

Myerstown United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 16, 2020

Worship Time 10:00 am

Whoever You Are
Wherever You are on Life's Journey
You are welcome here!

Gathering Music *Theme & Variations* Johann Pachelbel

Welcome & Announcements Paul Cronin

*Choral Call to Worship *This Is the Day*

This is the day, this the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

*Call to Worship Steve Fritsch

L: People of God,
look about and see the faces of those
we know and love—
neighbors and friends,
sisters and brothers—
a community of kindred hearts.

**P: People of God,
look about and see the faces
of those we hardly know—
strangers, sojourners, forgotten friends,
the ones who need an outstretched hand.**

L: People of God,
look about and see all the images of God assembled here.
In me, in you, in each of us,
God's spirit shines for all to see.
People of God, come. Let us worship together.

*Hymn of Praise #595 *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

*Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Children's Sermon

That Attitude

(following the Children's Sermon, children may return
To sit with their parents or move to the Nursery)

Instrumental Solo "Andante" from Symphony #5 Mendelssohn
Abigail Frantz, French horn

Call to Confession Paul Cronin

Time of Confession [in unison] Steve Fritsch

**Gracious God,
we confess what seems always with us:
broken things within us that seem never to mend,
empty places within us that seem always to ache,
things like buds within us that seem never to flower.
O God of love and grace,
help us accept ourselves;
lead us to do those good and true things
that are not compromised by anything within us.
As much as can be,
mend us, fill us, make us bloom.
For all these things, we will give you the glory;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon Paul Cronin

Listening for God's Word

Hebrew Scripture Lesson Marianne Fritsch

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 5:21-37 Paul Cronin

“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

“Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne, or

by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

Hymn of Preparation #397 *The Gift of Love*

Sermon “ ***It’s the Little Things*** ”

Anthem *There Is a Higher Throne* arr. Lloyd Larson

Prayers of Pastor & People

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.

Offering Our Best to God Paul Cronin

Invitation

Offertory “*Expressivo*” Peter Morrison

*Offertory Response

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Parting #393 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

*Sending Forth

*Song of Sending

Sent Forth By God’s Blessing

*Sent forth by God's blessing our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.*

*The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,
 Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
 God's grace did invite us and love shall unite us
 To work for God's kingdom and answer the call.*

*Postlude "Shout On" Edward Broughton

Acknowledgements

The altar flower are given in loving memory of departed family and members and friends who we dearly miss by Russ & Priscilla Kahl and family.

We thank the Travis Bicher Family for providing the Conversation nourishment after the service this morning. Let us all gather to continue our time together as God's family to fellowship with each other. *Wear your name tag, please.*

Better Families for February is sponsored by Marcia Bicher.

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**Prayer List**

|                                |                      |                       |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Nancy Brown                    | Bernadette Petzinger | Rosene Duffy          |
| Steve Norford                  | James Haines         | Suzanne Fritsch       |
| Ellen Goodyear                 | Ruthann Snoke        | Bill Gracely          |
| Ralph Woynarowski              | Jewel Fessler        | Linda Feaser          |
| Rosalla Hollenbach             | Joanne Frantz        | Heather & Elvin Perez |
| The family of Grace Brightbill |                      |                       |

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Announcements

SINGERS & RINGERS:

Singers: Children of all ages are needed to help us with a special part in the choir anthem for Palm Sunday (4/5.) Rehearsals will be held from 9:30 - 9:45 am on Sundays, March 8 and April 5th AND/OR Sunday March 22 at 11 am. You do not need to attend all rehearsals to sing.

Ringers: 4 youth tone chime ringers are also needed. Rehearsal time will be set based on the availability of the youth. Please sign-up on the information counter, contact the church office, or Emily Frantz. muccparishadmin@comcast.net. Thank you!!

PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED: One adult and youth helpers are needed for February 23 and every Sunday in March from 8:45 am - 9:30 am. Materials provided. Extra youth are needed in March to help in the Primary classroom also. Please consider helping this ministry to grow. Sign-up available online or on the Information Counter.

