

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 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

*Ringing of the Bell

*Gathering Music

Please join the choir in singing:

All: Here comes the light, here comes the light!

Goodbye to darkness, goodbye to night.

In the eastern sky the stars are shining bright,

Oh, glory hallelujah children, here comes the light! (repeat)

The Lighting of the 2nd Advent Candle (Please be seated)

Confirmand Claire Hartung, Sharon, Scott and Natalie Hartung

*Hymn: #134 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Reading of Scripture: Luke 3: 1-6

Call to Reconciliation

Reconciliation Prayer

All: God, you have told us not to worry because you care for us. And yet, we have allowed our fears and our anxieties to keep us awake at night.

- We have trusted our own instincts, drawing our own conclusions.
- We have forsaken the peace you long to make real within us.

Forgive us, Lord.

- Forgive us for failing to remember to trust you, even when we are afraid.
- Forgive us for forgetting to call on your name when there seems to be more darkness than light, even in this season of holiday lights.
- Forgive us for worrying about so many things instead of bringing our worries to you in prayer.

Free us, once more, so that we might faithfully follow you, trusting you in all times and places. Amen.

Silence

Kyrie # 750

All: Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Words of Assurance

Pastor: Hear the words of Paul, "Do not worry about anything, but in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

*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: "Getting Ready For Jesus"

Sermon: "Jesus Changes Everything"

Anthem: "O Come to Us, O Promised One"

Our Morning Prayers

The Candle of Remembrance is lit in memory of New Florence Police Officer Lloyd Reed, and as a prayer for all first responders and military personnel, 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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (Children are welcome to receive Communion at the discretion of their parents. Gluten free wafers are found in the center of the plates of bread.)

The Invitation

The Communion Prayer

Pastor: *Lord God, you come to us in the simplicity of a baby, yet are greater by far than our imagining;*

People: **Come to us, Lord.**

Pastor: *Lord Christ, you hide your ways from the proud, yet reveal your truth to those of a childlike spirit;*

People: **Come to us, Lord.**

Pastor: *Lord, Spirit, you overthrow the powerful, yet empower the humble and open of heart;*

People: **Come to us, Lord.**

Pastor: *Come to us now in your vulnerable strength, as we remember Jesus, who brought wholeness and life through his death and resurrection.*

On the night before he died, he took bread and wine, blessed them and gave them to his friends, saying, "This is my body, this is my blood, eat and drink to remember me."

Come freshly to us, Living God;

Bring in your Kingdom of justice and love.

People: **Your Kingdom come;**

Pastor: *Forgive us that we may learn to repent,*

People: **Your Kingdom come;**

Pastor: *Heal us, that we may be whole in your service,*

People: **Your Kingdom come;**

Pastor: *Teach us, that we may be surprised into truth,*

People: **Your Kingdom come;**

Pastor: *For you are the God who longs to set us free to love and serve you wholeheartedly.*

All: **Your Kingdom come in us, Lord, and transform the world to your praise and glory. Amen**

Pastor: *The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all things are ready.*

The Distribution of the Elements

Pastor: *The Body of Christ broken for you. Take and eat.
The Cup of Blessing shed for you. Take and drink.*

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: *Thank you, Christ Jesus for the bread and the cup through which we have remembered your life and love and all you taught. May we now be filled with your living Word.*

People: **Build a stable in my body, place a manger in my heart and fill it with love as if it were a newborn child. Amen**

#131 “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”, Verses 1, 2, 3 (omit verse 4)

*The Benediction

*Benediction Response

*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

Joni Mattei and the Hartung Family 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 we received over 200 items in support of St. Barbara’s Food Bank? Thank you for your generosity and thanks to Joyfa Kelly for all the leadership that she provides to our various programs of outreach.

Mission project:

Today is the last day to bring in your treasures for Children gifts. Please let Pastor Meredith know if you have forgotten to bring yours in, so that we can make arrangements to get it in time for the Salvation Army pick-up. Also, we do not know who took **Number 26**. Please let Pastor Meredith know if that is the number on your tag!

This week:

Today-**A Congregational Meeting** to vote on the 2016 budget as well as elect officers for the coming year will be held immediately following the worship service. **ALL MEMBERS** are strongly urged to attend this important meeting and guests are certainly welcome. Membership in the church is not only a privilege, it carries responsibility with it. The budget as well as nominations can be found in your mail box.

Monday-Consistory 7:00PM

Newly elected officers are encouraged to attend.

Saturday-Play Rehearsal

Speaking parts to come at 9:00AM

Other participants to come at 11:00AM

There is NO Bible Study on Saturday

Next Sunday is our annual Christmas Play put on by the youth and children of the church. Please come and support these young Christians as they share the Good News of Jesus!

Looking Ahead:

Our Annual Christmas Eve Service of Carols, Candles and Communion is at 7:30PM

A memorial service for Sarah (Sallie) Bradley will be held on January 2, 2016 at 11:00AM.

Installation of officers for 2016 will be on Sunday, January 3.

Attendance for November 29: 65

Offering for November 29: \$2,366.00

DMUCC Hoss’s Day (October 18): \$134.80

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!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Penn West Conference,

This year's Advent devotional is on theme of "Waiting for God." It is written by people in Penn West Conference congregations who are currently waiting and searching for a pastor. If you have ever been through a process like this, you know how hard this kind of waiting can be. But these churches are uniquely gifted to share with the rest of us their experience of waiting, even as we all wait expectantly for Christ's coming among us in this Advent season.

David Ackerman, Penn West Conference Minister

**Excerpts from a devotional for the 2nd Sunday of Advent
Written by Mary Alice Lynn of St. John's United Church of Christ
in Salisbury PA
(Part of the Paradise Charge)**

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

In this Advent season, we wait patiently for the light of the world, Emmanuel (God-with-us). Do we wait patiently or are we agitated by circumstances in our lives, gifts to buy, health issues, monetary worries, and worldwide threats of terror? ... As Christians, now is the time to ...show the strength of our faith. We can help others seek God by our actions and our calmness in the face of problems.

Paradise Charge has been searching for a pastor. Waiting patiently for God to reveal his plan for our churches is not always easy. It requires continuous prayer..... We need to be reminded that God's plans do not work on our time schedule. Waiting with assurance and peace in our hearts is not easy when a year passes, and then two years pass in our search for a pastor. We have been praying for God to prepare someone's heart to become our pastor and answer His call.

As we wait with anticipation, we realize how God has been blessing Paradise Charge for two years with excellent pastors and lay leaders to guide and direct us spiritually. He has presented opportunities for the churches to serve their communities.... There is a community of

believers supporting [those who are ill]...during their journey through the valleys and rejoicing in recovery. In some cases, the church celebrates the life that has passed from this world. A community of believers brings comfort to those grieving the loss of a friend or family member.

God is with us. We are not alone. Peace can fill our hearts as we wait in anticipation for the Light of the World this Advent season....when we pray for God's will and rely on God to guide our journey and wait on His timing.

Prayer: Gracious God, during this Advent season fill our homes and hearts with anticipation of your hope, peace, joy, and love. Help us to prepare Your way by lifting up the valleys in our lives and making smooth the rough places of others. Amen.

