

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. 4th Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania
March 10, 2013

Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *“Live out your life in its full meaning; it is God’s life.” ~Josiah Royce*

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

Organ Prelude

...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *“The God of Abraham Praise”* #24
...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Be glad in our GOD and rejoice, O righteous ones. Shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

People: **Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Therefore, we worship our God, and rejoice.**

Pastor: In Christ, we become as a new creation. Everything old has passed away. See how God makes things new.

People: **Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven and whose lives become new. Through our worship, we praise God who makes us new. Amen.**

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: **O God, with gladness and expectation, we gather in this space today. For you are the one who makes all things**

new. You are the one who satisfies our hunger and restores our soul. In this Holy space, help us, your daughters and sons, to know that you always love us. Through our worship today, help us to know that if we stray away from you, you are always ready to receive us with open arms. Prepare our hearts as we worship you to welcome and embrace all of your children as you do us. With gladness and expectation we pray, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Act of Confession:

Pastor: We confess that at times, O God, we have kept silent even as we have seen the bodies, the spirits, and minds of your children waste away. We have received manna from heaven, and yet have hoarded and kept it for ourselves, while others die of hunger physically, and spiritually.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: We confess, O God, we have looked with self-righteous judgment upon those who have strayed away from you and those who have not come to you. We have convinced ourselves of our own righteousness, and have forsaken the call of Christ to love our neighbors as ourselves.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: We confess, O Holy One, we have longed for you to regard our prayers, heal our diseases and our land, and love us more than others. We know that you have called us to care for the widows and orphans, to love the strangers and our neighbors, yet at times we try to hoard your love, O God, as the Israelites tried to hoard manna in the wilderness.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Pastor: Sisters and brothers, God is at work in us and with us! Hear the promise of God: confess our transgressions to our GOD who forgives the guilt of our sin. Even when we are still far off from what we are called by God to be, our Father-Mother God sees us and is filled with compassion. God rejoices over each of us: “This son, this daughter of mine was dead and is alive again, was lost and is found!” Amen.

Sung Response: “Amazing Grace” stanza 4
*When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.
...Please Be Seated...*

The People of God Share the Word of God

Children’s Sermon (10:30)

The Holy Scriptures:

Old Testament Lesson: Joshua 5:9-12 Page 171

Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Page 940

Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 Page 850

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

Sermon: “A Father’s Love” Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger
...All May Stand...

UCC Statement of Faith (front cover of hymnal)

Hymn: “In the Bulb there is a Flower” #638
...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

...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

Threefold Amen

Hymn: “God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” stanzas 1 & 4 #651

Silent Moment

Organ Postlude

Welcome! We welcome everyone to worship and Christian fellowship, in the blessed name of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Preparation for Worship: Heavenly Father, I have sinned and am not worthy to be called your child. Yet you run to embrace me and throw a party to welcome me home. I am humbled by your love.

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

<i>Acolytes:</i>	Ian Correa & Rachel Knappenberger
<i>Greeters:</i>	Dolores Fioriglio & Adele Schaffer
<i>Lay Reader:</i>	Tom Capehart
<i>Ushers:</i>	Tom Gable, Don Keck, Jonathan Keck, Barry Miller
<i>Sound System:</i>	Mike Ackerman
<i>Opener:</i>	Scott Stenroos



Sunday, March 10

- 8:00 am Worship
- 8:45 am S. S. Teacher's Meeting
- 8:50 am Jr. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 am Worship/Sr. Choir Cantata/Baptism

Monday, March 11

- 6:15 pm Troop 61130

Tuesday, March 12

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

Wednesday, March 13

- 8:00 am L&R Cemetery Board Meeting
- 9:30 am "Getting Unstuck"
- 11:00 am Lenten Bible Study
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts
- 6:30 pm Bell Choir rehearsal
- 7:45 pm Sr. Choir rehearsal

Thursday, March 14

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

Saturday, March 16

- 8:30 am AA
- 8:30 am Al Anon
- 8:30 am Spiritual Renewal Partners
- 9:45 am Al Anon

Sunday, March 17

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

Mission Moment - Embracing Love

Jesus' story about a precious son lost and recovered was a response to self-righteous religious authorities who questioned the company he was keeping, but it's also appropriate for Lenten reflection on our own lives. Where do we find ourselves in this story? Why do we so often identify with the older brother? Are we, like that older brother, perhaps stuck in scarcity thinking, when we'd be much happier, much freer, trusting that there is more than enough for all, and great cause for celebration?

