

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. 4th Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania
February 17, 2013

First Sunday in Lent

8:00 and 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *“All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.”* Julian of Norwich, 14th century

Please refrain from talking during the prelude as others are in silent meditation.

Organ Prelude

...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”* #66
...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Our souls are created to be God’s dwelling place, and the dwelling place of the soul is God.

People: **As we worship, we experience the God who dwells in us. Through our worship, we dwell in God.**

Pastor: As we make the Holy One our dwelling place, no evil shall overtake us. Come, live and love in the shelter of the Most High and say, “God is my refuge and fortress in whom I trust.”

People: **Through our worship, we love the God who dwells in us, and in whom we dwell. God is our refuge and our home.**

Opening Prayer

All: **Holy One, we come to you in gladness and expectation to begin our Lenten exploration. You offer steadfast love as our strong refuge; your boundless grace is our sheltering presence, and we rejoice! In the unity of**

worship, we trust that you will speak to us and through us as we begin this Lenten journey with each other and with Christ. Prepare our hearts to seek you and embrace you, to hear you and follow you, to love you and to serve you. With gladness and expectation we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Act of Confession:

Pastor: God did not say, “You shall not be tempted; you shall not be troubled; you shall not be distressed.” God did say, “You shall not be overcome.” Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, was led into the wilderness, where he was tempted. Sheltering God, Guiding God, as you were present with Jesus in His wilderness experience, so you are present with us. You have urged us to trust you: “Love me and call upon me with you in trouble, and I will honor you.” We have felt discouraged, and at times even abandoned and betrayed by you, O God, when all manner of things have not gone well with us.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Instead of following where you lead, O God, at times we follow a tempter who shows us a vision of the world that is a mere counterfeit of what you desire for us. At times, O God, we are deceived and enticed by imitations of love, abundance, and joy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: O God, when you have not answered in the ways or in the time we desire, we have been tempted to lean on our own understanding and not acknowledge you in all ways. We so often have sought to control our lives and order our own steps, often ignoring you and pushing you aside.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

All: **Help us to trust you to journey with us and to guide us. Help us to rest in your promise to never leave us or forsake us. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Kyrie:

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon:

Pastor: Sisters and brothers, God is at work in us and with us! God is our clothing in which love enwraps us, holds us, and all encloses us because of God's tender love, so that God may never leave us. We are protected safely in love—in woe as in well—by the goodness of God. God urges us, “Keep the word near you, even on your lips and in your heart...this word is your salvation.” As we worship today, with the word on our lips and in our hearts, experience the salvation of God for all manner of things in our lives. In the promise, presence, and power of God for all manner of things. Amen.

Sung Response: “*Amazing Grace*”

***Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.***

***I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.***

...Please Be Seated...

The People of God Share the Word of God

Children's Sermon (10:30)

The Holy Scripture:

Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Page 139

Epistle Lesson: Romans 10:8b-13 Page 921

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:1-13 Page 835

If you would like to follow the readings, the Bibles are under the hymnal rack.

Sermon: “*Shelter of God's Love*” Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger
...All May Stand...

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hades; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: “*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*”
...Please Be Seated...

#73

The People of God Pray

Celebrations of Joy and Moments of Concern

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. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Invitation

Organ Offertory (8:00)

Sr. Choir anthem (10:30) “*Jesus, Savior*”

Livingston

...All May Stand...

The Offertory Response: “*Doxology*”

#46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication and Commitment

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Commission

Benediction

Pastor: Let us go forth following as the Holy Spirit leads us.

Know that “angels will guard your heart and your soul, and will bear you up” so that even in harm’s way you will not be consumed. Brothers and sisters, whether in falling or in rising we are ever protected in God’s love. Go forth on your journey. Amen.

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” #86

Silent Moment

Organ Postlude

Welcome! God is our refuge and fortress. We take shelter in Him so we can be strengthened to serve in the world. Welcome!

Preparation for Worship: Jesus, thank you for leading me to this place of worship today. Grant that I may be nourished—and may nourish someone else as I share in Christian fellowship.