Worship Childcare Help Needed: Every Sunday in March from the Children's Message (approximately 10:15 am) until the end of worship (approximately 11 am). Sign-up available online or on the Information Counter.

NAME TAGS: Thanks to everyone who patiently waited to get a name tag and proudly wear it. An excellent suggestion was made to keep the name tags on during the Conversational. That's the time most of the socializing and getting to know each other happens.

HARTMAN CENTER LOVE OFFERING:

Today, we receive a love offering in support of Hartman Center. There is some information posted on the bulletin board next to the Information Table about the ministry. There are also some envelope labels for your convenience. You can also write Hartman Center on your regular church envelope to make a contribution.



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**Worship Assistants for February 23, 2020**

|                                                                         |                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am Service                                                         | <b>Open Church:</b> Fritz Firestine  |
| <b>Greeter:</b> Shirley Krall                                           | <b>Worship Leader:</b> Wanda Rabold  |
| 10:00 am Service                                                        | <b>Sound:</b> Bob Dash               |
| <b>Greeters:</b> Annamarie Behm                                         | <b>Worship Leader:</b> Doug Bohannon |
| <b>Nursery Attendants:</b> Gia & Camilla Zimmerman                      |                                      |
| <b>Ushers:</b> Ed & Candy Hibshman, Terry & Suzie Schott, Kenny Patrick |                                      |
| <b>Counting Team:</b> Ed & Candy Hibshman, Terry & Suzie Schott         |                                      |

## Calendar for This Week

Today, Sunday, February 16

8:00 am Brief Worship  
 8:45 am Small group meetings.  
 8:45 am Prayer Team [Prayer Room]  
 10:00 am Worship

Monday, February 17

**The Church Office will be CLOSED until approximately 12:30 pm.**

8:30 am Strong Bones [Social Hall]  
 9:30 am Staff Meeting  
 11:00 am Membership Committee [Church Office]

Tuesday, February 18

10:30 am Lebanon Association Ministerium [Library]  
 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Pastor Paul on site\*  
 6:30 pm Transition Team [Library]

Wednesday, February 19

9:00 am - 2:00 pm Church Office Open  
 6:30 pm Scouts [Social Hall]

Thursday, February 20

8:30 am Strong Bones [Social Hall]  
 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Pastor Paul on site\*  
 1:30 pm Women's Bible Study [Library]

Friday, February 21

9:00 am - 2:00 pm Church Office Open  
 3:00 pm Floor Keepers [Social Hall]

Saturday, February 22

Sunday, February 23

8:00 am Brief Worship  
 8:45 am Faith Formation Groups  
 8:45 am Prayer Team [Prayer Room]  
 10:00 am Worship

\*On site for Pastor Paul means that he plans to be here. Those are also the times that he will be scheduling meetings. It is always preferred to make an appointment if you want to meet with him. Please contact the church office to establish the visit.

## 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](http://myerstownuccchurch.org)

Kory Leppo----- 717-269-6033 ----- Council President  
 Marie Hibshman 717-343-3247 ----- Elder  
 Paul Cronin----- 610-217-9717 ----- Designated Pastor  
 Jim Yoder----- 252-258-4268 ----- Bridge Pastor  
 Emily Frantz----- 717-383-1147 ----- Parish Administrator  
 Mark Herr----- 717-572-7734 ----- Organist / Worship Music 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

**8:00 am Service**

**Open Church:** Marcia Bicher

**Greeter:** Terry, Theresa & Christine Wolfe **Worship Leader:** Wanda Rabold

**10:00 am Service**

**Greeters:** Dawn Hassler **Sound:** Gabby Bicher

**Worship Leaders:** Steve & Marianne Fritsch

**Ushers** Kory & Ryan Leppo, Bob Dash, Kenny Patrick

**Nursery Attendants:** Kara & Abby Frantz

**Counting Team** Sara Zeller, Sally Kulp

### Stewardship Report for Sunday, February 9, 2020

|                         |         |                   |       |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------|-------|
| General Fund            | \$4,943 | OCWM              | \$365 |
| Church Improvement Fund |         | \$175             |       |
| Attendance 8 am:        | 14      | Attendance 10 am: | ?     |