

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 25, 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: #495 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

Reading of Scripture: Luke 16:19-31

Call to Reconciliation

Pastor: *Let us come before the God who loves us enough to live among us and die for us and confess the state of our sinful lives.*

Reconciliation Prayer

All: We confess to you, God of the cross, that we are resistant to your self-giving love.

- **We are absorbed with our desire to find the easy and comfortable way through life.**
- **We hesitate to give up any luxury for any reason. We certainly have no desire to seek to offer our lives for the salvation of the world.**

Yet you come and call us to the cross, not just the cross of Jesus but our cross, as well. You assure us that this is the only way to life.

Give us your strength and the faith to trust in you and your way.

Help us to look to Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Forgive us our sinful self-centeredness and, and by the power of your Holy Spirit give us the faith and courage to follow Jesus.

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 does love you and desires only the best for you. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven and granted the Holy Spirit for your transformation. Amen.

*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: "Helping Others"

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

Anthem: "Lord, I Lift Your Name On High"

Sermon: "The Rich Who Are Poor"

***Hymn: #503 "O Savior, Let Me Walk with You"**

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 #537 "Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed"**

*The Benediction

***Benediction Response**

Peace I Leave with You My Friends

Refrain

D Em G D F#m

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in

Em Gm D Em G D F#m

all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to

Bm Em G D 1-2 3

you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and accessible, with lyrics written below the staff. The score includes a refrain and a postlude section.

*Postlude

Doreen Cherep 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 NEXT Sunday is our annual CROP Walk for Hunger at Bushy Run Battlefield? Registration begins at 1:30

with the walk commencing at 2:00. 25% of the funds raised are divided between St. Barbara's Food Bank and the Trafford Food Bank. The remaining goes to address hunger issues across the US and around the world. Please walk or sponsor a walker. You can sign up at the back table in the sanctuary.

Thank you for your gifts from the people of Connellsville. We received \$312.

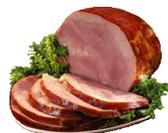
This week:

Pastor Meredith will be attending the Penn West Conference's Pastor's retreat on Monday and Tuesday. The office will be open on Monday.

Thursday-Choir 7:00PM

Saturday-Bible Study at Murrysville Panera 9:00AM

Looking ahead:



Our annual Ham Dinner is October 22! We need help setting up the night before (at 6:00PM) as well as the day of the dinner in the kitchen and serving. Also, please donate pies. We need extra pies because some of our pie makers are unable to bake. The Women's Fellowship also needs items for their bake sale.

Attendance for September 18: 43

Offering for September 18: \$1,544.00

From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ

Addicted to Guilt . . . "I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah." - Psalm 32:5

"You're addicted to feeling guilty," she said.

"You are so used to living with guilt that you find reasons to feel guilty for everything, even if you don't really feel guilty. That's where you find yourself most at home." I stared at my therapist in silence.

Of course, I'd heard of alcohol and drug addictions. Sex addictions. Money addictions. But addictions to guilt? This one was new.

"So what do I do then?" I asked.

"Start living in reality," she said. "If you stop feeling guilty for everything without reason, you'll start seeing how you really feel about what's happening around you and actually have a chance to be happy."

I couldn't just let it go. Not without an argument.

"But what if I actually feel guilty about these things?" I asked.

"Then realize you can't change the past, forgive yourself, and do better next time," she said. "But I still don't think you even feel guilty. You're just not used to taking care of yourself. But keep doing it, and the feeling of guilt will go away."

That conversation was what some would call an "Oprah aha!" moment, but what I call a God moment.

Sometimes, living with dysfunction and self-doubt is a lot easier than choosing to live the redeemed life our Savior intended.

Look in the mirror, shed your shame, and commit to being the best you anyway. Lay yourself bare before God, and know that even on your worst days, you are enough.

Prayer . . . Help me release my need to martyr myself through guilt and shame and know that I've been set free through the power of your precious name. Amen.



About the Author . . . Marchaé Grair is the editor of the United Church of Christ blog, New Sacred, and the UCC social media associate.