

**“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

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2021



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

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Keeping Watch” (Yardley)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR/RECEIVING THE LIGHT

THE PROCLAMATION

please rise

Luke 2:1-20

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: With the prophet Isaiah, we proclaim the promise of God:

All: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

CAROL

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

The New Century Hymnal 125

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, you love righteousness and hate wickedness, yet we have not lived lives of integrity and truth; we have failed to honor you. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Pardon our offenses and purify our hearts, that our lives may glorify you to the ends of the earth, for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

(adapted from Hebrews 1:9)

silent prayer of confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Siblings, receive the good news: the light of Christ shines in our darkness, to bring light and life to all.

People: **By the gift of Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Praise God for our victory in Christ.**

PRAISE RESPONSE

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

CAROL

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *Verse 1 Glory to God 119*

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrew Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

CAROL

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *Verse 2 Glory to God 119*

Epistle Lesson Titus 3:4-7

CAROL

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *Verse 3 Glory to God 119*

THE SERMON

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Leader: Eternal God, in the midst of strife and warfare,
may your peace be known throughout the world.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: As your church announces the good news of
salvation, may we share the gift of Christ in
prayer and action.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: In sickness, suffering, and need, may your
healing love dispel all darkness.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: As all creation shouts with joy, may we care for
earth, sea, and sky in reverence of you.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: In all of our beginnings and in our endings, may
we be one with you eternally.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: Through Christ, with Christ, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, we praise you, almighty God, now
and forever.

All: Amen.

THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Good King Wencaslas” *Hand Bell Choir*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Leader: Holy God, we give you thanks and praise. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You made us in your image; and though we all have sinned and fallen short of your glory, you loved the world so much you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Jesus, name called Wonderful; Jesus, our great Counselor; Jesus, Son of God; Jesus, Son of Man; Jesus, Prince of Peace;

People: we praise and bless your Holy name.

Leader: Jesus, son of David; Jesus, Branch of Jesse; Jesus, Lily of the Valley; Jesus, Bright and Morning Star;

People: deliver us from our sins.

Leader: Jesus, Scepter of Israel; Jesus, Light of the Gentiles; Jesus, Desire of all Nations; Jesus, Sun of Righteousness; Jesus, Law giver; Priest, Judge and King.

People: Help us and bless us.

Leader: O, Jesus, hear us;

People: and prepare us for your coming.

Leader: As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem, and they found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so from suffering and death you raised him to bring us life. Therefore, with angels who sang to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth, with your people in all ages and the whole company of heaven, we join in the song of unending praise, singing:

GLO—RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO
GLO—RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

Leader: As your word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so on the night he offered himself up for us Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying, “This is my body which is broken for you, do this in remembrance of me.” When the supper was over he took the cup gave thanks to you, gave it to the disciples, saying, “Drink from this all of you for this is the blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” Therefore, in remembrance of all your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which we offer in union with Christ’s sacrifice for us, as a living and holy surrender of ourselves.

COMMUNION HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” *Glory to God 133*

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Send the power of your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ; be one body cleansed by Jesus' blood; faithfully serve in the world and look forward to Christ's coming in final victory.

BREAKING THE BREAD & POURING THE WINE

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

People: **Let us keep the feast. Amen.**

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready, come and taste and see how good the Lord is.

PARTAKING OF THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you, Holy God, for giving us this meal, shared in the Spirit, which sustains us with the food and drink of your life. Grace our lives that we may at the last come to share in the heavenly banquet of your realm, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

CAROL

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Glory to God 122

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

Wondrous God, we praise you and bless you for the gift of your only begotten Son, the true light who enlightens everyone that has come into the world. May all who receive him and believe in his name be born anew as beloved children of your redeeming purpose. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

CLOSING CAROL

“Joy To The World” *Verses 1,2,&4* *Glory to God 134*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

PRAISE RESPONSE

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Glory to God in the Highest” (McNamara)



*The Reformed Church
of the
Ascension
United Church of Christ
**Poinsettias, Greens and
Wreath Dedications 2021***

