 4)

MUNICH

### Dismissal for Children's Church

Children ages five through fifth grade may leave with the adult leaders for Children's Worship. They are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their parents.

## The Community Responds

### Collective Story of the Resurrection

Acts 2:1-21

Rev. Laurie Anderson  
Rev. Deborah Morgan-Stokes

### Prayers of the People

Rev. Laurie Anderson

### The Lord's Prayer

Congregation

**Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## The Community Proclaims God's Word

### Scripture Reading

Romans 12:1-16

Joan Holland

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. (NRSVUE)

Por lo tanto, hermanos, tomando en cuenta la misericordia de Dios, ruego que cada uno de ustedes, en adoración espiritual, ofrezca su cuerpo como sacrificio vivo, santo y agradable a Dios. No se amolden al mundo actual, sino sean transformados mediante la renovación de su mente. Así podrán comprobar cómo es la voluntad de Dios: buena, agradable y perfecta. Por la gracia que se me ha dado, digo a todos ustedes: Nadie tenga un concepto de sí más alto que el que debe tener, sino más bien piense de sí mismo con moderación, según la medida de fe que Dios le haya dado. Pues, así como cada uno de nosotros tiene un solo cuerpo con muchos miembros, y no todos estos miembros desempeñan la misma función, también nosotros, siendo muchos, formamos un solo cuerpo en Cristo, y cada miembro está unido a todos los demás. Tenemos dones diferentes, según la gracia que se nos ha dado. Si el don de alguien es el de profecía, que lo use en proporción con su fe; si es el de prestar un servicio, que lo preste; si es el de enseñar, que enseñe; si es el de animar a otros, que los anime; si es el de socorrer a los necesitados, que dé con generosidad; si es el de dirigir, que dirija con esmero; si es el de mostrar compasión, que lo haga con alegría. El amor debe ser sincero. Aborrezcan el mal; aférranse al bien. Amense los unos a los otros con amor fraternal, respetándose y honrándose mutuamente. Nunca dejen de ser diligentes; antes bien, sirvan al Señor con el fervor que da el Espíritu. Alégrese en la esperanza, muestren paciencia en el sufrimiento, perseveren en la oración. Ayuden a los hermanos necesitados. Practiquen la hospitalidad. Bendigan a quienes los

persigan; bendigan y no maldigan. Alégrese con los que están alegres; lloren con los que lloran. Vivan en armonía los unos con los otros. No sean arrogantes, sino háganse solidarios con los humildes. No se crean los únicos que saben. (NVI)

**Anthem** *Send Us Your Spirit* Dan Schutte

**Sermon** "Transformed" Rev. Laurie Anderson  
Matthew 16:13-20

## **The Community Is Empowered at the Table**

**Invitation to the Table** Rev. Deborah Morgan-Stokes

**Institution of the Table** Rev. Laurie Anderson

**Communion Prayer** Laura Mitchell

**Communion Hymn 422** *Let Us Talents and  
Tongues Employ* LINSTEAD  
(verses 1, 2)

### **Communion**

Please hold the "bread" until prompted by the minister. We will eat in unison.

Please hold the "cup" until prompted by the minister. We will drink in unison.

### **Passing of the Peace**

## **The Community is Sent to Restore God's World**

**\*Hymn 249** *Spirit* SPIRIT  
(verses 1, 2, 4)

**\*Benediction** Rev. Laurie Anderson

**\*Benediction Hymn** *Song of Going Forth*  
(Tune: "I Love To Tell the Story")

The Savior of our stories has brought his peace to you;  
now go and tell the story, for others need it too.

To ev'ry one who's hurting ring out the gospel call;  
proclaim that Christ is risen and grants his peace to all.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

**Postlude** *I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing* arr. Mark Hayes

\*Please rise in either body or spirit.

Prelude: *Breathe On Me, Breath of God*, arr. Brenda Dillon. ©2020 Alfred Music.

Anthem: *Send Us Your Spirit*, by Dan Schutte. ©1985 OCP Publications.

Postlude: *I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing*, arr. Mark Hayes. ©2020 Lorenz Publishing Co.

## INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to meet with the ministers after the service in the gathering area, or contact the church office any time.

## CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

**"Reaffirming our own faith in Jesus Christ, we welcome you into this expression of God's universal church. We meet you with love, we commit ourselves to your care, and we celebrate your presence in our congregation. Through the power of God's spirit, let us together do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, who strengthens us to serve one another."**

## VISION STATEMENT

Midway Hills Christian Church seeks to be inclusive, do justice and embrace diversity. We are an **Open and Affirming** congregation, unified in our love for Jesus Christ and his teachings. We understand biblical shalom as a call to act for justice and to respect God's creation. We cherish the gift of life and support each other in our spiritual journey. Grounded in worship, Bible study, and prayer, we seek to be instruments of God's healing through efforts to eliminate poverty, injustice, hunger, and social issues that afflict our community locally and globally. We seek to transform our world as we build bridges across all barriers that divide God's people.

