

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. 4th Street  
Emmaus, Pennsylvania  
February 24, 2013

**Second Sunday in Lent**

**8:00 and 10:30 AM**

## *The People of God Gather For Worship*

Thought for Meditation: “When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don’t throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer.” ~Corrie Ten Boom

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

Organ Prelude

Jr. Choir Selection (10:30)

*...All May Stand...*

Processional Hymn: “God of our Life”

#713

*...Please Be Seated...*

Welcome and Announcements

*...All May Stand...*

Call to Worship:

*Pastor:* God is my light, my hope, my all in all; whom shall I fear?

**People:** **God is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

*Pastor:* One thing I asked of God: let me live in the shelter of you, in the beauty of your realm, in the wonder of your house.

**People:** **We seek your face, God! Do not turn aside!**

*Pastor:* Teach us your way, God, show us your path through all that life brings.

**People:** **We shall see the blessing of God: come, Holy Spirit!**

Opening Prayer

**All:** **God, we are too well aware that life brings us pains, doubts, uncertainties. We remember that Abram was filled with questioning, the early church surrounded by threats, Jesus himself confronted with fearful powers.**

**In the midst of that awareness, we call upon you, our everlasting refuge. Remember your people, God. We long for a way through the frights of the world; we pray for your support. Come, Holy One; come, Spirit of Life. Come into this holy place and this holy hour, and fill us again with assurance of your grace. We ask it in Jesus’ name, Amen.**

Act of Confession:

*Pastor:* We hear the call to trust in God always,

**People:** **but honestly, some days our stresses and doubts are even more real to us than God, and trust is elusive.**

*Pastor:* We remember how Abram dared to believe in God’s promises,

**People:** **but belief like that is hard to come by. We are often inclined to think, “God helps those who help themselves,” instead of daring to rely on the word of our Creator.**

*Pastor:* When the world seems filled with dangers, we can be quick to protect ourselves. With God’s help, we confront our fears and struggles, and we call upon a power greater than our own to resist their pull.

**People:** **Hear us, Holy One, as we confess our frailty and failings.**

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:* Though fear should beset us; though danger cause us to close up our doors; though troubles assail and lead us away from the ways of grace; only one thing is necessary: just turn back to God’s promise of grace. Remember that God is reaching out with loving arms, and let yourself be held. Only ask for forgiveness, and it is ours. Know that in this moment we have asked and in Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Sung Response: "Amazing Grace" stanza 2

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.*

*...Please Be Seated...*

### ***The People of God Share the Word of God***

Children's Sermon (10:30)

The Holy Scriptures:

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Page 10

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 3:17-4:1 Page 955

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:31-35 Page 849

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

Sermon: "Renew Our Trust" 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: "Trust and Obey" stanzas 1 & 4 #556  
*...Please Be Seated...*

### ***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 is My Lord" Besig  
*...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:* God is our light, our hope, our all in all:

**People: Blessed be God, now and forever!**

*Pastor:* Christ is our home, our life, our joy:

**People: Blessed be God, now and forever!**

*Pastor:* Our worship concludes: our service continues.

**People: Blessed be God, now and forever!**

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: "The Old Rugged Cross" #548

Silent Moment

Organ Postlude

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**Welcome!** We come seeking God in His temple, bringing our sacrifices and singing songs of joy (Psalm 27:5-6). Each person's presence adds to our praise. Welcome, one and all!

**Preparation for Worship:** Holy Spirit, bless those who lead worship. Speak through them as they lead us in praising you. Amen.

**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:* Jonathon Krippe & Rhys Williams  
*Greeters:* Joyce Brey & Curt Fehr  
*Lay Reader:* Ron Hillegass  
*Ushers:* Bill Knappenberger, Barry Miller,  
John Zayaitz  
*Sound System:* Don Keck  
*Opener:* Don Keck

### **10:30 AM**

*Acolytes:* Kenneth Heck & Rachel Knappenberger  
*Greeters:* Sandra Bartholomew, Kimberly Ike,  
Bonnie Keck  
*Lay Reader:* Harold Huber  
*Ushers:* Richard Miller, Kyle Heck, Cindy Kauffman,  
Rachel Wentz  
*Sound System:* Russ Drabick  
*Nursery:* Kris Wentz & April Pinto  
*Tape Ministry:* Nancy Wieder  
*Hospitality:* Donna Wert  
*Flower Delivery:* Tom Capehart