THE CHURCH STAYS FOR THE LONG HAUL

The crisis in Darfur, Sudan, made the news regularly in 2003-2005. A conflict between the government of Sudan and rebel groups left hundreds of thousands dead and millions uprooted from their villages, which were attacked and by the Janjaweed ("men on horses with guns").

Books were published, celebrities visited and the crisis in Darfur became international news. The United Church of Christ supported Dear Sudan and Tents of Hope, awareness and advocacy raising campaigns initiated by a UCC pastor. Countless UCC members wrote advocacy letters and painted tents. One Great Hour of Sharing provided thousands of dollars for food, water, shelter and medical care.

These days, however, Darfur rarely makes the news, even though 2.7 million Sudanese remain uprooted, living in camps for Internally Displaced Persons (IDP).

Over the nine years since the crisis began, through One Great Hour of Sharing the United Church of Christ has continued to accompany the displaced people of Darfur, providing support for health care, water systems and latrines, and supplemental feeding programs for malnourished mothers and children.

When Susan Sanders, UCC Minister for Global Sharing of Resources, visited the Hissahissa, Hamidya and Khamsadagaig IDP camps last October, at each stop community leaders expressed their gratitude to the members of the UCC for their OGHS gifts, and assured Susan that those gifts have made a difference.

Today, members of UCC congregations have an opportunity to help our church continue to accompany the people of Darfur for the long haul with gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing.

power. Few, if any, of us today would claim to have this ability. Yet, many of us can remember times, when someone's presence with us made a difference that was almost miraculous. Warm, loving people often have a healing presence.

Amidst the variety of callings that life presents to us, this one comes to everyone. Whether we are a business magnate or a school custodian, secretary or homemaker, we are surrounded by men, women and children who need healing. The disciples watched Jesus heal and restore a variety of people. They, themselves, did so at times. Jesus looks to all of us to find wholeness for ourselves and let it flow over to others. Although we may not have the power to touch them and have them suddenly be well, we can be with them. We can touch their spirits with caring and love. We can listen and psychologically wipe away their tears.

One effective remedy we can offer is a spirit of acceptance. We need to remember that, under God, whatever a person's weaknesses or problems may be, all of us are of value – precious. The old recommendation of feeling "I'm OK, You're OK" is bolstered by the realization that God makes us OK people, and seeks to bring us back, if we wander. Healers: Jesus, disciples, you and me! All of us, even in the midst of our own needs, can help to heal others. Giving aid to them, often we find our own pain relieved.



The Unfolding Message – The Power to Heal

There is a lot of brokenness in our world. People and structures need healing. We need it ourselves. Healing was an important part of Jesus' mission and also of our own, if we are responsive and faithful followers. Sharing with Jesus day after day, His disciples came to understand this.

Jesus, Himself, was a "whole" person. He had "gotten it all together." He knew who He was and what He wanted to accomplish. Some of His healing power came from His own wellness. The woman, who was healed just by touching the edge of Jesus' robe, sensed this inner

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FOURTH SUNDAY IN
LENT

MARCH 10, 2013
8:00 AM

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Emmaus, Pennsylvania
March 10, 2013
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:30 AM

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~Heinrich Heine

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Organ Prelude

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Processional Hymn:

...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

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All: **O God, with gladness and expectation, we gather in this space today. For you are the one who makes all things new. You are the one who satisfies our hunger and restores our soul. In this Holy space, help us,**

your daughters and sons, to know that you always love us. Through our worship today, help us to know that if we stray away from you, you are always ready to receive us with open arms. Prepare our hearts as we worship you to welcome and embrace all of your children as you do us. With gladness and expectation we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Children's Story

Offering Invitation

Offertory

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.**

Order of Baptism: *John Paul Baraldi IV*

Invitation and Welcome:

Address

Pastor: Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "yet you have come to me!"

People: **Jesus said, "Let it be so for now. For in this way, we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.**

Pastor: As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him.

