

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

2003 Denmark Manor Road, Export PA 15632

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



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
 Dan Bozym.....Organist
 Thad Balsley.....Acolyte
 Fred Hayes.....Worship Leader

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 1/29/2023

Please remember to turn off your cell phones during the Worship Service. Thank you.

Prelude

Gathering Words: (Unison)

Our God is a God of blessing.
 Our God is a God of love and justice.
 Our God is a God of wisdom and truth.
 Living and loving in that spirit,
 we will not be moved.

Welcome and Announcements

***Ringing of the Bell**

***Introit: "Spirit of the Living God" #393 UMH**

All: Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Attendance for January 22, 2023:	44
Offering for January 22, 2023:	\$1,721.00

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

In February the Missions Team will collect cans of soup on "Souper Bowl Sunday", February 12, for the Westmoreland County Foodbank.

"God is still speaking . . ."

People: Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you have created and called us to be: people of justice and love and truth and humility, and yes, even foolishness. May we be fools for Christ, embracing our true identity, even in the face of the world's scorn and derision.

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:

God has called us and blesses us when we live God's ways and not the world's. God's love embraces us even when we fall short of what God desires for our lives and actions. Know that the God of blessing loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness. And in so knowing, may our lives and souls be transformed.

***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.

***Passing the Peace of Christ: (Responsive)**

Pastor: The God of blessing and love be with all of us.

People: We embrace God's blessing and love.

Pastor: Turn now and pass that blessing on to one another so that our community may be bound together in love and blessing through the peace of our Lord. May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you all!

People: And also, with you!

(Let us wave our greeting and wish peace on each other!)

Anthem: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Old Testament Lesson:

Psalm 15

New Testament Lesson:

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

***Gospel Lesson:**

Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon:

"Upside Down!"

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: (Sing)

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.

Invitation to the Offering:

We have been called to lives of justice, love, and truth. We have been blessed to be a blessing. Let us generously offer all that we are and all that we have to further this beloved community of love, justice, truth, and blessing.

Recognition of Our Time of Sharing:

Offering Music

***Offertory Response: “Doxology”**

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Offering Prayer: (Unison)**

O God, you bless us in so many areas of our lives—in places we often fail to recognize as blessing. Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand the depth of your love and blessing. Today, we give out of that blessedness, dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love, giving all that we are and all that we have to bring about your beloved community, here and now. Amen.

***Hymn: “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

#76 NCH (vs.1-2)

***The Benediction:**

Pastor: Those who live lives pleasing to God shall not be moved. Go now to embrace the kingdom values—values of love, justice, and truth. Go now with God’s blessing, to live those values through the power of our challenging, faithful, loving, empowering God. Let all of God’s children join and say together,

All: Amen.

***Benediction Response: “Amen”**

***Postlude**

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

L: People of God, who do you come to worship?

P: We come to worship the one true God.

L: How will you worship?

P: Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.

L: Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

P: Come and abide in God’s tent and in God’s heart, now and forever.

***Opening Prayer: (Unison)**

Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in your presence. Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom, that we may know how to live as your people. Open our hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all your people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and radical grace. May this time of worship be authentic and pleasing to you. Amen.

***Opening Hymn: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”**

#4 NCH (vs.1-3)

Call to Reconciliation: Prayer of Confession: (Responsive)

Pastor: Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world. We have not spoken truth with our hearts. We have said and done hurtful things to our friends. We have forgotten our true identity, wandering into ways that are not yours. We have lost the path of true worship, focusing on form and words rather than deeds. We have forgotten what true discipleship is. And because of this, you have a quarrel with us. **(cont’d. pg. 3)**

