

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. 4th Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania
March 3, 2013

Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 & 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *“Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.” ~Albert Schweitzer*

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

Organ Prelude

...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *“You Servants of God”* #110

...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Come into the sanctuary and look around. Behold the beauty of God’s people. All of us—rich and poor, employed and unemployed and desperately hanging on.

People: Behold the beauty and splendor of God’s people.

Pastor: We believe God’s steadfast love is better than life, so let our lips praise God as long as we live.

People: We also often doubt God’s love. We often doubt that God will really provide when it matters.

Pastor: But this is what matters today: God said, “Come all who are thirsty, come to the water, and you that have no money, come, buy and eat.” All of us—rich and poor, employed and unemployed and desperately hanging on.

People: So with faith—both bold and timid—let us worship God!

Opening Prayer:

All: O God, we are used to being judged by standards we cannot live up to—good looks and perfect families and

money for whatever we want. We know these are false values, but we also want to fit in. Let our hearts be changed in our hour of worship. Teach us, inspire us, convince us that your ways are better than our ways and your thoughts are more useful than our thoughts. By the example of Christ’s life we pray. Amen.

Act of Confession:

Pastor: Let us confess our sins.

All: O God, our God, we seek you; our souls thirst for you. sometimes it’s like we haven’t had anything to drink for days. We are parched. Yet, we’ve only sipped upon Living Water. We have failed to drink deeply of your wisdom.

Silent Confession

Pastor: Come, all who are thirsty, come to the water. Drink and have your fill. Live with mercy and you shall receive mercy.

“Amazing Grace” stanza 3

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
‘tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
...Please Be Seated...*

The People of God Share the Word of God

Loud Offering

Children’s Sermon (10:30)

The Holy Scriptures:

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-9 Page 598

Epistle Lesson: I Corinthians 10:1-13 Page 931

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:1-9 Page 848

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

Sermon: *“Get What You Deserve”* Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger
...All May Stand...

Apostles’ 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.

...Please Be Seated...

The People of God Pray

Celebrations of Joy and Moments of Concern

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Invitation

Organ Offertory (8:00)

Sr. Choir Anthem (10:30) *"In You, We Are One"*

...All May Stand...

Althouse

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

We Share the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God most high.

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

Communion Prayer

Seraphic Hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy**

**glory; Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

...Please Be Seated...

Words of Institution

Consecration of the Elements

Pastor: Consecrate, therefore, by Your Word and Spirit, both us and these gifts of bread and wine, that in receiving them at this table, and in offering here our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and one another, and remain faithful to the tasks He sets before us.

People: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to You, eternal God, and give thanks that You have called us to serve You. Amen.

Pastor: Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we participate in the life Christ gives. Come, for all things are ready.

The Communion & the Blessing

...All May Stand...

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer we pray. Amen.

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Commission:

Benediction (allusion to Isaiah 55:11)

All: We have experienced Gods' mercy. We have been filled by God's Word. We know the steadfastness of God's love. So, now let the words that go out from our mouths and the deeds that are lived by our hands return to this sanctuary, not empty but accomplishing God's purpose, succeeding in the things for which God sends us into the world. Go in the name of Christ!

Threefold Amen
 Recessional Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story" #480
 Silent Moment
 Organ Postlude: "Voluntary" Selby

Welcome! Our gracious God has drawn each of us here. It is good to be together to blend our voices in prayer and praise of Him whose mercy know no bounds. Welcome!

Preparation for Worship: As we prepare our hearts for worship, Lord, we lay at your feet all worries and cares. Please give us peace and nourish us with your Word.

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:00 AM

Acolytes: Sarah Boehm & Gabriella Gormas
Greeters: Jo & Jake Kleppinger
Lay Reader: Adele Schaffer
Ushers: Marty Beers, Phil Rhode, Tom Capehart,
 Jim Beers, Don Keck, Jim Schaffer
Sound System: Jonathan Keck
Opener: Don Keck

10:30 AM

Acolytes: Emily Drabick & Annika Herbine
Greeters: Jean Bednar, Linda Gardner, Anna Jane Kelley
Lay Reader: Linda Hengeveld
Ushers: Russ Drabick, Linda Hengeveld, Larry Delhagen,
 Dave Davis, Jim Gardner, John Hill,
 Darren Labenberg, Wendy Moyer-Drabick
Sound System: Drew Labenberg
Nursery: Tori Delhagen & Heather Gross
Tape Ministry: Harold Huber
Hospitality: Les & Debbie Schoenberger
Flower Delivery: Marty Beers



DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR

CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY NIGHT!