### **Sunday, February 24**

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

### **Monday, February 25**

7:00 pm Missions Committee Meeting

### **Tuesday, February 26**

9:00 am Quilts for Kids  
6:30 pm Evening Worship Service

### **Wednesday, February 27**

9:30 am "Getting Unstuck"  
10:00 am 10-2 Club  
6:30 pm Boy Scouts  
6:30 pm Bell Choir rehearsal  
7:45 pm Sr. Choir rehearsal

### **Thursday, February 28**

10:15 am Women's Bible Study  
6:30 pm All Dens

### **Saturday, March 2**

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

### **Sunday, March 3**

8:00 am Worship/Holy Communion  
9:00 am Jr. Choir  
9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages  
10:30 am Worship/Holy Communion



**The Unfolding Message  
Learning Who God Is**

What can help us to know and appreciate the One, who undergirds our life? The gospel of John helps us with this. As we try to contemplate who God is and what God can provide for our lives, we hear the words, "No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father; he has made him known" (1:18). These cryptic words, somewhat confusing to our modern ears, contain an eternal truth. We see God most clearly in and through Jesus Christ. In other words, as we see Jesus, living and speaking in certain ways and revealing a sense of God's presence, we come to realize what God makes available to us. We humans cannot fully fathom the infinite. We cannot encapsulate God. In Jesus, though, we gain the knowledge of God that is essential for sensing God's presence and guidance within our lives.

"God was in Christ." (II Corinthians 5:19) these words of scripture should be the background for all our attempts to live out our divine calling. Like Jesus, God is personal and near, living in our midst. God is our standard for righteousness, what is good and right, what is true and wise. Jesus' attitude and actions show what this means in specific, lived-out ways. God is a loving, healing force in our midst, just as Jesus again and again showed healing compassion and affection. He was understanding and caring. He brought wholeness and renewal of life. Where some of the prophets proclaimed God's judgment, Jesus does affirm what is right and true, but more as a guide and standard than a condemnation. Jesus' self-giving revealed God's caring and love. These illustrate how His unfolding message helps us to grasp who and what God is.

The season of Lent challenges us to pause and take time to know God better. As Jesus at times moved away from the crowds, can we move away for our crowded agenda, our busyness, our pursuit of physical and financial well being long enough to sense the highest values that are God-centered and that Jesus call us to?

# ST. JOHN'S

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SECOND SUNDAY IN  
LENT

**FEBRUARY 24, 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](mailto:pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org)

Rev. Curt Sandrock, Assisting Pastor

Patrice DiCarne, Minister of Music

Patrice DiCarne, Administrative Secretary

Diane Ritter, Financial Secretary, [dedemarit@juno.com](mailto:dedemarit@juno.com)

Pat Dillman, Director of Christian Education, [patdillman@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:office@stjohnsuccemmaus.org)...Website: [www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org](http://www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org)

***Bulletin Announcements for Sunday, February 24, 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," is currently being held on Wednesdays in the Parlor, 11:00 am to noon. Bring your Bibles! Open to all, attend when you can. This week, the Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> so as not to conflict with the 10-2 group.

**YOUTH GROUP:** The Youth Group will meet **today, 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 24<sup>th</sup>.

**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

**The red hearts** that you signed last Sunday for the children's story can be found hanging on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor Sunday School hallway and downstairs in the Youth Lounge.

**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: *Russell Gross, Gerald Heck, Jean Bednar***

**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: *Janet Adams, Russell Gross, Dorothy Kerschner, Edward Baker*

**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 Richard & Nancy Miller in memory of Nancy's sister, Judy Semmel.

**The Bulletins** are sponsored by Ben & Carolyn Powell in honor of Anna Jane Kelley's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 5, 2013.

**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 17, 8:00 am - 45; 10:30 am - 109**  
**Tuesday, February 19 – 33**

**Income Report for February 17, 2013 –**

General Fund – \$8,851.66

Mortgage Account - \$1,567.00 (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](http://www.jennshouse.org)

Pat & Richard Dillman