

**follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell
in the house of the Lord forever.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Some have said that the walls that divide us are
impenetrable and that the mountains of injustice are
unmovable. Yet, we year another voice-

**A mighty voice from heaven, breaking the silence against
the wicked forces of this world.**

Behold, One is coming to whom all love, power and glory
belong. No wall or mountain will be able to stand in his
presence!

**We have gathered to remain vigilant in the work against
wickedness and injustice, as we anticipate Christ
coming.**

Christ is near! With new hope we light this candle, singing
new songs of Christ's revealed and revealing kingdom.

**We have gathered to share our song of hope with one
another.**

Today our Advent wreath begins to shine as we light the
first candle, the candle of Hope. Because God knows us
and loves us and sends a savior to lead us, we have
confident hope for the future God is creating, and can
reflect the light that good news to all we meet.

(light the first candle)

INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBER: Mary Lake-Dillensnyder

Do you reaffirm your faith in God as your Maker, in Christ
as your Lord, and in the Holy Spirit as your Strength,
and commit yourself to deepening your relationship
with God?

I do.

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple,
to be one of his ministers in your own way in your
workplace, home, and world, and to use your God-
given gifts, whatever they may be, to bring a little more
of the good news of God's kingdom to others?

I do.

Do you promise to love and care for the members of this
church family, to stand by them and pray for them in

their time of need, and to support their various gifts and ministries, as best you are able, as they also seek to support you?

I do.

Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in worship of God, and enlisting in the work of this congregation as it serves the community and the world?

I do.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Almighty God, inspire our hearts and minds that we may hear anew your message for us today. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON [OT page 654] Isaiah 64:1-9

GOSPEL LESSON [NT page 48] Mark 13:24-37

SERMON Pastor Mary

PASTORAL PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please hold the bread and wine until all have received. We will partake together. Note that the outer rings are filled with wine, while the inner rings have grape juice, and are a lighter color. As the elements are distributed, please pass the tray to the center of the pew, and then back again to the Usher.

COMMUNION HYMN Blue Hymnal No. 88

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM "Unto Us a Child Shall Come" L. Larson

+OFFERING RESPONSE

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE (prayers for local and worldwide concerns)

PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors) Blue Hymnal page 37

+HYMN “Rejoice, Rejoice Believers” Blue Hymnal No. 99

+BENEDICTION

+CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide,
uphold you; With his sheep securely fold you; God be
with you till we meet again.*

+POSTLUDE “Preparation For The King” Arr. by J. Mansfield



Welcome Visitors – We warmly welcome you and ask that before you leave today, please make sure to sign the guestbook on the podium out in the Narthex.

Communitas – The weekly Communitas are available for you in the narthex.

The Communion Offering which assists needy members of our Hill Church Family is being received today. Please use brown pew envelopes for your donation.

Grocery Gift Cards to Support Missions: Giant, Redner’s, & Weis – See Connie Hile

Angel Tree – Thank you to everyone who took an angel from the tree. Remember to return the new unwrapped item by NEXT SUNDAY to the box located in the Narthex.

Congregational Meeting – There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, 12/10 after church to review and hopefully approve the budget for 2018. Copies of the proposed budget will be available in the narthex for review prior to the meeting.

2018 Offering Envelopes – The 2018 offering envelopes are available for pick up in the primary floor Sunday School rooms.

Church Office – Please note the church office will be closed from December 1 thru 10. Nikki will be checking messages and e-mail while away. The January newsletter deadline is Dec 17th and the December 17th bulletin information is due by December 12th.

Christmas Cantata at Hill Church - The Cantata Choir will present “Sing Joy to all the World” on Sunday Dec. 17 at the 9:30 AM Worship Service. Hope to see you there. The Children of the Sunday School will also present a Christmas program and song. A luncheon buffet will follow. Please plan to join us on this “Celebration Day.”

Community Cantata – Some members of our choir along with other local choirs will be presenting a community Advent Cantata on Sunday, December 10th at 3 pm at Salem UCC on Covered Bridge Road in Oley Twp.

