

“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 27, 2020

11:00 AM



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

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“The Holly and the Ivy” (Arr. Cloney)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CHIMING OF THE HOUR RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The prophecy is now fulfilled; heaven is now
come to earth!

People: Jesus the Christ is born!

Leader: The old order is past; the new order is come!

People: Jesus the Christ is born!

Leader: Let us celebrate with great joy the birthing
of Emmanuel!

GATHERING HYMN

“Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming” *Glory to God 129*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Incarnating God, we are amazed that you still choose to be among us on this earth, for we know our human condition, our sinfulness. Busy with many duties, ills, and pleasures in our lives, it is sadly our tendency to consider the regular gathering in community as optional, to devalue the importance of meeting together for worship, for remembering the holy story, for communal experience of your saving grace. We fail to be the living body of our Lord, which is our opportunity and responsibility as church. But as the quickening of your Holy Spirit reveals truth to us, we are drawn by your love to our confession. We confess our need for a new righteousness. Though we may do our utmost to abide by your commandments, we do not measure up to the high standard they require. We confess how much we need purification, how much we need the ministrations of Jesus, and a new birthing of his life among us. Forgive the sins of your church we pray, and give us a new, receptive and obedient spirit.

silent prayer of confession

“You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy” *Glory to God 437*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy" (Glory to God 437). It consists of three staves of music in G major and 6/8 time. The first staff has the lyrics "You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!" with chords Em, D, Em, Am, Em, D, Em above it. The second staff has the lyrics "You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!" with chords Am, D, C, D, Em, C, Em above it. The third staff has the lyrics "You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!" with chords Em, D, G, Am, Em, D, E above it. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF PRAISE

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” *Glory to God 591*

PASSING THE PEACE

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:3

HYMN

“Go Tell It on the Mountain” *Glory to God 136*

Second Reading Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel Lesson Luke 2:22-40

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

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

God of all things new, in the birth of Christ Jesus you broke into the sin and darkness of this world with new light and righteousness for the souls of humankind. We offer these gifts to you with our prayer that new life and love, peace and joy may become the lived reality for all people of earth. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” *Glory to God 132*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“While By My Sheep” (Arr. Lewiston)





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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