

“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

January 10, 2021

11:00 AM



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

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“Waters of Life” (Hughes)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CHIMING OF THE HOUR RECEIVING THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the beginning,

People: God created the heavens and the earth.

Leader: The Spirit of God,

People: swept over the face of the waters;

Leader: then God said:

People: Let there be light,

Leader: and God saw that it was good. At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus was baptized by John.

People: The heavens opened, and the Spirit descended like a dove;

Leader: then God said:

People: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

adapted from Genesis 1:1-2 and Mark 1:1,9-11

GATHERING HYMN

“Here in This Place”

Glory to God 401

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all glory, you look from heaven and see us as we are—not worthy to kneel at your feet, not ready to welcome your way. Forgive us gracious God. In Christ, stoop down to save us; loosen the ties that bind us to sin and set us free to love and service you.

adapted from Psalm 29:1 and Mark 1:7

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

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: Hear the good news of the gospel: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so God says to each of us: You are my beloved child, and with you I am well pleased. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

adapted from Mark 1:11

PASSING THE PEACE

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading Genesis 1:1-5

Second Reading Acts 19:1-7

HYMN

“As the Wind Song”

Glory to God 292

Gospel Lesson Mark 1:4-11

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

THE SERMON

SERVICE OF WATER

Leader: Dear friends, on this day of re-creation we recall Christ’s baptism, and we claim and remember our own.

People: We gather at this font of living water to celebrate the gift of God’s redeeming grace.

Leader: For just as the body is one and has many members and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

People: For by one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female—all distinctions that separate us are washed away by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are all made to drink of that same Spirit.

Leader: Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: I do.

Leader: Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, the only one begotten of God before all worlds.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in God, the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and community, in the breaking of bread, and in prayer?

People: I will, with God's help.

Leader: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

BLESSING OF THE WATER

Leader: Let us pray...

THE CONGREGATION REMEMBERS BAPTISM

Leader: Eternal God, you have come to us in Jesus Christ, given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven all our sins. Bless us now with the grace we need to fulfill what we have promised.

People: Keep us faithful to our Savior Jesus Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: Remember your baptism and be thankful.

People: 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.

THE INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy God, we praise you.

Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad. We bless you for creating the whole world, for your promises to your people Israel, and for the life we know in Jesus Christ your Son. Born of Mary, he shares our life. Eating with sinners, he welcomes us. Leading his followers, he guides us. Dying on the cross, he rescues us. Risen from the dead, he gives new life.

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim his death and resurrection. Receive our sacrifice of praise.

COMMUNION HYMN

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

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Leader: Send to us your Holy Spirit that this meal may be holy and your people may become one. Unite us in faith, inspire us to love, encourage us with hope, that we may receive Christ as he comes to us in this holy banquet. We praise you, almighty Father, through Christ your Son, in the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

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.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

All: **We remember Jesus death,
we proclaim His resurrection,
we await His coming in glory.**

BREAKING OF 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.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Therefore, 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.

CLOSING HYMN

“At The Font We Start Our Journey”

The New Century Hymnal 308

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Sinless in God’s Eye”

(McGuigin)

Questions for Reflection

What is the difference between baptism with water alone (John's baptism; see Acts 19:3, Mark 1:8) and baptism with the Holy Spirit (baptism into Jesus; see Acts 19:4–5, Mark 1:8)? Why is it still important to use water in baptism? What does water mean in your daily life? What difference does the Holy Spirit make in baptism? What difference does the Holy Spirit make in your daily life?

Household Prayer: Morning

Living God, maker of light, thank you for the gift of this day. Let me be a light in your world so that people will look at me and see the goodness of your creation; in Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Living God, maker of light, thank you for the gift of this night. Let me be at peace in your presence so that I may rest, be restored, and arise to praise your glory; in Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

January Birthdays
1/10 through 1/16/2021

Amanda Wetherill (13)

January Anniversaries
1/10 through 1/16/2021

Kimberly Lane & Mimi Souza (11)

At the Font We Start Our Journey

308

Jeffery Rowthorn, 1992

Col. 3:15; Acts 10:36-43

1 At the font we start our jour - ney, in the Eas - ter
 2 At the pul - pit we are fash - ioned by the Eas - ter
 3 At the al - tar we are nour - ished with the Eas - ter
 4 At the door we are com - mis - sioned, now the Eas - ter

faith bap - tized; doubts and fears no long - er blind us,
 tale re - told in - to wit - nes - ses and proph - ets,
 gift of bread; in our break - ing it to piec - es
 vic - tory's won, to re - store a world di - vid - ed

by the light of Christ sur - prised. Al - le - lu - ia,
 by the power of Christ made bold. Al - le - lu - ia,
 see the love of Christ out - spread. Al - le - lu - ia,
 to the peace of Christ as one. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Hope held out and re - al - ized.
 al - le - lu - ia! Faith pro - claimed, yet still un - told.
 al - le - lu - ia! Life em - braced, yet free - ly shed.
 al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter's work must still be done.



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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