Thank you – We would like to thank the Wagner family for their donation of the beautiful Christmas tree for the Sanctuary.

Altar Flowers & Bulletins – The **2018** sign up charts for “Flower & Bulletin Sponsorship” are posted on the Narthex bulletin board. The cost is \$30 for flowers and \$15 for bulletins. As always, we greatly appreciate and need your stewardship. (note the price increase for flowers) When signing up, please include with your name, how you would like the “In Memory Of” or “In Honor Of” to appear in the bulletin. Thank you!

Cutlery for Sale – The Women’s Guild has Rada Cutlery for sale. Tomato knives and paring knives are just some of the items. If you are interested see guild member, Teresa Skoog.

Christmas Caroling – We are planning to go Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins on December 17th following the luncheon. Please be sure to join us to share the Christmas Spirit with those who are not able to come to church. After caroling, we are invited to Terry & Mayetta Shane’s home for some refreshments.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday - December 3

8:30 am Sunday School
8:30 am Confirmation Class
9:30 am Worship Service

Monday - December 4

9 am Prayer Group
9:30 am Bible Study

Tuesday - December 5

6 pm Women’s Guild Dinner

Wednesday - December 6

7 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal
7:45 pm Cantata Rehearsal

Saturday - December 9

7 am Men’s Breakfast
8 am Work Day

HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:

Sunday - December 10

8:30 am Sunday School
8:30 am Confirmation Class
9:30 am Worship Service
3 pm Cantata at Salem UCC

Monday - December 11

9 am Prayer Group
9:30 am Bible Study

Tuesday - December 12

7 pm Consistory Meeting

Wednesday - December 13

7 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm Cantata Dress
Rehearsal

“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" ~1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for the men and women in the military, your neighbors and community, and our church. Pray for all those celebrating miracles. Prayers for all those who are suffering from violence, fear for their lives, those who have been affected by violent acts, those suffering from wounds and most importantly those who have lost a loved one.

Help us keep our prayer list up to date. To add, remove, or update a prayer request, please contact the church office or place a colored prayer request slip from your pew in the offering plate. Prayer requests are kept on the list for a 4 week period, if you would like the person to remain on the list for an additional 4 weeks, please contact Nikki with an update.

- Kris Endy (Bill & Dawn Endy’s Daughter in Law) ----- Battling Cancer
- John Mauger----- recovering from surgery
- Royce Stauffer----- recovering from a stroke
- Brad Kolb (Geneva Kolb’s Son) ----- disabled
- Family of John Kehl----- John passed away Tues Morning

Serving Today

Consistory Helpers for December: Matt Weller & Bob Fleming

Worship Assistant: Matt Weller

Acolyte: Samantha Jo Dolansky

Nursery Caregivers: Dennis & Nancy Weller

This week's flowers and bulletins are sponsored in honor of Drew Fronheiser's 21st birthday.

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins: Matt & Kira Weller

Flowers: Matt & Kira Weller

2018 Flower & Bulletin Sign-up sheets are posted on the Narthex bulletin board. If you sponsor flowers for the week, please remember to take them with you after the service; if you do not want to take your flowers home, please let Nikki know and she will make sure they get to a shut-in to enjoy.

Last Week

Last Week's Attendance:

Church: 63 Sunday School: 33

Last Week's Offering: \$1,859.00
2017 Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$3,070.65



Rev. Mary Lake-Dillensnyder, Pastor

484-926-1199 e-mail: pastormary@stjohnhillucc.org

Pastor's Church Office Hours: Tues., Wed & Thurs. 10 am – 12 pm

Elmer Miller, Organist

610-367-5613 e-mail: elmerhm@dejazzd.com

Nikki Weller, Secretary

610-367-8114 e-mail: nikki@stjohnhillucc.org

Nikki's Office Hours: Closed

Wendy Shane, Treasurer

610-468-9772 e-mail: niah4444@dejazzd.com