

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

## Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays,

9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

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The Baptism of Christ

January 10, 2016

Please remember to turn off your cell phones during the Worship Service. Thank you.

Preparation Music

(Please be seated and prepare yourself for worship)

The Entrance of the Light

Welcome

Moments of Concerns and Announcements

### \*Gathering Music

Please join the choir in singing:

**All: Christ is the light, Christ is the light!**

**Goodbye to darkness, goodbye to night.**

**In the eastern sky the stars are shining bright,**

**Oh, glory hallelujah children, Christ are the light! (repeat)**

Opening Prayer

**\*Hymn #43 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Verses 1, 2**

Reading of Scripture: Luke 3:12-17, 21-22

Call to Reconciliation

Reconciliation Prayer

**All: God, you birthed the world into being, and you called it good. You breathed life into each plant and animal and human.**

**By your word you call us as your children, guide us on the path of righteousness, and continue to affirm our goodness.**

- **Speak to us today, as you have so many times before, of your desire to hold us and bestow your grace upon us.**
- **Call us once again to the river Jordan to be washed in your grace and renewed in your love.**

**For we know that you are merciful and by your Spirit we are made new. Amen.**

Silence

Kyrie # 750

**All: Lord have mercy upon us.**

**Christ have mercy upon us.**

**Lord have mercy upon us.**

Words of Assurance

\*Act of Praise..... #760

(Please stand)

**All: Amen we praise your name, O God! (Sing Amen)**

**Amen we praise your name, O God! (Sing Amen)**

**Amen, Amen! Amen, Amen!**

**Amen we praise your name, O God!**

\*The Passing of the Peace

**Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.**

**All: And also with you.**

Please share a greeting of Christian love with those sitting around you.

Children's Time: "God Loves You and So Do We"

Anthem

Sermon: "God's Promises, Our Promises" and Affirmation of Baptismal Vows

**\*Hymn: #43 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Verses 3, 4**

Our Morning Prayers

The Candle of Remembrance is lit in honor of all military personnel and first responders, especially those in harm's way.

Call to Prayer "Pray"

Pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_ for peace within our world\_\_\_\_\_.  
Pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_ for peace within our souls\_\_\_\_\_.  
Pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_ for love and unity\_\_\_\_\_;  
Quiet our busy hearts, Pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_ .  
Pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_, pray\_\_\_

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Our Savior (spoken)

**All: 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**

Our Time of Sharing

Invitation to the Offering, The Sharing of Gifts

Offering Music

**\*Offertory Response "We Are Giving in the Light of God" (526)**

**All: We are giving in the light of God,**

**We are giving in the light of God (Repeat previous 2 lines)**

**We are giving, giving, we are giving, Oo,**

**We are giving in the light of God (Repeat previous 2 lines)**

Prayer of Dedication

**\*Hymn #164 "Arise, Your Light Is Come"**

\*The Benediction

\*Benediction Response:

**All: "Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child" (#136)**

\*Postlude

The Kindle Fire Tablets are not available today, as we are working on the apps. They will be available soon! There are busy boxes at the back of the sanctuary for the children and childcare downstairs for our youngest ones.

Don McIlvaine is participating in today's service along with...

The Congregation.....Disciples of Christ

Rev. Meredith Ann Hutchison.....Pastor

Irina Thomas.....Organist and Keyboard

Rheba Salac.....Administrative Assistant

Wade Anderson.....Sexton

**Did you know** that during this season of Epiphany, which tradition holds is when the Magi brought gifts to the Christ child, we too are bringing gifts? Throughout this month, we will be helping the Blackburn Center aid those who are survivors of domestic violence by collecting paper products (facial tissue, bath tissue, paper towels), 13 gallon kitchen bags, 33 gallon trash bags, laundry and kitchen detergent, laundry baskets, and one and two-gallon (Jumbo) Zipper Bags. Walmart or Giant Eagle gift cards are also appreciated. If anyone wishes to donate cash, we will use the funds to purchase the gift cards. Thanks from Joyfa Kelly and our Mission Team to our generous congregation!

This week:

Monday-Christian Education Committee 7:30PM

Wednesday-Pastoral Relations 7PM

Saturday-Bible Study at Murrysville Panera 9:00AM



Looking Ahead:

Launch into Lent with the Northern Westmoreland Association Cluster at Hill’s Church-February 5, 2015 at 7:30PM. This will be a U2Charist, using the music of U2 for the celebration of communion.



Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at Denmark Manor on February 10 at 7:30PM with a solemn celebration of confession, ashes and Holy Communion.

Attendance for January 3: 67

Offering for January 3: \$2,313.00

Christmas Fund (Veterans of the Cross): \$35.00

**Bad Weather and Worship Cancellations!** If there is a cancellation of a Worship Service it will be broadcast on WPXI (Channel 11). You can also view at <http://wpxi.com/>, or on the WPXI Weather App.

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**From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ**

**We Don't Have a Clue**

"She took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate." - Genesis 3:6

I get rattled when people seem to know Jesus as well as they know their multiplication tables.

To know something completely is to control it, to command it. Any time humanity masters an object we subject it to our own ends. From the secrets of the atom to the most efficient way to farm a chicken, we take existence, squeeze the mystery from it, and wreak havoc in the process; even though havoc is rarely our intention. Imagine the horror that humanity would unleash were we able to really know God.

Maybe God made Adam and Eve so stupid as to eat the apple because their brilliance contained such danger. And so they fell. And so we are born with an inability to achieve or even receive absolute knowledge of the Divine.

Indeed, the only gods humanity can know inside out and backwards are pretenders to the throne that we bend to our image and then send on our bloody errands. It is no accident that those who are certain of their religious convictions are always the first to bless our world's wars.

This is why the United Church of Christ is so sorely needed. The world needs a church audacious enough to gather in the name of Christ, yet humble enough to say we don't quite know what we're talking about.

I admit that "God Is Still Speaking" sounds a lot better than "We Don't Have a Clue." But, there is great good to be found in our cluelessness, in our humility, in embracing the hard-won knowledge that we don't know much at all.

Prayer . . . The world needs a church audacious enough to gather in the name of Christ, yet humble enough to say we don't quite know what we're talking about.



*ABOUT THE AUTHOR . . . Matt Fitzgerald is the Senior Pastor of St. Paul’s United Church of Christ in Chicago. He is the host of “[Preachers on Preaching](#),” a weekly podcast sponsored by The Christian Century.*

