

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 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 #495 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"**

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 16:13-20

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation

All: Almighty and everlasting God, always more ready to hear than we are to pray, always willing to give more than we either desire or deserve, pour upon us the abundance of your mercy; forgiving those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, your Begotten One, our Sovereign. 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: "God Made a Promise"

Special Music: Trumpet Duet by Dave Conner and Steve Sturgeon

Sermon: "Rocky"

***Hymn #312 “We Love Your Realm, O God” verses 1, 2, 3, 4**

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 #377 “Forward through the Ages”**

*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

Dan Walk..... Today’s Reader

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We will return to our 11:00AM worship hour, next Sunday, September 3.

Did you know that you can make your contribution to the church either through automatic withdrawal or by credit card? For more information check our website denmarkmanorchurch.org.

This week:

Thursday-Choir Rehearsal 7:00PM

Saturday-Bible Study at Murrysville Panera 9:00AM

Looking ahead:



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 20: 55
Offering for August 20: \$1,712.00

From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ

A Glass Darkly

"For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully..." - 1 Corinthians 13:12-13

A cartoon shows a pastor meeting with the chairperson of the church council. Behind them on the wall a chart shows the levels of congregational giving. It goes along steadily, then drops straight down and out of sight. The chairperson says to the pastor, "I think it began right around the time you started ending every sermon with 'But then, what do I know?'"

Funny, yet the premise is odd. It assumes that ministers ought to have all the answers and speak with great authority, and that it's unsettling when they don't. But we're on firmer ground when humility is the norm. The occasional bemused shrug from the pulpit is a gut check and a gift. And not just from the pulpit, but also at home, at work, and in the public square, where self-assured pontificating is the stifling name of the game.

We do know many things. Some are even worth saying. But because everything we know is partial, approximate, and incomplete, a more tentative style would seem to be in order. I wonder if our faith would be more authentic, our relationships more transparent, our civic life more livable, and maybe even our church giving increase if we weren't so darned sure of things; if instead we offered what we know with heads bowed, on bended knee.

Because it's an act of worship, this humility; a confession of truth from finite creatures: Now we see in a mirror dimly. It's only later that we'll know. And when we finally know, we'll likely be surprised.

Prayer . . . When I speak, let it be from my knees. When I offer what I know, may it be humbly, as if in grateful praise.



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.