

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Second Sunday after Christmas 1/3/2021

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Words:

Light shines in the darkness. A star guides our way to the Christ-child.
Hope is born again.

(Brief moment of silence)

***Ringing of the Bell**

***Introit: "Infant Lowly, Infant Holy"**

Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging Angels singing, Noels ringing, Tidings bringing;
Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Christ the Babe was born for you!

Denmark Manor seeks the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as we work together through.....

The Congregation.....Disciples of Christ
Rev. Donald C. Watkins.....Pastor
Cathy Higgins.....Administrative Assistant
Cammy Young.....Music Director
Thad Balsley.....Acolyte
Fred Hayes.....Worship Leader

Attendance for Dec. 24, 2020 73
Offering for Dec. 24, 2020 \$2,528.16

Attendance for Dec. 27, 2020 13
Offering for Dec. 27, 2020 \$985.00

Look for us on Facebook at: Denmark Manor United Church of Christ.

Please note that Annual Reports are due into the office by Jan. 4, 2021. You can send them electronically.

“God is still speaking . . .”

People: Help us to be people of the light, shining your light of righteousness, peace, and joy into all the dark places of our lives and world. Unlock the mystery and glory of the babe born in Bethlehem. Turn our aimless wanderings into a journey of purpose guided by your star. Let the light break into our lives and our world, and transform us into people of the light.

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:

As certain as the dawn follows the night, so is the promise of God's forgiveness and love for us all through the bright shining Light of Jesus Christ!

***Act of Praise Gloria Patri**

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6
New Testament Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12
Sermon: "Bright is Good!"

Installation of 2021 Officers

Insert

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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 (Unison)

**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**

**Recognition of
Our Time of Sharing:**

***Offertory Response: “Doxology”**

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN

Offering Prayer: (Unison)

God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to further your work in a dark world. May they bring your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain, and loneliness. Accept these gifts of money and time, indeed, the gift of our very selves. Let them shine for all to see and be brought into the sphere of your love and righteousness. AMEN.

***Hymn: “Away in a Manger” #124 NCH (vs. 1&3)**

***The Benediction:**

Pastor: Arise and go forth to shine for all the world to see. May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light. Let all of God’s children join and say together,

All: Amen.

***Postlude:**

“Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child”

***Call to Worship: (Responsive)**

L: Light has broken in on the darkness of the world!

P: Can you see it? Can you feel it?

L: Open the eyes of your heart and light the light within.

P: There is a star beckoning us to follow.

L: Let’s go and see where it leads us today in worship.

P: Let’s see where it leads us tomorrow as we go about our day, our week, and the rest of our lives.

***Opening Prayer: (Unison)**

God of promise and light, open our eyes this morning, that we may see your light in the darkness. Open our hearts, that we may perceive your promises of justice and righteousness fulfilled in the babe of Bethlehem. May we, like the Magi, have a star to guide us on our journey quest to find the one who will truly set us free. May this time of worship bring us closer to you, that the good news of the birth of light and love will transform our lives. Amen.

***Opening Hymn: “Let Us Break Bread Together” #330 NCH (vs.1&2)**

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession:

Pastor: Ever patient God, we are a people who live in thick darkness. We stumble around bombarded by news of war and poverty, famine and genocide, injustice and oppression. The maelstrom of things and issues and people of the dark can overwhelm and paralyze us. (pg.3)

