

Welcome to Myerstown United Church of Christ

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

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

If you are visiting, we welcome you!

Rev. Richard Luciotti, Interim Pastor
717-679-0001

Emily Frantz, Parish Administrator/Choir Director
Mark Herr, Organist/Christian Education Coordinator

Lindy Bennetch, Financial Secretary
Elicia Frank, Custodian

Lee Ann Kurash, Church Secretary

Our website: www.myerstownuccchurch.org

Appreciation to the following people who assisted with today's service:

8:00 AM **Opening church:** Mark Herr
Greeter: Shirley Krall

*Please help yourself to a cup of coffee before your small group study.
There is a now a Keurig in the Gathering Area.*

Stewardship Report for Sunday, March 3, 2019

| | | |
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| Offerings: | General Fund | \$ 3,842 |
| | Our Church's Wider Mission | \$ 155 |
| | Church Improvement Fund | \$ 523 |
| | Hope Fund | \$ 21 |

Attendance: 78

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March 10, 2019

Worship Time 8:00 am

First Sunday of Lent

Prelude *Improvisation on 'Adore Te'* Léon Boëllmann

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

Leader: Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

People: Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Leader: God says to us: 'Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations. I am exalted in the earth.'

People: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge..

Solemn Declaration

*Opening Hymn *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* #82
(please be seated)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, strengthen us in our ability to resist the temptations we encounter in our everyday lives. Awaken us to the angels in our lives; our families, friends, neighbors, strangers, events, pastors. Awaken us to all those you work through to provide wisdom and strength when we are faced with temptation. We pray this prayer in Jesus' name, the one who strengthens our hearts and minds. Amen.

Scripture Readings

The Old Testament Lesson is from Deuteronomy 26:1-11

First Fruits and Tithes

26 When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." 4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7 we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

All who are able, please stand for the reading of the Gospel

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke chapter 4:1-13

The Temptation of Jesus

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" 5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" 9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' 11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" 12 Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

One: Here ends the Gospel reading. It is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

(please be seated)

Message - 'It's There'

*Closing Hymn Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days #252

*Blessing and Benediction

Meditative Music (seated)

Postlude Blessed Be the Lord David Paxton

Prayer List

Family Member/s

Pat Underkoffler
Annamarie Behm

Friends

Ralph Woynarowski - husband of Carol (Zeller)
C.J. Leininger - friend of Phyllis Keith
Katie Long - friend of Phyllis Keith
Evelyn Rudy - friend of Ed and Candy Hibshman

Long-Term Prayer Concerns

Family Members

Nancy Brown
Ellen Goodyear
Karen Wagner

Friends

Suzanne Fritsch - mother of Stephen Fritsch
Betty and Bill Gracely - mother and father of
Margo McQuate



Today: First Sunday of Lent
Gift Card orders delivered

This Week: Monday: Strong Bones 8:30 am in the social hall
Tuesday:
Wednesday: Scouts 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the social hall
Thursday: Strong Bones 8:30 am in the social hall
Community Meal - 4:00 - 6:00 pm in the social hall
Friday:

**Reminder - Next Sunday, March 17 at 9:00 am , the Congregation Assessment Team will speak to the congregation on the findings of the survey we completed last summer.

Please note that choir rehearsals will be promptly at 9:40 during March, April, and May. Those who are not involved in a small group meeting (aka Sunday School), please report at 9:30 so we are ready to sing at 9:40 and still have enough time to get upstairs.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 23rd, which will be the LCCM Annual Lenten Breakfast! Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast, an inspiring message and entertainment. And the opportunity to mingle and worship with friends from the surrounding community. Come and bring a friend. See Carolyn Williams for tickets.

We have openings for Altar Flowers for March 24 and 31st. If you would like to place flowers In Memory of or In Honor of your loved ones, please contact Betty Arnold at 717/866-5329.

(see insert for more announcements)