

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays,

9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Web: denmarkmanorchurch.org



5th Sunday after Epiphany

Date 02/04/2018

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

*Introit: "Christ is the Light" (Sing Twice) *

All: Christ is the light, Christ is the light!

Goodbye to darkness, goodbye to night.

In the eastern sky the star is shining bright,

Oh, glory hallelujah children, Christ is the light.

*Opening Prayer, Robin Brautigam

Powerful God, from the very beginning you blessed creation. You have loved and shielded your people through all joys and trials of life. We come to you this day, rejoicing in the many blessings you have given to us. We open our hearts again to hear your word for us and to gather strength and joy for service in your world. Be with us and bless us again, we pray. AMEN.

*Hymn #168 "O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word"

Scripture Lesson: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation

All: How can we look at this world and not sing of your praises, O God? The beauty and majesty of the world is overpowering! Yet we have a tendency to take all that you do for us for granted. We treat the world with callous indifference, using its resources carelessly and with little regard to the future. We insist on war as solutions for problems rather than peaceful striving. We turn our backs on people in need, the weak and downtrodden go unnoticed in our midst. We always believe that someone else will care for those in need.

How foolish we are, O God! How ignorant we have become! You have given to us all that we need. You have blessed us with the witness of Jesus Christ who came so that we might learn how you would have us live, in honor and peace. Forgive us. Heal our hearts and spirits. Make us fully aware of all our blessings and our responsibilities. Give us again a spirit of joy in serving you. Help us be agents of peace and hope to others. For we offer this prayer in Jesus' 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:

Anthem: "Bread of Life"

Sermon: "Hi and High"

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)

***Hymn #330 "Let Us Break Bread Together"**

Prayer of Dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Children are welcome to receive Communion at the discretion of their parents. Gluten free wafers are on the back table of the sanctuary. If you require gluten free, please tell one of the Elders.)

The Invitation

Pastor: *This table is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ and seek to follow in Christ's way. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come to this table then, sisters and brothers, as you are. Partake and share that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of God's new age.*

Communion Prayer

Pastor: *God be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: *Lift up your hearts.*

Pastor: **We lift them to God.**

Pastor: *Let us give thanks to God Most High.*

Pastor: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: *We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust by the breath of your being. We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none.*

We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel, and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith. We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you and all people everywhere and that you remain faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless.

We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of sacrifice and victory.

We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, whom you sent, in the fullness of time, to be the good news. Born of Mary, our sister in faith, Christ lived among us to reveal the mystery of your Word, to suffer and die on the cross for us, to be raised from death on the third day, and then to live in glory.

For in the night of betrayal Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also after supper, Jesus took the cup, and after giving you thanks, gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Holy One, show forth among us the presence of your life-giving Word and Holy Spirit, to sanctify us and your entire church through these holy mysteries. Grant that all who share the communion of the body and blood of our risen Savior may be one in Jesus Christ. May we remain faithful in love and hope, until the perfect feast with our exalted Savior in the eternal joy of your heavenly realm. Amen

Pastor: *Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.*

Come, for all things are ready.

The Distribution of the Elements

Pastor: *Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.*

Pastor: *Drink this, for it is the blood of Christ, shed for you.*

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: O Holy One, there are no words to describe the mystery of this bread and cup. There are no sighs too deep to reveal what we feel in sharing in this feast. Thank you for gathering us together to remember that you are always present among us. We lift our hearts as we praise the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

***Hymn #472 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"**

*The Benediction

***Benediction Response #136**

All: Jesus, Jesus, oh what a wonderful child.

Jesus, Jesus, so holy meek and mild:

New life, new hope the child will bring.

Listen, to the Angels sing,

"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring!

*Postlude

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

The Congregation.....Disciples of Christ

Donald C. Watkins.....Pastor

Irina Thomas.....Organist and Keyboard

Rheba Salac.....Administrative Assistant

Wade Anderson.....Sexton

Did you know that both Pastors Don and Bob are excited and very happy to be here at Denmark Manor United Church of Christ! We look forward to an enthusiastic and exciting ministry in our church! Thank you for inviting us!

This week:

Monday: Consistory 7PM

Thursday: Choir 7PM

Looking ahead: **The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is February 11 after Worship. All are welcome!**

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be February 14 at 7:30PM.

In case of inclement weather, if it is impossible to hold worship, there will be an announcement on WPXI, Channel 11. Trude Hayes will e-mail those on our list and post it on Facebook.

Attendance for 11AM on January 28: 68
Offering for 11AM on January 28: \$2,175.00
Attendance for 3PM on January 28: 100

From the Stillspeaking Devotional of the United Church of Christ Untouchable

"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes." - Luke 10: 13

A cruise ship passenger emerged onto the deck and looked at a somewhat overcast sky. With a sour expression, he said, "Crappy morning." A nearby deckhand, busy with a mop and bucket, replied in a thick Cockney accent, "Many a blind man would've given his eye teeth to see what you're seeing, governor."

There are all sorts of poverty in the world. One of poverty's worst forms is to become untouchable. To no longer be touched or moved by acts and signs of redemption and love.

This is surely the greatest curse of entitlement and privilege. You become "untouchable." Not in the usual sense of that term. Rather, you can't be touched emotionally, spiritually. You are bereft of the capacity for either great joy or sorrow.

Jesus had some harsh words for people who had stopped noticing, for people who weren't awestruck and gracestruck when they had every reason to be. "If the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes."

continued

Prayer . . . Come Holy Spirit, break me open and make me new. Amen.

About the Author . . . Tony Robinson, a United Church of Christ minister, is a speaker, teacher, and writer. He is the author of many books, including What's Theology Got to Do With It: Convictions, Vitality and the Church. You can read Tony's "Weekly Meditation" and "What's Tony Thinking?" at his website, www.anthonyrobinson.com.



To my dear friends in Christ-

I want to extend my deep, deep appreciation for the wonderful celebration of our mutual ministry at Denmark Manor United Church of Christ and of my retirement.

Your warm expressions of care have meant so much to me and to my brother Bill over these past months as we have prepared to say goodbye and finally as we said goodbye. Your words of affirmation have touched me deeply and I thank you all for the expressions of thanks and for the wonderful party and the gift of the iPad. I will put it to good use, and of course always remember that it came as a gift from Denmark Manor.

I am happy that at this point, you have the interim situation covered with two very gifted people, you have a wonderful consistency, and that you are moving ahead in seriously considering your next steps into the future.

Words cannot fully express my gratitude for our wonderful goodbye, but know that it runs deep.

Pastor Meredith

