

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



Sunday before Epiphany

January 3, 2015

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)

*Hymn- "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

1. We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

Refrain

O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign. Refrain
3. Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising,
Worshiping God on high. Refrain

Reading of Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

Call to Reconciliation

Reconciliation Prayer

All: We confess to you, O God, and before our sisters and brothers that we love the darkness more than the light. We know our sins and our sinfulness, and we would like to hide it from you and from others. Yet we know that the darkness is not dark to you and that you are aware of who we truly are and the motives of our hearts. Forgive us our sins and give us the courage to allow your light to shine upon us so that we may not only be sorry for our sins but willing to forsake them. Amen.

Silence

Kyrie # 750

All: Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Words of Assurance

Pastor: The Light of the World has come not to condemn us but to save us. God does grant us forgiveness and the power of the Spirit to be made anew.

*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: "Shepherds In the Church"

Affirmation of Ministry Installation of Officers-Robin Brautigam, Elder; Bonnie Malovitz and Dave Conner, Deacons; Barry Kistler, Trustee

Pastor: *Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters in Christ who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?*

Congregation: **We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

Anthem: "Shepherd's Joy"

Sermon: "A Star Is Born"

*Hymn: "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb. Refrain

5. Glorious now behold Him arise;
King and God and sacrifice;
Alleluia!, Alleluia!,
Rings through the earth and skies. Refrain

Our Morning Prayers

The Candle of Remembrance is lit in honor of all police officers, and as a prayer for 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 #159 "As with Gladness Those of Old"

*The Benediction

*Benediction Response:

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

*Postlude

The Kindle Fire Tablets are for the children's use during worship. Please sign them out and sign them back in at the end of the service.

Rob, Maddie and Brenna Driscoll are 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 today we are receiving a special offering that supports retired pastors their spouses and those who have a critical need? The Christmas

Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and Emergency Fund is administered by the Pension Boards of the UCC and helps to supplement pensions, health insurance and assist clergy and church workers who have a financial emergency, such as illness or loss. Please remember a pastor who has made a difference in your life in a meaningful way and give generously to the Christmas Fund. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Consistory 2016

Elders-Don McIlvaine, Evelyn Valesky, Robin Brautigam
Deacons-Trude Hayes, Maureen Dumbaugh, Dave Conner, Bonita Malovitz
Trustees-Allen Mattei, Mike DiFranco, Barry Kistler

This week:

Monday-Consistory 7:00PM

Thursday-Annual Reports due in office Electronic versions are preferred. (email: denmarkmanorucc@outlook.com)

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 December 20: 58

Offering for December 20: \$1,521.00

Attendance for Christmas Eve: 110

Offering for Christmas Eve: \$1,521.00

Attendance for December 27: 42

Offering for December 27: \$1,588.00

Christmas Fund: \$155.00

From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ

Treasure - *"But Mary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart."* - Luke 2:19

The Savior is born! A thousand angels broadcast the news. They fill the sky and sing. A gaggle of shepherds praise the Lord. They scurry around, they come and go and tell. Christmas dawns bustling and loud. Everyone has something to say, noisy and glad.

Mary doesn't say a thing, but the door of her heart stands dangerously open. It all comes in—gladness, hope, consequences. Inwardly, she turns the prism of each sight and sound, each extraordinary thing, every possible meaning. With each turning, new light, greater affection. She is the still point in the resounding amazement.

Oh, the things she knows . . . She is the field in which God buried a treasure. And someday, when we're paying attention, we will stumble upon it. Someday our hearts will leap at its worth. Someday we will sell all we have for it. Maybe today.

Prayer . . . Saving God, move us to adore and rejoice; but grant us also the stillness of Mary, her open door, the art of treasuring, and a glimpse of the things she knows. In the name of her newborn Child, we pray. Amen.

About the Author . . . Mary Luti is a long time 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.

