

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 9-3

Pastor's Phone: 724-468-0430

E-mail: mercomp@aol.com

Web: denmarkmanorchurch.org



Find us on Facebook

First Sunday after Christmas December 27, 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 is the light! (repeat)

Opening Prayer

***Hymn: "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"**

1. Hark the herald angels sing

"Glory to the newborn king

Peace on earth and mercy mild

God and sinners reconciled"

Joyful all ye nations rise

Join the triumph of the skies

With angelic host proclaim

"Christ is born in Bethlehem"

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing!

"Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored:

Christ, the everlasting Lord;

Late in time behold him come,

Offspring of the Virgins' womb.

Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see;

Hail, the incarnate Deity:

Pleased, with us, with us to dwell,

Jesus, our Emmanuel!

(Refrain)

3. Hail! the heav'n born Prince of peace!

Hail! the Son of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,

Risen with healing in his wings

Mild he lays his glory by,

Born that we no more may die:

Born to raise all humankind,

Born to change the heart and mind.

(Refrain)

Reading of Scripture: Luke 2:41-52

Call to Reconciliation

Reconciliation Prayer

All: Almighty God, your love and power transform death into life, despair into hope, lifeless stumps into tender shoots and a tiny baby into the Prince of Peace. In the hearing of your Word and the repenting of our sins, transform the hardness of our hearts into lives of receptivity, following the One who came to baptize us with the Holy Spirit and fire, Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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: “When Jesus Was a Boy”

Anthem: “One Small Child”

Sermon: “Left Behind”

***Hymn: #51 “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem” Verses 1, 2, 3
(omit verse 4)**

Our Morning Prayers

The Candle of Remembrance is lit in honor of the all fire fighters, 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 (sung)

**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 #125 “Angels We Have Heard on High” Verses 1, 2, 3
(omit verse 4)**

*The Benediction

*Benediction Response

Hymn: #136 “Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child”

*Postlude

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Zula “Dolly” Brentzel who passed away December 17. A Celebration of Thanksgiving for her life was held here at the church on December 23. Thanks to Lynn Zimmerman and all of her helpers for providing the luncheon following.

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

Joyfa Kelly 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 today we are receiving a special offering that supports retired pastors their spouses and those who have a critical need? The Christmas Fund for Veterans of the Cross is administrated by the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ and helps to supplement pensions, health insurance and assist clergy 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 this Christmas Fund. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

This week:

Monday-Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM
Wednesday-Office Hours 9:00AM-3:00PM (Pastor Meredith will not be in the office this day, but Rheba will be)
There will not be office hours or choir rehearsal on Thursday, which is New Year's Day.
Saturday-There **WILL NOT** be Bible Study.
Memorial Service for Sallie Bradley 11:00AM

Looking Ahead:

Next Sunday-Installation of New Officers. All Consistory Members are asked to be present.

Attendance for December 20: 58

Offering for December 20: \$1,827.00

**From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ
Leaning Toward the Future**

"This one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead." - Philippians 3:12-16

For many, this season is laced with nostalgia. We might glamorize the old days, perhaps being, in John Irving's phrase, "nostalgic for a time that never was." Or, it might be more like it was for my father, who, this time every year, would evidence the effects of a potent mixture of nostalgia and melancholy.

In either case, nostalgia is always suspect from a Christian point of view. That's because we affirm that the good old days--even when they really were good--are nothing compared to what God has in store for us. Even the triumphs and joys of the past will be surpassed by what is to come. That is the understanding that allows the Apostle Paul to testify: "This one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead." The Christian gospel, though rooted in history, is always forward-leaning. We lean like plants lean toward a window, even though they may never have seen the sun. We lean, with longing hearts, toward God's vision of the kingdom to come.

"Thy kingdom come," we pray. It is not here yet. That's why it is still a prayer. But, thank God, sometimes we are given a foretaste. And that is just what this season can offer sometimes--a blessed foretaste of what is to come.

Prayer: O God, help me to lean toward the future with expectant longing for what you have in store for me and for all creation. Amen.

About the Author . . . Martin B. Copenhaver is President of Andover Newton Theological School.

Please take your 2016 Offering Envelopes from the back of the Sanctuary as soon as possible. The first day to use your new Offering Envelopes is January 3, 2016. Thanks to all our faithful congregation members who have cared for Denmark Manor UCC so generously throughout each year.

Annual Reports are due to the office by Thursday, January 7, 2016. Email or hand-written is fine, thanks!

