

Myerstown United Church of Christ

The Second Sunday after Christmas

January 5, 2020

Worship Time 9:00 am

Traditional Service of the Word

Prelude *Kings of Orient* Rebecca Groom Te Velde

Welcoming & Announcing

(will all who are able, please stand)

*Coming Together [Leader/All]

The Light has come into our world to make all things new.

We carry that light into this New Year.

The light calls us to be lights, shining into this world of darkness.

We will carry the light and shine in this New Year.

In this new day, in this new year, in this new decade...

We will shine the Light of Christ and Worship God in all we do.

Let us Worship God.

*Inviting God's Presence

Let us pray as one;

God who loves us, we thank you for your presence as we come as community meeting in Your Name. May we experience that presence in this time and place and may Your light bring healing to our lives, our memories and our community. Open our eyes, our ears, our hearts and our spirits to your voice of love and joy that we might hear Your call to serve and shine. Amen.

*Opening Hymn #550

We Are the Church

PORT JERVIS

(the congregation may be seated)

Time of Confession

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

In this time of resolutions, to quit, to change, to alter, to do more, to do less, we acknowledge that we are not what we want to be, and certainly not fully what you call us to be. Help us in this moment of honesty, to lift before you our humble reality: that we have sinned and fallen short. We hurt others, ourselves and most importantly, You. We come to you for forgiveness and well as the power and hope to do better, every day. Now hear us as we lift in silence the reality of our humanness...

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Children's Time

This Is the Church

Rev. Paul Cronin

Readings from Scripture

Epistle Lesson

1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

[will those who are able please stand for the reading of the Gospel]

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 5, verses 13-16.

Glory be to you, O Christ.

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

I Am the Light Of the World

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

[pages 6 & 7]

[the congregation may be seated]

Sermon *Under the Bowl* Rev. Cronin
Special Music *In the Garden* Travis Bicher, guitar
Lifting Our Prayer Concerns Before God Rev. Cronin
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.

Giving Thanks Through Giving Back

Call to Sharing

Offertory Rebecca Groom Te Velde

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

*Offertory Response #233 *We Three Kings* KINGS OF ORIENT
[verses 1 & 4]

*Offering Prayer

As you have given us gifts in great bounty, so we return a portion of those gifts in thanks and in love. Bless these offerings that they might do more abundantly than we can imagine, and bless us that we might use all our gifts to serve you by serving one another. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

*Invitation

*Greeting

May the God of the Table be with you.

And also with you.

This is the path God chooses for us as we come to the Feast,

that we empty our hearts in service, so they may be filled again.

This is the way God offers to us,

We will sing our praises as we journey to the realm of hope and love.

*Communion Prayer

*Holy, Holy, Holy

So with those who do not fear the good news which he brought, we lift our voices in glad shouts of joy:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God who shows the way. Creation joins in praises to you. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who knows your mind. Hosanna in the highest!

[the congregation may be seated]

The Mystery of Our Faith

As we seek to see him in our midst, as we try to hear your Word of life, we trust in that faith which is mysterious:

Christ died, showing us the way to death;

Christ was raised, showing us the way to new life;

Christ will come, to show us the way to your heart.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing the Elements

[will those who are able please stand]

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you God of salt and light, for inviting us to this table where we have once again experienced your gift of grace in Jesus Christ. Help us to let our lights shine so that others can see the joy we have. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn of Parting #462

Renew Your Church

ALL IS WELL

*Benediction

Rev. Cronin

*Song of Benediction #614 *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

*Moment of Meditation

*Postlude

Shine, Jesus Shine

David Blackwell

Acknowledgements

We are blessed to have the Rev Paul R Cronin with us this Sunday. Additional information can be found on the bulletin insert.

The Hymn of Preparation, *I Am the Light of the World*, is reprinted from **The New Century Hymnal**, Copyright © 1995 The Pilgrim Press. Permission is granted for this one-time use.

The liturgy for Holy Communion is adapted and reprinted with permission from Lectionary Liturgies Blogspot, Thom Schuman, <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2017/01/liturgy-wcommunion-for-febraury-5-2017.html>.

