

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

# Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2016

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

Opening Music

**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: #547 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Verses 1, 2, 3

Reading of Scripture: Luke 15:1-10

Call to Reconciliation

## Reconciliation Prayer

**All: We have strayed from you, God of creation and God of grace.**

- **We have not loved you with all our being and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
- **We have not followed your gracious teachings; we have ignored your prophets; we have wandered after the imaginings of our own hearts.**
- **We have found our lives desolate and lonely without you.**

**Welcome us back into your presence and claim us as your own children. 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

*Pastor: God has reconciled us through the love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God given in Jesus Christ. In the name of Jesus you are forgiven and reconciled to God. Thanks be to God.*

\*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: "Ending Hunger One Step at a Time"

(Children in Kindergarten and younger may go to the nursery)

Sermon: "Lost and Found"

**\*Hymn: # 547 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"  
Verses 4, 5**

Our Morning Prayers

The Candle of Remembrance is lit in memory of all who died in the attack on the United States on September 11, 2001. 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 \_\_\_\_.**

Moment of Remembrance for all who lost their lives on this day and in the days following September 11, 2001.

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**

Anthem: "O America"

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 #247 "My Shepherd Is the Living God"**

\*The Benediction

**\*Benediction Response**

**Peace I Leave with Your My Friends**

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system is labeled 'Refrain' and includes the lyrics 'Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in'. The second system includes the lyrics 'all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to'. The third system includes the lyrics 'you so you can give to oth - ers, too.' The score includes guitar chords (D, Em, G, D, F#m, Em, Gm, D, Em, G, D, F#m, Bm, Em, G, D) and a 1-2-3 triplet marking.

\*Postlude

Dan Walk is participating in today's worship 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 to help our neighbors in Connellsville, PA recover from the devastating floods of 2 weeks ago? The monies will be sent to the Connellsville Area Ministries and distributed through the churches in the area. Envelopes are provided in your bulletin today for your convenience.



**Today is our annual Corn Roast and Barbecue!**

The festivities begin at 3:00PM with dinner at 5:00PM. Please bring a covered dish, salad or dessert. We would love to welcome guests as well.

This week:

Wednesday-Women's Fellowship 7:30PM

Thursday-Choir 7:00PM

Saturday-Bible Study at Murrysville Panera 9:00AM

**We still need school kits for Church World Service.** If you have thought of shopping but have forgotten, we would still like to fill the many book bags awaiting supplies. Please include these items exactly as listed:

- One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (**Rounded tip, only-NO sharp ended scissors, please!**)
- Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- One 30-centimeter / 12" ruler
- One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package
- One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers removed from the package
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24)



*Children with their School Kits*

Looking ahead:

**The CROP Walk** is to be held on **October 2** at Bushy Run Battlefield. Registration is at 1:30 with the walk beginning at 2:00. Please sign up to walk today at the table in the back of the sanctuary.

**The Ham Dinner** is **October 22**. Please mark your calendar NOW!

Attendance for September 4: 52

Offering for September 4: \$ 1,703.00

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**From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ**

**Pastor as Pointer**

"It has been reported to me that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. Each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Peter.' Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?" - 1 Corinthians 1: 11-13

People in the First Church of Corinth had succumbed to cults of personality. Some strutted about claiming allegiance to Pastor Apollos, some to Pastor Peter, others to Pastor Paul, forgetting that pastors are called to point beyond themselves to Christ. To focus on the pastor is to miss the point of the pastor.

Thank goodness we've gotten over that. Surely no one in your church has the current or former minister on a pedestal so high they block out the cross. If so, you might get a testy email from Paul, similar to the letter he wrote to the cultish Corinthians, saying, "Can Christ be divided? Have any of the leaders you put above Christ died and been raised to new life for you? Were you baptized in their name?"

Your pastor (or their predecessor, or their predecessor's predecessor) might be the most amazing minister ever to grace God's church. As wonderful as they are, they did not die for you and for the sin of the world. You were not baptized in their name. You were baptized in the name above every name, the one who is the true Lord and head of your church.

Far more important than worship attendance and giving, your minister's ability to point beyond herself to Jesus, and follow his lead, is the best measure of success.

Prayer . . . Jesus, let my church profess you as Lord and help us support our pastor's call to point to you.

*About the Author . . . Matthew Laney is the Senior Minister of Asylum Hill Congregational Church, UCC, in Hartford, Connecticut.*

