

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

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

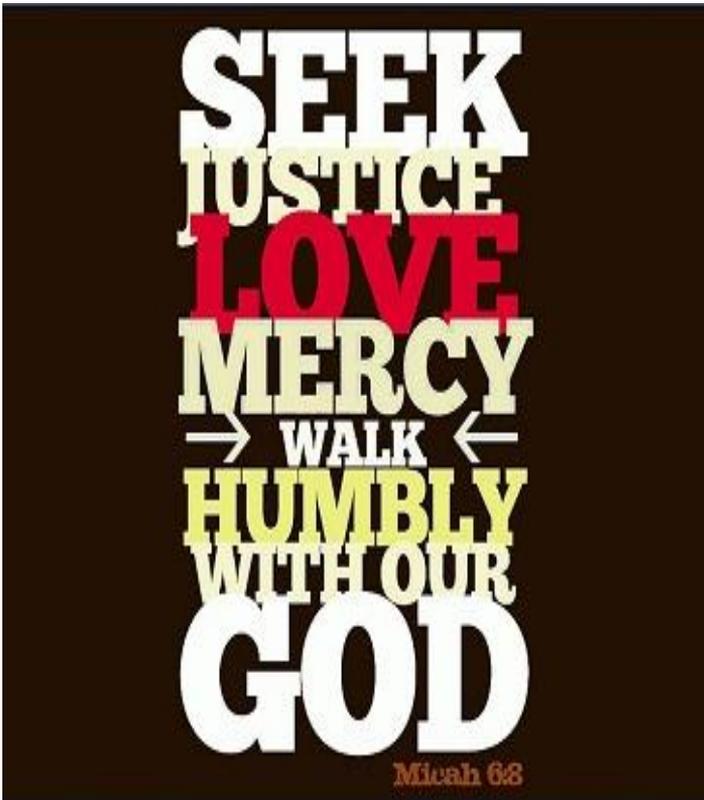
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



An Open and Affirming Congregation

February 2, 2020

11:00 AM



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

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Allegro” (Wm. Boyce)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
CHIMING OF THE HOUR
RECEIVING THE LIGHT**

CALL TO WORSHIP

please rise

Leader: Now is the acceptable time.

People: **Here is the acceptable place.**

Leader: To gather in humility and power.

People: **To listen with imagination and courage.**

Leader: For God, who spoke and created the earth and the heavens, will speak anew this hour.

People: **Come quickly Love, bring justice, healing and hope!**

GATHERING HYMN

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory” *Glory to God 213*
Verses 1 through 3

CALL TO CONFESSION

those who desire to kneel, may do so at this time

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

in unison

God, we joyfully celebrate your justice and care for the poor and the outcast. Your faithfulness and compassion are endless and reliable. But we get nervous when your righteous action threatens the power and possessions we hold. We hope your justice will come, but in a way that doesn't challenge our lifestyles and values. Forgive our intransigence and arrogance. Help us to discern our place in your new creation. Show us what we must give up and give back in order to live as a whole community. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

silent prayer of confession

KYRIE

Unison A D E A

1 Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, ky - ri -
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri -

F# Bm E A (A)

e e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
ste e - le - i - son, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We praise you God.

People: **For even when we fail to keep covenant with you and one another, you keep covenant with us.**

Leader: O Love that will not let us go, may the steadfast love you have shown transform us into steadfast lovers of others.

RESPONSE

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Glory to God 591

PASSING THE PEACE

*Let us greet one another with the word,
“The peace of Christ be with you.”*

THE CHILDREN’S TIME

please be seated

HYMN

please rise

“Blest Are They”

Glory to God 172

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

please be seated

Hebrew Lesson Micah 6:1-8 *page 866*

Epistle Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 *page 166*

please rise for the gospel
Gospel Lesson Matthew 5:1-12 *page 4*

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

THE SERMON

DEDICATION OF THE FLAGS

*The flags are given to the Glory of God,
in memory of my mother, Roseann Barr,
by Dennis Leigh*

LITANY OF IDENTITY AND HOPE

please rise

Leader: People of God, who are you?

People: We are an ecumenical community who believes that God is calling us to make a difference in our neighborhood and in our world.

Leader: And what does God ask of us?