People: **Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased."**

Pastor: At another time Jesus said: Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the

sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: **This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.**

Questions of the Candidates

Pastor: John and Heather, do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: ***We do.***

Pastor: Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents: ***We will, with the help of God.***

Pastor: Will you teach this child that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents and Sponsors: ***We will, with the help of God.***

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ, as best you are able?

Parents and Sponsors: ***We do, with the help of God.***

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may affirm his baptism?

Parents and Sponsors: ***We do, with the help of God.***

Congregational Assent

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

People: **We promise our love, support, and care.**

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in

confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

People: **I believe in God.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

Prayer of Baptism

Pastor: Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Act of Baptism

Pastor: John and Heather, by what name will your child be called?

Parents: ***John Paul Baraldi IV***

Pastor: John Paul Baraldi IV, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer for the Baptized

Benediction

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Scripture: John 14:1-14

Cantata "*Footprints in the Sand*"

by Joseph M. Martin

Benediction

Postlude

Welcome! We welcome everyone to worship and Christian fellowship, in the blessed name of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Preparation for Worship: Heavenly Father, I have sinned and am not worthy to be called your child. Yet you run to embrace me and throw a party to welcome me home. I am humbled by your love.

Congratulations to our newest member being baptized today!

John Paul Baraldi IV, born September 15, 2012

Son of Heather and John Baraldi III

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TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

10:30 AM

Acolytes: Ainsley Hanna & Nicole Karol
Greeters: Olivia DeLong, Jennifer Hartranft,
 Les Schoenberger
Lay Reader: Terry Demmy
Ushers: Bill Knappenberger, Christine Hanna,
 Rick Snyder, Scott Stenroos
Sound System: Darren Labenberg
Nursery: Kris Wentz & Alex Racines
Tape Ministry: Nancy Wieder
Hospitality: Mary Lou Hilbert
Flower Delivery: Carol & Tom Gable

Sr. Choir Participants

Nancy Miller	Tory Stenroos
Sue Weida Smullin	Gerry Mosemann
Beryl Snyder	Shirley Wieder
Diane Ritter	Bonnie Keck
Danielle DiCarne	Mary Lou Hilbert
Emily Gaugler	Ron Mosemann
Penny Stenroos	Harold Huber
Linda Gardner	Carl Frantz
Adele Schaffer	Ron Schappell
Nancy Wieder	Jim Gardner
Linda Hengeveld	Debra Schoenberger
Jane Shingler	



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ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SENIOR CHOIR CANTATA

"FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND"



MARCH 10, 2013
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, March 10, 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.

Reminder from the L&R Cemetery Committee: All Christmas decorations must be removed by Sunday, March 17th.

Daytime Lenten Bible Study with Pastor Curt Sandrock: "The Last Week of Jesus on Earth," is currently being held in the Parlor on Wednesdays, 11:00 am to noon. Bring your Bibles! Open to all, attend when you can.

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.

Donkey Parade! Look for the "Donkey Meter" in the narthex. Please drop in your spare coins (or bills) to help defray the cost of the donkey for the walk on Palm Sunday.

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:** *Doris Schmoyer*

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: *Jean Bednar, Gerald Heck, Jim Woodeshick, Margaret Hackman*

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 the Robertson Family in memory of Sharon's mother, Patricia Maurer.

The Organ Flowers are sponsored by Betty DeVries in memory of her daughter, Barbara DeVries Althouse.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Wayne B. Wermuth in memory of their parents.

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, March 3, 8:00 am - 54; 10:30 am - 137
Tuesday, March 5 – 29

Income Report for March 3, 2013 –

General Fund – \$6,256,60

Mortgage Account - \$1,744.00 (BOFFT) Building Blocks, Building Fund

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



SHARING BRINGS JOY

To Us. To Others. To God.

"God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8

God knows joy when we take actions that restore the well-being of God's children everywhere. When we reach out to others with helping hands, we share love and justice with our brothers and sisters, with whom we are one. God loves our joyful attitude when we share from abundance!

When we cannot physically go to meet needs in person, our gifts go together to assist others. This "chain reaction of passing it on" makes God, our divine parent, joyous for a world made better by love.

Please give as generously as you are able.

The Mission Committee