

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 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

*Ringing of the Bell

Introit: "Here Comes the Light" *

First Time Choir. 2nd Time All Join in

Here comes the light, here comes the light!

Goodbye to darkness, goodbye to night.

In the eastern sky the star is shining bright,

Oh, glory hallelujah children, here comes the light.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath-Hope

The Driscoll Family

***Hymn #116 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verses 1, 2, 6, 7 (omit verses 3, 4, 5)**

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation

All: It's starting already, Lord. It is only the first Sunday in Advent, and we are caught up in the pressures and stresses of the holiday season.

Pursued by the temptation to spend our funds, our energy, our spirits, we feel that there is no hope or rest in the world.

Lord of light and hope, shine on us this day. Forgive us when we have so easily succumbed to the anxieties and fears and temptations of the season.

Slow us down. Calm our spirits. Give us an awareness that this is the season of waiting and of preparation. Pour hope into our lives and help us to be bearers of hope to others. For we ask this in Jesus' precious 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: "How Pottery Is Made"

Sermon: "Moldy or Molded?"

***Hymn #461 "Let Us Hope when Hope Seems Hopeless"**

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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Children are welcome to receive Communion at the discretion of their parents. Gluten free wafers are on the back table of the sanctuary. If you require gluten free, please tell one of the Elders.)

The Invitation

Anthem: "So Said the Lord"

The Communion Prayer

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: O Holy One, there are no words to describe the mystery of this bread and cup. There are no sighs too deep to reveal what we feel in sharing in this feast. Thank you for gathering us together to remember that you are always present among us. We lift our hearts as we praise the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

***Hymn #102 "O How Shall I Receive You?"**

*The Benediction

***Benediction Response**

All: O holy child of Bethlehem, decent to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Carrying the light into the world.

*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
- Allen Latherow..... Acolyte and Bell Ringer
- Don McIlvaine..... Today's Reader

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Calling all grads! If you are graduating in December or January, please let Pastor Meredith know. We are recognizing our grads on December 10.

Help Fund Did you know that today we begin our collection for the church's Help Fund? This is a fund administered by our church to help specific individuals or families in our community who need assistance. The family of Bill Martin has suggested a contribution to this fund in his memory as a way to honor him. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you to all who took tags for the Salvation Army Treasures for Children. They are due back NEXT SUNDAY, December 10.

This week:

Monday-Consistory 7:00PM, Rev. Ackerman will join us

Thursday-Choir 7:00PM

Saturday-Bible Study at **Murrysville Panera** 9:00AM

Next Sunday- There is an important Congregational Meeting on December 10, immediately following worship. We will be voting on our 2018 officers and the 2018 budget. Look in your mailbox or in the back of the sanctuary for the proposed budget. Other updates on our leadership in 2018 and the Congregational Assessment Tool that we are using will be discussed at that time.



Throughout the winter months-If we would have inclement weather, and it would be impossible to hold worship, it would be announced on WPXI, channel 11. We would also send out an e-mail blast to those on our list.

Our Pastor's RETIREMENT Save the date! On Sunday, January 28, 2018 at 3:00PM there will be a worship service of farewell for Pastor Meredith. This will be followed by a potluck supper and a celebration of her 14 years here as pastor and her more than 36 years of ordained ministry.

Attendance for November 26: 45

Offering for November 26: \$1,431.00



Please check your Church Mailbox for your copy of the Hilltop Echoes. It contains information for December and the coming year.

Today is the last day to order Poinsettias that you can take with you after the Christmas Eve Service. They are \$8. Per our supplier, late orders are \$10. Please see Elaine DiFranco or leave your order at the office. Thanks!

Looking ahead: Since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, we will have two services. Our regular worship will take place at 11:00AM and we will have our traditional service of lessons, carols, candles and communion at 7:30PM.

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 24 . . .

Since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, we will have two services.

Our regular worship will take place at 11:00AM and we will have our traditional service of lessons, carols, candles and communion at 7:30PM.



Christmas Eve
SERVICE



“God is still speaking . . .”