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sunday, March 3

8:00 am Worship and Holy Communion
 9:00 am Jr. Choir
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Worship and Holy Communion

Monday, March 4

6:30 pm Troop 61130
 7:00 pm Board of Christian Education

Tuesday, March 5

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

Wednesday, March 6

9:30 am "Getting Unstuck"
 11:00 am Lenten Bible Study
 5:30 pm Executive Meeting
 6:30 pm Scouts
 6:30 pm Bell Choir
 6:30 pm Confirmation Class
 7:45 pm Sr. Choir

Thursday, March 7

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

Saturday, March 9

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

Sunday, March 10

8:00 am Worship
 8:50 am Jr. Choir Rehearsal
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Worship & Sr. Choir Cantata

"FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND"

Sr. Choir Cantata

Sunday, March 10th, 10:30 am



The Unfolding Message – A Creative Community

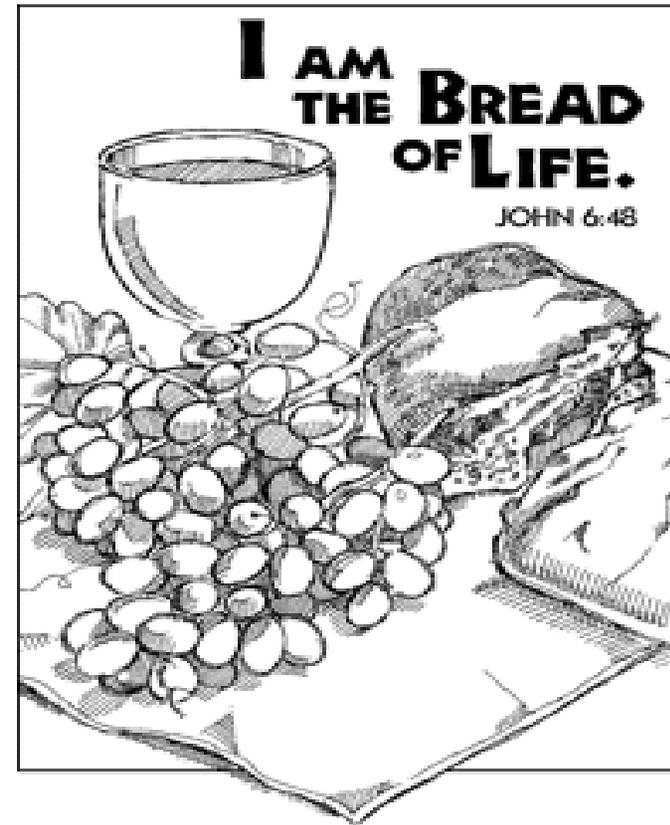
Jesus often spoke of a kingdom. We read of the “Kingdom of God” and the “Kingdom of Heaven.” As His message unfolds, we discover that the kingdom involves a community. The gospels show Jesus as constantly surrounded by a group of people. This is not a happenstance. The story of creation has God saying, “It is not good that the man should be alone,” so God gave him a helper. (Genesis 2:18) When Jesus began His ministry, very quickly He gathered together twelve men to work with Him. These disciples represented both the beginning and the goal of Jesus’ mission.

In these early days of Lent, when we seek to become better people and more faithful followers of Jesus, it is good to remember what calls us to such action. Made in God’s image, we are people, who long to build a creative life for ourselves and for our world. Like the disciples, we have everyday tasks to do. Our fishing or other work contributes to our common life economically. Yet, we long to be creative in other ways, the life of the spirit and the warmth of human community. It is not enough to “keep body and soul together.” Our souls long for more.

The disciples certainly had heard of Jesus before He spoke the words, “Come, follow me!” They must have felt the urgency to make their lives richer and more meaningful. Was Jesus subtly saying, “Come, help me create now the kind of life that God wants and the prophets called for?” Jesus was ready to show them what such a kingdom (or society) would be like. He was ready to live it out himself and teach them how to do so.

The disciples, and we, are called to see Jesus’ vision for us. We are called to be learners. We are called to be healers. We are called to be co-creators of a new spirit of oneness. Join the community! Walk the walk, even though you know that some will oppose you! Jesus calls each of us to be partners in creating a new kind of life.

ST. JOHN’S UCC



MARCH 3, 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, March 3, 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 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.

From Mary Ann Held: I am so grateful to the congregation for stepping up and supporting Daffodil Days to fight that monster, Cancer! \$790 will be donated to the American Cancer Society! The Daffodils will be here on Palm Sunday!

The Chicken Corn Chowder Soup Sale was a huge success! We made **353 quarts of soup** and had **a profit of \$1,122!** Thank you to all who helped cook chickens; the people who helped on Friday to de-bone chickens and peel potatoes; the great group of people we had on Saturday to make the soup, and ALL of you that purchased the soup. We had some very busy days, and we have heard many good comments about the soup. Once again, **THANK YOU!**

Blood Pressure Screening will be held next Sunday, March 10th! Monitoring your blood pressure is extremely important! Keep track of your blood pressure here at St. John's the 2nd Sunday of each month!

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:** *Gerald Heck, Russell Gross, Jim Woodeshick*

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: ***Barbara Mickley, Madeline Hillegass, Robert Schoch***

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 Barry & Ellen Miller in memory of departed loved ones.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Mary Lou Hilbert in memory of her son, Glenn.

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 24, 8:00 am - 49; 10:30 am - 97
Tuesday, February 26 – 18

Income Report for February 24, 2013 –
General Fund – \$3,616.50
Mortgage Account - \$661.00 (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