Prayer List

Nancy Brown	Rosene Duffy	Russ Kahl
Steve Norford	James Haines	Linda Herr
Ellen Goodyear	Ruthann Snoke	Joyce Mitstifer
Ralph Woynarowski	Jewel Fessler	Linda Feaser
Bill Gracely	Rosalla Hollenbach	Joanne Frantz
Family of David Mock		Heather & Elvin Perez

Announcements

2020 CHURCH ENVELOPES have arrived. They can be picked up in the Gathering Area.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED: The Church office will be closed on Wednesday, 1 January 20. It will be open on Thursday, January 2, 2020 from 9 am to 2 pm. It will be closed the entire first week in January for staff to receive training on the new membership and finance software. It will be necessary for people to schedule an appointment for any business that needs to be accomplished. Staff will not be able to stop what they are doing to respond to questions or requests. We hope you understand the importance of the staff learning together. If there is someone who would like to take phone messages and receive information from persons who come to the office, the staff would greatly appreciate it. Please use the form included with the bulletin.

FLOWER SPONSORS are needed for January 19th. If you would like provide the flowers, please contact the church office.

SIGNUP TODAY: There are 2 new sign up sheets on the Information Table. One is for *Better Families* and the other for *Conversational*.

Unison Introduction

"I am the light of the world!"

Refrain

You peo-ple come and fol-low me!" If you fol-low and love you'll

Last time, end

learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be.

1 When the song of the an-gels is stilled, when the
 2 To find the lost and lone-ly one, to
 3 To free the pris-on-er from all chains, to
 4 To bring hope to ev-ery task you do, to

This text is based on a Christmas poem by Howard Thurman, a prolific twentieth-century writer, theologian, and teacher. The song grew out of Jim Strathdee's music ministry at an intercultural, bilingual congregation in Los Angeles.

Tune: LIGHT OF THE WORLD Irr.
 Jim Strathdee, 1969

JUSTICE AND PEACE

Gm Dm C

star in the sky is gone, When the
 heal the bro - ken soul with love, 7 To
 make the pow - er - ful care, To re -
 dance at a ba - by's new birth, 7 To

F Bb C F

sag - es and the shep - herds have found their way home, the
 feed the hun - gry chil - dren with warmth and good food, To
 build the na - tions with strength of good will, to
 make mu - sic in . . . an old per - son's heart, and

Dm Bb Gm7 C Return to %

work of Christ-mas is be - gun:
 feel the earth be - low, the sky a - bove!
 see all God's chil - dren ev - ery - where!
 sing to the col - ors of the earth!

COMMUNITY MEAL COORDINATOR VOLUNTEER: We are seeking an individual or individuals to volunteer to coordinate the community meals held at Myerstown UCC in the Spring and Fall. Duties include planning the menu, shopping for food, and directing the preparation of the food. There is a large group of volunteers for this ministry who are already in place and ready to help. Please contact the church office or any member of Church Council if you are interested by January 15, 2020.

Welcome to Myerstown United Church of Christ

Church Office: 304 West Main Avenue, Myerstown , PA 17067-1023

Phone: 717/866-5252 myerstownucc@comcast.net

website: myerstownuccchurch.org

- Kory Leppo----- 717-269-6033 ----- Council President
 Marie Hibshman 717-343-3247 ----- Elder
 Jim Yoder----- 252-258-4268 ----- Bridge Pastor
 Emily Frantz----- 717-383-1147 ----- Parish Administrator
 Mark Herr----- 717-572-7734 -Family & Community Ministry Coordinator
 Lindy Bennetch----- Financial Administrator
 Jim Yoder----- Church Secretary
 Elicia Frank----- Custodian

Worship Assistants

Appreciation to the following who participated in today's service:

Organist Mark Herr

9:00 am Service

- Open Church:** Cal Beamesderfer **Worship Leader** Doug Bohannon
Greeter: Stephanie & Braden Bohannon **Lector:** Donald Brown
Communion Assistant: Wanda Rabold **Sound:** Paulie McQuate
Ushers The Rosen Family, Kenny Patrick
Communion Servers: Doug Bohannon, Travis Bicher, Jeff Rosen, Sue Harvey
Counting Team Ted & Carol Batdorff, Darryl Brown

Stewardship Report for Sunday, December 29, 2019

General Fund	\$12,369	OCWM	\$205
Church Improvement Fund			\$245
Attendance 10 am:			60