

**“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”
God is Still Speaking**

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



An Open and Affirming Congregation

December 20, 2020

11:00 AM



1700 West Main Street, Jeffersonville, PA 19403
(610) 539-1693

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“One Holy Light” (Shea)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord. *(Luke 1:46b)*
My spirit rejoices in God my savior.
For the Mighty One has done great things,
(Luke 1:49) and holy is God’s name.

GATHERING HYMN

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” *Glory to God 123*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us, yet we often make plans without listening to you and discover that our human agendas can drown out our ability to hear your will for us. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever.

silent prayer of confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Isaiah 64:1

Leader: O that you would tear open the heavens and
come down, so that the mountains would quake
at your presence –

WAITING IN SILENCE

HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *Glory to God 88*

O come, O shoot of Jesse,
free your own from Satan’s tyranny,
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o’er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrew Lesson 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16
Epistle Lesson Romans 16:25-27
Gospel Lesson Luke 1:26-38

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

HYMN

“The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came” *soloist Liz Brunton*

THE SERMON

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

We want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have mailed in their offerings to the church. The ministry of Ascension Church continues, we need your support. Although we cannot gather in the building right now, we still have our expenses to pay and our outreach continues.

So, please continue to **mail** in your offerings, or you may also opt to contribute **online** through our new **PayPal** account that you can access on our website at ascensionucc.org and go to the Donate page. Please let us know if you encounter any issues accessing PayPal and know that we are grateful for your generosity.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, your love is magnified in the gift of your Son, whom you so freely share with us. Bless these gifts that we offer to lift up the lowly and fill the hungry (*Luke 1:52-53*) in your coming reign of justice and peace; in Christ's name. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” *Glory to God 100*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“God of Glory” (Paxton)

Questions for Reflection

Mary's song proclaims that God is lifting up the lowly while scattering the proud and feeding the hungry while sending the rich away with empty hands. How does this change the way you think about God's coming reign of justice and favor? How does this change the way you live?

Household Prayer: Morning

Expectant God, Mary sings because she has new life in her, the promise of your salvation. Fill me with hope this day as I lift my life to you and seek to do your will. Look with favor on our world and all who are in need, that your love may be magnified as I follow humbly in your way. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord, as I come to you seeking rest this night, I pray that all may find a home in you, be disturbed by no one, and be free of the afflictions of the evil one, for you, O God, are mighty to save. Amen.



We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.

We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.

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|---|---|
| Ministers | All the people of the Congregation |
| Pastor | The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier |
| Minister of Music | Dan Weckerly |
| President of the Consistory | Liz Brunton |
| Vice President of the Consistory | Michele Luke |
| Secretary of the Consistory | Molly Lorenz |
| Moderator of Spiritual Council | Molly Lorenz |
| Elders: | Liz Brunton, Robin Weed, Mary Lambon
Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| Chair of the Diaconate | Michele Luke |
| Deacons: | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce
Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman, Christa Cavanaugh |
| Church Secretary | Judy Parker |
| Sexton | Emeric Suto |
| Treasurer | Sandy Maben |

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