

**“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 9, 2020

11:00 AM



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

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Prelude I - from Well Tempered Clavier” (J.S. Bach)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CHIMING OF THE HOUR RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

please rise

Leader: Jesus is with us as the Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

People: Jesus is with us, invisible as the wind, yet visible in works; elusive as a shadow, yet near as a loving presence.

Leader: So, it is that though we can but dimly see and limitedly sense, yet by faith we believe.

People: By faith we receive Jesus as Savior and Lord and become his followers in the world.

Leader: Let us worship the God of our salvation and praise the one revealed by love in action.

GATHERING HYMN

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission” *Glory to God 298*

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

in unison

Holy God, we confess that we look for Jesus where he is not to be found and, in our preoccupation with ourselves and our affairs, we often miss being aware of Christ's presence right where we are. We easily fail to recognize the mercy, compassion, and healing in our lives and in the world around us as indicators of Christ's presence and activity. We confess we presume to model Jesus according to our humanity. Forgive our blindness to the love and grace in our very midst, those things that reveal the Christ whose movements are leading us toward the world that you envision, but from which we, your people, have distanced ourselves by our sin.

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 - e
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri -

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

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*

This Little Light/This Joy I Have

att. 5:14-16

African-American spiritual



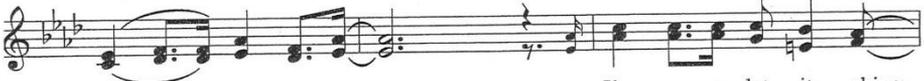
1 This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
1 This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.



I am gon-na let it, let it shine,
oh, the world did not give to me,



This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
This joy . . . I have, the world did-n't give to me.



This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,
This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.



Hal - le - lu - jah,
Hal - le - lu, the



let it shine, . . . let it shine, . . . let it shine, (oh let it shine.)
No, the world did-n't give it, the world can't take it a - way.



Additional verses:
"Hide it under a bushel, no"

Tune: THIS JOY Irr.
African-American spiritual
Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993
See also I.ATTIMER

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

please be seated

Hebrew Lesson Isaiah 58:1-9a *page 688*

Epistle Lesson 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 *page 166*

please rise

Gospel Lesson Matthew 5:13-16 *page 4*

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

THE SERMON

THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

“Siciliana” (Handel)

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, we give thanks for all you have given to us and praise you for your astounding goodness. Receive the dedication of our hearts, minds, and bodies for the ministry of your church.

Bless our offering for the work of your kingdom and give us wisdom for the right use of all you have provided, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt.

Mat. 5:13-15

Unison
D (allow to ring off)

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
 4 We are a blessed and a pil - grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

Share the fla - vor of life, O peo - ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
 Shine so ho - ly and bright, O peo - ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
 Seeds of mer - cy and seeds of jus - tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
 Love our jour - ney and love our home - land: love is the Cit-y of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the reign of mer - cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of jus - tice, bring forth the Cit - y of God!

During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain
Marty Haugen, 1986

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

“Allegro” (Handel)

Questions for Reflection

What does it mean to have the mind of Christ, and how do I live with the mind of Christ in my daily activities? If I let my light shine, what will others see in me? Will others see Jesus? Will they give glory to God?

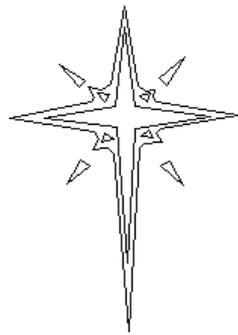
Household Prayer: Morning

God,
open my eyes to see the world through your compassion.
Open my mind to understand the world through your wisdom.
Open my heart to receive the world through your love. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord,
if I have lived this day in the knowledge that perishes,
correct my thoughts,
rectify my judgments,
and mend my foolish ways.
Give me the mind of Christ that I may see the world rightly
and discern the blessings you bestow. Amen.

***The flowers are given to the Glory of God,
in memory of my dear friend, Karen Lowe,
by Sandy Maben***





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, 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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