

December 30, 2018

St. John - Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

1st Sunday after Christmas **December 30, 2018**

*(+) Those who are able please stand **Bold** - congregation responds as able*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Fantasia on "Adeste Fidelis"” arr. by L. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN “Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella”

Bring a torch Jeanette, Isabella,
Bring a torch come swiftly and run.
Christ is born, tell the folk at the village,
Jesus is sleeping in His cradle,
Ah, Ah, Beautiful is the Mother,
Ah, Ah, Beautiful is her Son.

Hasten now, good folk of the village,
Hasten now the Christ child to see.
You will find Him asleep in a manger,
Quietly come and whisper softly,
Hush, hush, Peacefully now He slumbers,
Hush, hush, Peacefully now He sleeps.

HYMN “O Sanctissima”

O thou happy, O thou holy,
Glorious peace bringing Christmas time.
Angel throngs to meet thee;
On Thy birth we greet Thee;
All hail Jesus, our Savior King.

Thou of holiness, Peace and happiness,
Joyful glorious Christmas Day.
Angels tell the story of this day of glory;
Praise Christ, our Savior, born this Christmas Day.

HYMN "Rise Up Shepherd and Follow"

There's a star in the East on Christmas morn;
Rise up, shepherd and follow.
It will lead to the place where Savior's born;
Rise up, shepherd and follow.
Follow, Follow, Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
Follow the star of Bethlehem;
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

If you take good heed to the angel's words,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
You'll forget your flocks; you'll forget your herds;
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow, Follow, Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
Follow the star of Bethlehem;
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**God, you have come to us in Jesus,
Your true child,
In whom you give us power to be your children.
Yet, O God,
We are your own, yet we refuse you,
Clinging to the security of familiar ways
Rather than accepting the new life you offer.
We tolerate hatred, violence, and injustice
In the world you loved so well
That you sent the child Jesus,
Begotten from your own being.
We trust not in ourselves,
But in your great compassion.
Forgive us, And renew a right spirit within us
That we may live as your children
And once again praise you;
Through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Guide us, O God,
by your Word and Spirit that in your light
we may see light,
in your truth find freedom,
and in your will discover your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 95 [OT page 528]

CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM "Good Christian Men Rejoice" J.M Neale

+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 HYMN "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds all were watching,
While seated on the ground,
A light from heav'n descended,
And glory shone around.

Refrain

This light shown in the heavens,
To cover all the earth,
It was a sign to tell men,
About our Savior's birth.

Refrain

continued →

The wise men came to worship,
The holy child that day;
They found Him in a manger;
A sleeping on the hay.

Refrain

SHARING PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

LORD'S PRAYER

+HYMN "For Mercy and Thy Grace"

For Thy mercy and Thy grace,
Constant through another year;
Hear our song of thankfulness,
Father and Redeemer hear;

Dark the future; let Thy light guide us,
bright and morning star;
Fierce our foes and hard the fight,
Arm us Savior for the war.

In our weakness and distress,
Rock of strength be Thou our stay;
In the pathless wilderness,
Be our true and living way.

Keep us faithful; keep us pure;
Keep us evermore Thine Own;
Help, O help us to endure;
Fit us for the promised crown.

+COMMISSION & BLESSING

+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 "Joy to the World" arr. by R. Hughes



- * Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex.
- * The weekly Communitas are available in the narthex.

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.

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

2019 Offering Envelopes – The envelopes are available for you to pick up in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please see Nikki Weller.

Altar Flowers & Bulletins – The **2019** 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. 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!

De-Decorating – We will be de-decorating the church and Sunday School after worship January 6th. Please stay if you are able to lend a helping hand!

Hoagie Sale – The first hoagie sale of 2019 is here...10% of proceeds will be donated to Hill Church. St. Paul's in Birdsboro uses the other proceeds to support the yearly mission trip in July. Order forms are in the bulletin.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday - December 30

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

Wednesday - January 2

7 pm Choir Rehearsal

HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:

Sunday - January 6

8:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Worship Service
with Holy Communion
De-Decorating after worship

Monday - January 7

9 am Bible Study
7 pm Christian Ed. Meeting

Tuesday - January 8

7 pm Consistory Meeting

Wednesday - January 9

7 pm Choir 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.

Brad Kolb (Geneva Kolb's Son) ----- disabled

Serving Today

Consistory Helpers for December: Clarence Weller & Matt Weller

Worship Assistant: Eileen Fisher

Nursery Caregivers: Mark & Connie Hile

This week's flowers are sponsored by Teresa Skoog in honor of her daughter's birthday.

This week's bulletins are sponsored by Barb Helbig in honor of Taylor & Craig's birthdays.

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins:

Flowers:

2019 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: 82

Christmas Eve: 7 pm: 113 9 pm: 63

Last Week's Offering: \$1,856.00

Christmas Eve: \$4,826.00

2018 Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$3,099.11

+

Rev. Charles Maxfield, Interim Pastor

215-896-0196 e-mail: chuckmaxfield@gmail.com

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: Thurs. 9 am – 3 pm

Wendy Shane, Treasurer

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

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth;
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night;
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light;
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

I heard the bells on Christmas Day,
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom,
Had roll'd along the unbroken song,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep;
God is not dead, nor doth He sleep,
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men.

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

Refrain

O- star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring, to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign.

Refrain

Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and sacrifice,
Alleluia, Alleluia; Earth to the heav'ns replies,

Refrain