

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 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

All: It only takes a spark to get a fire going,

And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.

That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;

You spread his love to everyone; you want to pass it on. *

*Opening Prayer

*Hymn #478 "I've Got Peace Like a River"

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 14:22-33

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation

All: Loving God, we confess that we do not always understand Your ways. We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing. We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult, and quick to question Your presence and Your power.

Forgive us. Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives—to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it. And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome.

We praise You for Your faithful love, and pray that You would make us worthy to bear Your 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: "Jesus Walked on Water"

Sermon: “Don’t Panic!”

***Hymn #502 “Dear God, Embracing Humankind”**

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

***Hymn #418 “My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff”**

*The Benediction

*Benediction Response

All: I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I’ve found.

You can depend on him, it matters not where you’re bound

I’ll shout it from the mountaintop-I want the world to know;

The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on. *

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

Dave Conner..... Today’s Reader

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Did you know that we have received \$323.00 to help Calvary United Church of Christ in Turtle Creek recover from the severe vandalism that took place in June? Thanks so very much on behalf of this congregation, our sister church in the Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ.

This week:

Monday-Christian Education Committee 7:00PM

Saturday-Bible Study at Murrysville Panera 9:00AM

Looking ahead:

Dave Conner and Steve Sturgeon will be offering special music with a trumpet duet on August 27.

We return to our 11:00AM worship hour on September 3.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

There will be a congregational meeting on September 24 immediately following worship to vote on changes in our bylaws. The Consistory has proposed that we change the number of Elders from 3 to 2 and the number of Trustees from 3 to 2 with a two-year instead of a three-year term. We will continue to have 4 Deacons for a two-year term. We are making these changes to adapt to the smaller size of our congregation and to help the nominating committee find people who will commit to serve. Copies of the constitution and bylaws with the changes are in your mailboxes and on the back table in the sanctuary. Please take the time to read them and attend the meeting on September 24. We welcome visitors to this meeting, but only members can vote.

- The CROP Walk is October 15 at Bushy Run Battlefield at 2:00PM.
- The Ham Dinner is October 21.



Our on-line directory is now available on your computer or phone. Only members of the church can access the directory. For computer access go to:

www.InstantChurchDirectory.com. The app is called InstantChurchDirectory. Please let the office know if there are any errors or changes, and if you don't have internet or phone access to it, we will provide a paper copy. For updates and corrections call 724-744-4218 Monday or Thursday from 9:00AM-3:00PM or email the office at DenmarkManorUCC@outlook.com.

Attendance for August 6: 42

Offering for August 6: \$1,463.00

From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ: Finding God in All the Wrong Places

"God has made Christ the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all." - Ephesians 1:22-23

On a number of occasions I have hiked in the interior reaches of the Grand Canyon. To me it is a holy place, the most vaulted of natural Gothic cathedrals. It's not hard to feel close to God there, not only because of what is present, but also due to what is largely absent—the demands of living in community. The buttes don't quarrel with each other. The California condors make no demands of the living. The rollicking streams offer only comforting words. There is no need to raise money for a sanctuary roof because the blue sky has already supplied it. In such a place I relate easily to those who testify that their surest encounters with God are in the natural world.

Nevertheless, the affirmation that God can be found outside the church has never seemed like much of a claim. The true wonder is that God can be found inside the church, among quirky, flawed and broken people who may have little in common and yet are bound to one another. What an unlikely setting in which to encounter God. But the Christian God seems to like to surprise us by showing up in the most unpromising places, like a Jew from Nazareth and in a motley gathering of people known as church.

God throws us together in the church and says, in essence, "Here is where you get a chance to learn how to live with other people, to forgive, and even come to see God in one another. After all, if you can find God here, you can find God anywhere."

The church, like the family, is the place where we learn to live with people we are stuck with. And when we stick with those we are stuck with, it is a living reminder of the God who is stuck with us all.

Prayer . . . God, give me eyes to see you at work, particularly in surprising places.



About the Author . . . Martin B. Copenhaver is President of Andover Newton Theological School. His newest book is Room to Grow: Meditations on Trying to Live as a Christian. Follow Martin on Twitter @mbcopenhaver.