

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

2003 Denmark Manor Road, Export PA 15632

Church Phone: (724) 744-4218

E-mail: denmarkmanorucc@outlook.com

Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays,

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

Pastor's Phone: 724-468-0430

E-mail: mercomp@aol.com

Web: denmarkmanorchurch.org



Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 15, 2017

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

*Ringing of the Bell

***Introit**

First Time-Choir sings alone.

(Second Time-Congregation joins in.)

Come into his presence with thanksgiving in your heart

And give him praise, and give him praise.

Come into his presence with thanksgiving in your heart

Your voices raise, your voices raise,

Give glory and honor and power unto him, _____

Jesus, the name above all names.

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*Opening Prayer

***Hymn #162 “In a Lowly Manger Born”**

Scripture Lesson: John 1:29-42

Prayer of Confession

All: All-knowing God, although you provide us with everything we need, we confess we have ignored your words and turned from your support. We live our lives in fear. We do not always answer your call. Create in us the ability to understand how you equip us to bring about your kingdom. We pray this in your almighty name. Amen.

A Moment of Silent Reflection

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.

A Time for Children: “Those Who Follow Jesus”

Anthem: “Mary Had a Baby Boy”

Sermon: “Come and See”

***Hymn #172 “Jesus Calls Us, o’er the Tumult”**

Our Morning Prayers

The Candle of Remembrance is lit in hope that the Holy Spirit would bring peace to the world. In lighting it we remember all past and present military personnel and first responders, especially those in harm’s way.

Call to Prayer “Pray”

All: 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 #136**

All: Jesus, Jesus, oh what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy meek and mild:
New life, new hope the child will bring.
Listen, to the Angels sing,
“Glory, glory, glory,” let the heavens ring!

*Postlude

Denmark Manor seeks the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as we work together through.....

The Congregation.....Disciples of Christ
Rev. Meredith Ann Hutchison.....Pastor
Irina Thomas.....Organist and Keyboard
Rheba Salac.....Administrative Assistant
Wade Anderson.....Sexton
Barb Lackey, Dave Conner, Joyfa Kelly, Trude Hayes...Today’s
Readers

Did you know that among the benevolences that we supported at the end of 2016 are:

1. Lancaster Theological Seminary whose mission is “to educate and nurture leaders to join God’s redemptive and liberating work so that all creation may flourish.”
2. The Blackburn Center that provides services “critical to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes in Westmoreland County.”
3. St. Paul’s Continuing Care Community that helps to “provide security to 55% of their skilled nursing care residents and 22% of their personal care residents who cannot afford the full cost of care.”
4. Western Westmoreland County Faith in Action that “enriches the lives of our senior neighbors by matching volunteers with recipients in need of supportive companionship and assistant,

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extending their ability to remain living independently. Volunteers provide a range of free services including telephone reassurance, appointment escorts, supportive errands, home visits, home safety checks and caregiver relief.” Faith in Action has now extended its services to in-home professional counseling as well, given that seniors are among the largest groups impacted by major depressive disorder.

Thank you for supporting the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross. We received \$220 to help clergy and church workers across the United Church of Christ who are in special need of our support.



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be January 29 immediately following the worship service. All Members of the Congregation are urged to attend and guests are most certainly welcome!

Attendance for January 8: 55

Offering for January 8: \$1,910.00

Christmas Fund: \$124.00

From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ

Battery Acid

"Sing God a new song, for God has done marvelous things..." - Psalm 98:1

Some church folk would rather drink battery acid than sing a new hymn. And it's not just contemporary music they resist: even an unfamiliar traditional hymn has them bracing for the fall of civilization. Sing something new? Oh, the humanity! It's like suggesting they dance sky-clad in the moonlight on the village green.

Yet Scripture commands it: Sing God a new song! Why? Because God has done marvelous things. And God keeps doing them, bending

history's moral arc towards justice, inspiring movements of liberating hope, sending prophets to stand between tyrants and the poor; freely saving, mending, making joy and making peace. No, the same old songs won't cut it. Only new songs are adequate to the vast, accomplished grace around us.

Of course, scripture isn't demanding that we scrap every hymn composed before 2016. Our psalmist waxeth metaphorical here, and so do I. It isn't about new songs as such. It's about the nimbleness of our imaginations, the agility of our souls, the creativity of our faith. It's about whether we look, act, and sound like we belong to an original God who makes mercy new every morning, or to a tatty old deity who dozed off after creating and hasn't done much since.

Worn-out, threadbare songs suit a worn-out faith in a threadbare God. The singing that scripture commands is the sound made by people for whom life is all astounding gift, whose alert hearts register the vibrations of mercy thrumming everywhere, who love the adventure of marvelous grace, and fear nothing at all except missing the ride.

Prayer

New lives sing new songs, O God. Refresh me now, and let me sing original praise for your wonderful love.



About the Author . . . Mary Luti is a longtime seminary educator and pastor, author of Teresa of Avila's Way and numerous articles, and founding member of The Daughters of Abraham, a national network of interfaith women's book groups.



God is still speaking . . .