Children’s Bulletins are available for age groups 3 to 6 and 7 to 12.

Large-print Bulletins are available for anyone who requests one.

Church Time Nursery is across the hall from the Family Room.

Please ask our ushers to assist you with any of these needs.

TODAY’S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:00 AM

Acolytes: Anna Boehm & Ian Correa
Greeters: Beverly Binder & Bonnie Keck
Lay Reader: Jean Deischer
Ushers: Dolores Fioriglio, Matthew Beck,
 Randy Weidner, Rick Snyder
Sound System: Mike Ackerman
Opener: Larry Delhagen

10:30 AM

Acolytes: Ainsley Hanna & Nicole Karol
Greeters: Olivia DeLong, John Hill, Rachel Wentz
Lay Reader: Linda Gardner
Ushers: Tom Capehart, Jim Gardner,
 Linda Gardner, Christine Hanna

Sound System: Drew Labenberg
Nursery: Alex Racines & Heather Gross
Tape Ministry: Harold Huber
Hospitality: Mary Ann Held
Flower Delivery: Carl & Nancy Wieder



Sunday, February 17

8:00 am Worship
 8:50 am Jr. Choir Rehearsal
 9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 am Worship

Monday, February 18 (office closed)

7:00 pm Budget & Finance Meeting

Tuesday, February 19

9:00 am Quilts for Kids
 6:30 pm Evening Worship Service
 7:00 pm Brain Tumor Support Group

Wednesday, February 20

9:30 am “Getting Unstuck”
 6:30 pm Boy Scouts
 6:30 pm Confirmation Class
 6:30 pm Bell Choir rehearsal
 7:45 pm Sr. Choir rehearsal

Thursday, February 21

10:15 am Women’s Bible Study
 6:30 pm Jr/Cadettes
 6:30 pm All Dens

Saturday, February 23

8:30 am AA
 8:30 am Al Anon
 9:45 am Al Anon

Sunday, February 24

8:00 am Worship
 9:00 am Jr. Choir
 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages
 10:30 am Worship
 2:00 pm ARCH Bingo, “Bags, Baskets, & Bling”



"Who are we? What are we?"

Early in His life, Jesus, like us, had a lot to learn. At the age of 12, his parents took him to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. On the way home, after a day's journey, they discovered that Jesus was not with His kinfolk as they had expected, but was still in Jerusalem. They went back and found Him in the temple. With remarkable wisdom, Jesus was talking with the teachers and asking them questions. Jesus explained His actions by telling His parents why it was essential for Him to do this. He needed to learn and know all that scripture and tradition had to tell Him.

What did Jesus learn, and what do we, today, need to learn? This is the message that Jesus gave to His disciples and that His whole life gives to us. It gradually unfolds through events and experiences. It is taught through parables and actions.

From the learned teachers, Jesus surely began to understand the nature and purpose of human life. From the story of the Garden of Eden, He learned that God wants for us a good and rewarding life. He learned that self seeking and jealousy like Cain's shuts us out of the good things life has to offer. From the ancient prophets, He learned more about how life should be lived. For example, from Micah (6:8) He could have learned, "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Jesus not only learned, but He lived out what He had learned. That is why His whole life is an unfolding message of who we are and what we should be in God's plan for us. At the heart of His life and His message is the realization that He and we are called to mission. Our field or work is the whole human community. It is here that we are called to serve, and He shows us how this can be done. We do well to use the season of Lent as a time for learning how to fulfill both our mission and our human potential.

ST. JOHN'S

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FIRST SUNDAY IN
LENT

FEBRUARY 17, 2013
8:00 & 10:30 AM

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 North Fourth Street, Emmaus, Pennsylvania

Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger, Senior Pastor, pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org

Rev. Curt Sandrock, Assisting Pastor

Patrice DiCarne, Minister of Music

Patrice DiCarne, Administrative Secretary

Diane Ritter, Financial Secretary, dedemarit@juno.com

Pat Dillman, Director of Christian Education, patdillman@hotmail.com

Cheryl Clauser, Sexton

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Phone Number: 610.965.9158.....Fax Number: 610.967.5380

Email: office@stjohnsuccemmaus.org...Website: www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org

Bulletin Announcements for Sunday, February 17, 2013

REMINDER FROM SPECIAL GIFTS: Have you included St. John's in your will? The Special Gifts Committee requests that you prayerfully consider including a bequest/gift to St. John's in your will or estate planning documents. Your generosity will aid St. John's in its continued service to our Congregation and our Community. If you have any questions, please call Tom Capehart at 484-224-2780 or Larry Delhagen at 610-782-5405. Please see the flyer in today's bulletin!