People: That we do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

Leader: We have been created by God to live together. God has entrusted us with caring for each other and creation. When we ignore those who suffer, when we isolate ourselves from the immigrant, and when we distance ourselves from the poor, we fracture our community and break covenant with God.

People: Indeed! The prophet, Micah, describes a whole new world that will come from keeping covenant with God: a world where God's house of worship is the place where people travel to learn God's justice, where weapons are dismantled and stolen land is returned.

THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES OFFERTORY

“St. Anthony Chorale” (Haydn)

DOXOLOGY

please rise

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: God is with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us open our hearts.

People: **We open them up to our God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the God of Light.

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

Leader: Bright shining God, inner light of all faithful souls, we celebrate your gifts of love, creation, and art. We rejoice that you have made us in your image and call us to live in your limitless love. You bring peoples and leaders to the dawn of your rising. You sent your only child, our morning star, to light a way in our night and lead us to justice and peace. Your Holy Spirit shines good news into our lives. Each daybreak you call us to feed the hungry, bring recovery of sight, liberate the oppressed, heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds, and keep watch for the dawn of your commonwealth on earth. For all of this we give you thanks. And we praise you, joining our voices with all life on earth and the company of heaven, who forever sing their hymns to proclaim the glory of your name.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Let us covenant anew to be faithful followers of God. With what shall we come before the Lord?

People: **Shall we come with burnt offerings?**

Leader: Will God be pleased with sacrifices?

People: **Shall we give our firstborn for our sins?**

Leader: God has told you, O Mortal, what is good.

People: What does the Lord require but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God?

Leader: God, we are excited and emboldened on this day of commitment.

People: We long to serve and strengthen those who are suffering.

Leader: In this world of injustice, violence and hate, it is easy to become apathetic.

People: But we refuse to pretend that we can do nothing to change the “way things are.”

Leader: We know sometimes change takes a long time.

People: We are prepared to keep walking with you and those in need, as together we live a new way that reflects your intention for creation.

Leader: We yearn to know you more completely God.

People: May this journey of service, advocacy, and worship form us anew in our image.

Leader: Inhabit our sanctuary and our streets with your presence.

People: Inhabit our hearts and our actions with your compassion.

Leader: Through prayer and song, study and work, we seek always to grow closer to you by growing closer to one another.

People: May our worship and our work be one, proclaiming your justice, mercy, and faithful presence in this world.

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.*

COMMUNION HYMN

*"I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table" Glory to God 770
Verses 1 & 4*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Whenever you do this, do it in remembrance of me. After supper, he took the cup, saying, this cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do it in remembrance of me.

Leader: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**People: Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Leader: By your Spirit, bless this bread and this cup that they may become for us the presence of Christ among us. Shine your light and your love on the offering of our lives. Enlighten us that we may be your people, the body of the risen Christ, the light of the world, set apart to serve this earth that you have made.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we praise you now and forever, O Eternal Light.

People: **Amen.**

PARTAKING OF THE MEAL

We will receive communion in the pews this morning. Wine is in the outer rings of the trays and grape juice is in the inner ring of the trays.

CLOSING HYMN

“O For a World” *Glory to God 372*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“God Be With You”

*God be with you, God be with you,
God be with you, till we meet again.
O God be with you, God be with you,
God be with you, till we meet again.*

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Hornpipe from Water Music” (Handel)

January 26, 2020 Flower Dedications

***The Flowers are given to the glory of God,
in memory of my mother, Jacquelyn Montague,
by Barbara Montague-Graham***

***The Flowers are given to the glory of God,
in memory of Alan Reider, by Sue Wendt***

February 2, 2020 Flower Dedications

***The Flowers are given to the glory of God,
from the Doris Daub Memorial Funds***



Act
Justly
Love
Mercy
Walk
Humbly
Micah 6:8



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 | Molly Lorenz |
| Moderator of Spiritual Council | |
| Elders: | Liz Brunton, Joan Hagerman, Mary Lambon
Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague Graham |
| Chair of the Diaconate | Michele Luke |
| Deacons: | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce
Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman |
| Church Secretary | Judy Parker |
| Sexton | Emeric Suto |
| Treasurer | Sandy Maben |

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