Our congregation recognizes that all people are uniquely loved and valued by God. We welcome diversity of race, ability, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, religious background, opinion, marital status or economic condition. MIPC is an open and affirming church community of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew, then pass it on to the others next to you. Thank you!

January 7, One Service Sunday at 9:30am, Congregational Meeting and Brunch! Immediately following our 9:30 worship in the Sanctuary, we will move to the gym and meet briefly to vote on the slate presented by the Nominating Committee. Then please stay as we will enjoy an All-Church Brunch together.

Wednesday Bible Study, Resumes January 10 at 11:00am in the Fireside Room
We begin with prayer, open the Bible, and explore the text together for an hour. We are finishing Romans, then moving into James. Contact: DanH@mipc.org.

Sunday School Returns January 14
We are excited for Sunday School to resume on Sunday, January 14. Please email JulieG@mipc.org if your child 6 mos. - 8th grade is interested in joining!

Encounters With Jesus, Resumes January 14 at 9:30am, Fireside Room
We turn to the Gospels with stories of individuals who actually interacted directly with Jesus himself. How did these encounters impact those individuals, and how do they impact us today? Led by Rosemary Sixbey.

Pizza and Prophets (Book Conversations), 6-7:30pm, Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 24
American Prophets: Seven Religious Radicals and Their Struggle for Social and Political Justice, by Albert Raboteau. Join Kristy as we learn about seven people who embodied their faith. Costco pizza will be provided. For Jan 28: Please read the Intro and Chapters 1-2.

MIPC Sunday Worship Schedule:
9:30am Worship Service in the Sanctuary (live-streamed)

NEXT SUNDAY: Baptism of the Lord | Kristy Farber

“Into this silent night as we make our weary way we know not where, just when the night becomes its darkest and we cannot see our path, just then is when the angels rush in, their hands full of stars.”

~ Ann Weems
PRELUDE  Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! | arr. Faye Lopez
Still, Still, Still (two settings) | arr. Arlen/Lopez

WELCOME & ANNOUCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP
To know the warmth of love,
To have the assurance that someone cares,
To be confident of our worth,
To be bold to love in return,
To be washed over with grace,
To be accepted as we are:
This is to know a bit of God.
Then let us worship our God.

OPENING HYMN  The First Nowell #147 (v. 1-3)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Forgive us, O God, when we limit you –
When we remake you in our image,
When we claim our causes as your own,
When we box you in,
And explain you away,
And in our attempts at understanding, whittle away all mystery.
Awaken us to your blinding glory,
Confound us by your love,
Shower us with grace so that we will be made new,
Recreated in your image,
Grateful for all that we cannot know.
In the name of Christ, who brought us closer to you, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS
Now let us together proclaim the Good News:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE  Glory to God

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY  O Come, All Ye Faithful | arr. Lopez
There is a box in the back of the sanctuary to collect our offerings as well as prayer request cards. Or visit mipc.org/onlinegiving for other donation options.

DOXOLOGY

COMMUNITY PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER
God in your grace,
Hear our prayer.

CLOSING HYMN  Go, Tell It on the Mountain #136 (v. 1-2)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE  Go Tell It On the Mountain! | arr. Lopez
Eric Johnson, organist

*You are invited to stand as you are able.