**The Poinsettias are given to the glory of God,
in memory of:**

Arlene Kurylo, by Pat Angelucci

Doris Kulp, by Pat Angelucci

Donald Backes, by Jan Backes

Betty Eisenberger, by Kent Eisenberger

Keith Eisenberger, by Kent Eisenberger

Betty & Gerald Fryer, by Bob & Nancy Fryer

Mary J. Fletcher, by Bob & Nancy Fryer

Dorothy & Carl Lucas, by Bob & Nancy Fryer

In loving memory of our mothers, Jacquelyn Montague,

Rosalie Copeland, Greta Keaton, Mariah Norman, Rebecca Ricks,

by Willie Graham & Barbara Montague-Graham

My parents, Jean & Harry Grimley, by Joan Hagerman

My parents, George & Alma M Klehamer, by George Klehamer

Arlene, Joseph, & Robert Kurylo, by Linda Kurylo

Peter Lambon, by Mary Lambon

My mother, Roseanne Barr, by Dennis Leigh

My sister, Elizabeth Capparella, by Dennis Leigh

Rev. Irvin R. & Mrs. Evelyn Lindemuth, by Irv & Hedy Lindemuth

Mr. & Mrs. Reuben Lindemuth, by Irv & Hedy Lindemuth

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Hartenstine, by Irv & Hedy Lindemuth

Our parents, John A. Houck, Anita & Alfred Dorn, & Werner Lorenz,

by Molly & Bryen Lorenz

Our son, Jonathan, and grandmother, Lena Updegrove,

by Molly & Bryen Lorenz

Michael & Mary Pontecorvo, by Michele Luke

John Gilner, by Michele Luke

Diane Ullman, by the Pontecorvo Family

Our grandparents, by Pastor Dwayne & Cindy Mosier

Jerry & EmmaJean Mosier, by Pastor Dwayne & Cindy Mosier

Lillian Evans, Craig Follweiler, James Tanis, Doris Kulp, and Henry Sellers, by Pastor Dwayne & Cindy Mosier
Kelly Wagner, by Lydia Mosier
In loving memory of my beloved wife, Dorothy Nealman, by Ralph Nealman

In loving memory of my mother, Dorothy Nealman, by Pamela Nealman

Art & Betty Augustine, by Judy & Rich Parker

Dick & Barbara Parker, by Judy & Rich Parker

My mother, Margareta Alb & my aunt, Melania Coman, by Stela Suto

My husband, Dick Trow & my parents, Doris & Ernie Galbreath, by Kitty Trow

Our parents Allen & Virginia Slavin, by Robin & Rick Weed

Our parents Allen & Doris Weed, by Robin & Rick Weed

Alan H. Reider, by Sue Wendt

Henry A. Sellers, by Sue Wendt

The Poinsettias are given to the glory of God, in honor of:

Pastor Dwayne Mosier, by Pat Angelucci

Rev. Judith Meier, by Pat Angelucci

Lydia Mosier & family, by Mary Lambon

Beth & David, by Mary Lambon

Our children, Kevin, Francesca, Becky, John, & Luke, and grandchildren, Ayva & Nick, by Molly & Bryen Lorenz

Molly Lorenz, Ayva Cannon, Nick Centone, by Bryen Lorenz

My parents, Barbara Montague-Graham & Willie Graham, by Jakki McLeod

Phoebe Brinker, by Callie Mosier

David Akers, with many thanks for his help in my ESL class, by Stela Suto

The donations of Greens and Wreaths, are given to the glory of God, in memory of:

My husband, Armond Angelucci, by Pat Angelucci

Arlene, Joseph, & Robert Kurylo, by Linda Kurylo

Mr. & Mrs. Phil Manser, by Mary Lambon

My mother, Roseanne Barr, by Dennis Leigh

My sister, Elizabeth Capparella, by Dennis Leigh

The donations of Greens and Wreaths, are given to the glory of God, in honor of:

My daughters Hollie & Angeline and their families, by Pat Angelucci



WISHING YOU THE
Spirit of Christmas

WHICH IS

Peace

THE

Blessing of Christmas

WHICH IS

Hope

FROM THE

Heart of Christmas

WHICH IS

Christ

*May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours, and may
the coming year be filled with joy.*

Merry Christmas!

from the church staff,

Pastor Dwayne

Sandy Maben

Judy Parker

Emeric Suto

Dan Weckerly



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.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 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 | Liam D'Aquila |
| 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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