#### 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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Find us on Facebook

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 24, 2016

Renew Our Congregation

Gather

Grow

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 is the light! (repeat)

Opening Prayer

\*Hymn # 549 "Bless God, O My Soul" Verses 1,2, 5 (omit verses 3,4)

Reading of Scripture: Luke 4:14-21

Call to Reconciliation

Page 1

Reconciliation Prayer

<u>All</u>: Dear God, we enter your holy presence aware that we can only do so because we are sinners saved by your grace.

We do not measure up to your standards, we are as nothing in your presence, but you chose us before the world was created to be your children.

Thank you for welcoming us as those redeemed by your Son, in whose name we pray. 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: "The Scroll"

Sermon: "Bad News/Good News"

Anthem: "Lead Me Lord"

**Our Morning Prayers** 

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The Candle of Remembrance is lit in honor of Army Veteran Brooklyn DiLello and as a prayer for all military personnel and first responders, especially those in harm's way.

Call to Prayer "Pray"
Pray, pray for peace within our world
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.

Our Time of Sharing Invitation to the Offering, The Sharing of Gifts

and the power and the glory forever. Amen

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 # 154 "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

\*The Benediction

\*Benediction Response:

Please join the choir in singing...

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

\*Postlude

The Kindle Fire Tablets are available for our younger children to use during worship. There are also busy boxes at the back of the sanctuary and childcare downstairs for those for whom attending the entire of worship hour is difficult. Don't forget that all of our younger children are encouraged to attend our "Little Disciples Class" downstairs at 10:30AM each Sunday.

The ANNUAL MEETING of the Congregation will be held Next Sunday, January 31, immediately following worship. All members are urged to be present at this meeting and guests are most certainly welcome. We will be discussing on-line giving, social events and the upcoming Lenten worship services as well as other business that may come before the congregation. If you have something that you would like to bring up at the meeting, it would be helpful if you would let Don McIlvaine know in advance of the meeting so that we can give it an appropriate amount of time for discussion. Your Annual Report booklet is in your mailbox today.

Did you know that whether you are on the membership rolls or not, it helps the deacons keep track of giving if you use the offering envelopes provided to you? If you have not received offering envelopes for 2016, please place a note in the offering plate and we will make sure that you get a set. The deacons ask you to remember, whether you attend church or not, the ministry of the church goes on. Please be a good steward and make up for those Sundays when you have been unable to attend. Also, we provide church mailboxes at the back of the sanctuary (in the stairwell exit into the newer building) for

newsletters, messages and other notices. This allows us to save on postage. Please check your church mail box every Sunday.

"opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

Mission project - 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 trash bags, 33 gallon trash bags, 2 gallon jumbo zipper bags) as well as laundry and kitchen detergent, laundry baskets and Giant Eagle or Walmart gift cards. If anyone wishes to make a cash donation, we will use the funds to purchase gift cards. Thanks from Joyfa Kelly and our Mission Team to our generous congregation.



In case of bad weather and cancellation of worship, we will be listed on WPXI (Channel 11) TV or at <a href="https://www.wpxi.com">www.wpxi.com</a> as well as on the WPXI Weather App.

#### This week:

Thursday-Choir 7:00PM 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. 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 17: 64

Offering for January 17: \$3,302.00

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

## **Our Unholy Divisions**

"Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose." - 1 Corinthians 1:10

Last year I was immersed in the study of Paul's letters as I prepared a Bible study on Romans. My biggest surprise was how important Christian unity was for Paul. Unity was an essential quality of their belonging to Christ. Where there was disunity, the very nature and purpose of the church was called into question.

This got me thinking about the erosion of Christian unity in my lifetime. When I was growing up in the 1950's and 60's there was real passion for Christian unity. It was out of this ecumenical passion that our United Church of Christ was created in 1957 as a "united and uniting church" with its motto coming from Jesus' prayer "That they may all be one."

That kind of passion for unity seems hard to find these days. Local congregations compete for members. Denominations stress their unique "brand" that marks them as different (and better) than other churches.

In so many ways we stress our differences rather than what we have in common. And those who share Christ have a lot in common! Because we belong to Christ we belong to each other. How might we look beyond our differences to be in unity with others who share faith in Jesus Christ?

Prayer . . . Heal our unholy divisions, O God, that the world may see and know our unity in Christ.



About the Author... Richard L. Floyd is Pastor Emeritus of First Church of Christ (UCC) in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and author of A Course In Basic Christianity and When I Survey the Wondrous Cross: Reflections on the Atonement. He blogs at richardlfloyd.com.