### MIDWAY HILLS STAFF

Rev. Laurie Anderson  
Senior Minister

Rev. Deborah Morgan-Stokes  
Minister of Church Life

Kathy Corporon  
Coordinator of  
Children's Programs

Jeff Crouse  
Director of Music Ministries

David Hammons  
Administrative Assistant

TECH CREW  
DC Ciccone, John Leslie  
James Lackey

GRAPHICS, WEBSITE  
Emily Adams  
Kate Lynch

MAY ELDERS  
Frank Martin  
Laura Mitchell

MAY DEACONS  
Adriana Escalante  
Mark Holmgren

# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

(See The Echo newsletter for details and more.)

## **MHCC Board meets today after worship in community hall.**

All church members are welcome to attend.

## **Sign up today for the Intergenerational Vacation Church School (VCS).**

June 11, 12, 13; 6:00-8:00 p.m. Come one, come ALL and join us for MHCC's ALL CHURCH VCS this summer, led by Reverend Deborah Morgan-Stokes and Coordinator of Children's Programs, Kathy Corporon. Community meal provided. The theme is Forward Toward Freedom. We will be using an adapted curriculum inspired by the 1619 Project to provide an appropriate learning experience for all ages. Systemic racism is a reality, even today. We hope this experience will encourage all of us to be a seedbed of empathy and change. [Register now via the link in The Echo.](#)

## **Vidas Robadas (Stolen Lives) anti-gun violence t-shirt display coming soon.**

It will be assembled on Midway Road (in front of MHCC). The project is in coordination with Texas Impact. Midway Hills, First Plano, and Westwind Christian Church youth (Keller, TX) wrote on each shirt the name, date of homicide, and age of a Dallas resident whose life was taken by a gun. Then on white t-shirts they wrote, "suicide lifeline" and the local phone number to recognize those who completed suicide without listing their names. Vidas Robadas will be active up until the Texas legislative session in 2025, when all of our state will head to the capitol to demand legislative change. This project seeks to connect the various silos of advocacy and violence prevention, and to unite communities of faith with other advocates to create positive change.

## **May 27 is the last meeting of the Abuelita Faith Book Study, at 7:00 p.m.**

## **Church office closed May 27 for Memorial Day.**

## **Interpretación en español proporcionada por el Colectivo Comal.**

Si desea usar la interpretación simultánea, consulte al equipo de la mesa de sonido. O use este enlace para unirse al grupo de Whatsapp para escuchar. Por favor, silénciate. <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JRxSth4JgjX0shCBm3gGo2>

## **Mark your calendar for upcoming meetings.**

Every Monday – Evening Book Study, 7:00 p.m.

Every Thursday – All Church Prayer, 8:30 a.m. *Open to all MHCC members. Emphasis on prayers for MHCC, local, state, national and global issues.*

May 19 – Board Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

May 20 – Executive Committee, 6:00 p.m.

May 27 – Last meeting of Abuelita Faith Book Study, 7:00 p.m.

May 29 – Staff Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

Scan this QR code to make a financial contribution to Midway Hills Christian Church:



**Sunday Morning Class, Monday Evening Book Study and Wednesday Bible Study are taking a break during June.**

# JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

## **Please pray for these in our church family:**

John Wyatt, Chris Sparrer, Emily Adams

## **Please pray for our extended church family concerns:**

Frank & Millie Martin's son Carl & daughter-in-law Darryll; Megan Mercer's friends the Walters family; David Hammons' wife, Joan; asylum guests past and present

## **Please pray for those with ongoing concerns:**

Cathy Parker  
Peggy Dowdey

Jayne & Chris Sparrer

## **Sympathy:**



## **Let's celebrate with joy:**

- Setting up refugee apartments
- The work of Annunciation House in El Paso
- Deacons and Elders serving at MHCC
- Hosting asylum seekers at MHCC
- Our guests/visitors in worship in sanctuary and online

## **Please pray for our city and state:**

- Repeal of SB4
- Steps that erode our civil rights and safety
- Food scarcity

## **Please pray for our nation and world:**

- Peace for Israel and Palestine – cease fire
- Peace and safety for the people of Ukraine.
- All who are suffering from climate disasters worldwide.
- Anti LGBTQ legislation
- All who struggle with mental health.