Daytime Lenten Bible Study with Pastor Curt Sandrock: "The Last Week of Jesus on Earth," 11:00 am to noon, **beginning on Wednesday, February 20**. Bring your Bibles! Open to all, attend when you can. The group will meet in the Parlor.

YOUTH GROUP: The next Youth Group Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 24**, from 6 to 8 pm. All youth in grades 5 and up are welcome!

Candy donations are needed to fill the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. No chocolate or peanut products please! You can drop off your candy in the narthex beginning on February 24th.

Donkey Parade! Look for the "Donkey Meter" in the narthex to help defray the cost of the donkey for the walk on Palm Sunday.



St John's United Church of Christ Emmaus, PA

Church Hospital Code Number is 466! The pastors visit our hospitalized members. If you, or a member of your family enters the hospital, please ask the hospital to place the patient's name on church code #466, St. John's UCC, Emmaus or call the church office to inform us at 610-965-9158. **Recently hospitalized: Janet Evans, Russell Gross**

Tuesday Evening Worship Services at 6:30 pm: This service is one half hour long and is intended for the growing group of people who work on Sunday mornings, and for others who may have commitments or events on Sunday mornings. **Come as you are!**

Greeting Cards: Please take a minute to sign the cards in the narthex for members on our home visitation list, folks who need a lift, or just to say "hello" and send our Christian greetings. Today we are signing cards for: ***Ardella Guth, Betty DeVries, Catherine Hillegas, Bonnie Washburn***

Confidentiality: It is important that we honor the rights to privacy of medical information for our St. John's members. If someone in the congregation shares a prayer concern, a medical issue, or hospitalization information with you, **please ask their permission** before sharing that information with the pastors, Undershepherd Ministry, Prayer Tree or church office, or for announcement in worship. If you are hospitalized or are sharing any prayer concerns, the pastors will ask your permission before disclosing information to anyone beyond the pastoral staff.

The Altar Flowers are sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. J. Wesley Bergey in honor of Abigail Lyons 15th birthday.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Emily & Philip Gaugler in honor of their son, Shane.

There are still many available dates to sponsor bulletins. Please sign up on the chart in the 4th Street vestibule. The cost is \$20.

Church Attendance – Sunday, February 10, 8:00 am - 47; 10:30 am - 133
Tuesday, February 12 – 59
Ash Wednesday - 62

Income Report for February 10, 2013 –

General Fund – \$4,052.00

Mortgage Account - \$1,177.00 (BOFFT) Building Blocks, Building Fund

Jenn's House, Our February Mission

Jenn's House, located in Emmaus and Fountain Hill, provides affordable lodging for families of patients and self sufficient patients who need to travel to the Lehigh Valley area for health care. Guests can stay as long as they need while receiving medical care from any of the local health care facilities in the Allentown and Bethlehem area. Thus far, between the two sites, we have hosted over 2800 people from all but 3 states within the United States and several different countries. When a guest is admitted to Jenn's House, they may stay until the services are no longer needed. Guests pay a nominal fee if they can afford it but no family is turned away if unable to pay.

Please see the display in the narthex for Jenn's House. Pick up a slip from one of the pockets on the Wish List. Items can be dropped off by the display. All our families are reminded of the generosity of people like you who help supply our house with many things to make their stay a welcome one. Your gift of supplies, financial support and prayers are most welcome. Tours of both sites can be arranged at any time by calling us at 610-965-1777 or visit our new website for more details and a virtual tour of both houses - www.jennshouse.org

Pat & Richard Dillman