

December 8, 2019

St. John – Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2019

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Song of the Watchman” arr. by G. Blake

CALL TO WORSHIP

+HYMN

Blue Hymnal No. 94

“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness”

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

(Sung Responsively – Lead by the Choir)

Light a candle for all to see,

Light a candle for all to see.

The king shall come for you and me.

The king shall come for you and me.

Price of peace: Emmanuel.

Prince of peace: Emmanuel.

And with us He shall ever dwell.

And with us He shall ever dwell.

Emmanuel: God with us,

King of kings and Lord of lords!

Come fill our hearts with Your hope

And reign forever more.

(Narration – read by Dale & Dottie Fronheiser)

(Sung Responsively – Lead by the Choir)

Light a candle for all to see,

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The king shall come for you and me.

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Price of peace: Emmanuel.

Prince of peace: Emmanuel.

And with us He shall ever dwell.

**And with us He shall ever dwell.
Emmanuel: God with us,
King of kings and Lord of lords!
Come fill our hearts with Your hope
And reign forever more.**

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**We confess our sin, O Lord,
Our clouded eyes,
that see no further than our own advantage.
Our Dulled imagination
that does not know what others suffer.
Our willingness to profit from injustice
which we have not striven to prevent.
Our selfishness
which is quick to gain and slow to give.
Our unconcern, which makes us cry,
"Am I my brother's keeper?"
Our slackness in seeking your will for ourselves and
others.
For everything in our lives which may hide your true
light,
who are the light of the world.
O you who are ever merciful,
take away the evil of our conscious and
unconscious wrongs.
Forgive us and grant us new faithfulness. Amen.**

+SILENT CONFESSION

+WORDS OF ASSURANCE

+RESPONSE OF PRAISE

"My Tribute"

Faith & Praise No. 36

"My Tribute" words & music by Andraé Crouch ©1971 Communiqué Music CCLI License #11085161

To God be the glory, to God be the glory, To God be the glory for the things He has done. With His blood He has saved me; with His pow'r He has raised me; To God be the glory for the things He has done.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON [OT page 609] Isaiah 11:1-10

GOSPEL LESSON [NT page 2] Matthew 3:1-12

SERMON Rev. Charles Maxfield

"They Shall Not Hurt or Destroy"

+STATEMENT OF FAITH (unison) Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM "Come My Savior, Come My King" S. Penthel

+OFFERING RESPONSE

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

"In the Bleak Midwinter" words by C. Rossetti, Music by G. Holst ©1906 CCLI License #11085161

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him; my heart.

+OFFERING PRAYER

+PRAYER HYMN "As the Deer" Faith & Praise No. 71

SHARING PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Blue Hymnal pg. 37

+HYMN

"Love Divine"

Blue Hymnal No. 272

+COMMISSION & BENEDECTION

+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 "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" J. Schop



* Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex.

* Weekly Communitas are available on our website.

2020 Sponsorship Opportunities

Sign-up for flowers or bulletins in the Narthex.

If you would like to sponsor an upcoming Sunday, please sign up in the Narthex or contact Nikki in the church office.

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

Community Outreach Collection – During the month of December we will be collecting personal care items for Boyertown Multi-Service. They are in need of: Toothpaste (kids & adults), Toothbrushes (kids & adults), Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Deodorant, Hand Soap (liquid), Body Soap (liquid or bar), Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap.

Congregational Meeting – There will be a congregational meeting following the worship service to discuss and vote on the following items: 2020 Budget; Discussion about amendment to reduce the number of consistory members; Discussion to join the Evangelical Association.

Upcoming Events – Are you following St John Hill UCC on Facebook? Lots of upcoming events are listed on the page. Hint: If you click interested or going, Facebook will remind you of the event!

Boyertown Salvation Army – They are looking for volunteers a few hours at one of the Kettle stands. Two-hour shifts start at 9 am and end at 9 pm, Monday thru Saturday. The bells start ringing Monday, November 25th till December 24th. Contact Brenda Meitzler at 610-367-4091 if you are interested in helping out.

Caroling – We are planning to go Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins on December 15th 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.

Upcoming Christmas Worship, Fellowship & Events

December 8
2nd Sunday in Advent
Women's Guild Christmas Lunch at Giannotti's

December 15
3rd Sunday in Advent
No Adult Sunday School
9:30 am Worship with Cantata & Children's Program
Special Guest Visit following worship
Luncheon (all are welcome) following worship
1 pm Christmas Caroling to our Shut-Ins

December 22
4th Sunday in Advent

December 24
7 pm & 9 pm Christmas Eve Worship
Candlelight Service & Holy Communion

December 29
Pastor Chuck will be Away
9:30 am Special Worship Service of Carols
Lead by Eileen Fisher



HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday - December 8

8:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Worship Service
Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon at Giannotti's
7 pm Cantata Rehearsal

Monday - December 9

9 am Bible Study

Wednesday - December 11

6:30 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal
7:10 pm Cantata Narration Rehearsal
7:30 pm Cantata Rehearsal

HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:

Sunday - December 15

8:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Worship Service
Cantata & Children's Program Luncheon
1 pm Caroling

Monday - December 16

9 am Bible Study

Wednesday - December 18

7 pm Sr. 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: Rick Furches & Matt Weller

Worship Assistant: Dale Fronheiser

Nursery Caregivers: Joel & Nikki Weller

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

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins: Jan & Eileen Fisher

Flowers: Matt & Kira Weller

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: 48

Last Week's Offering: \$3,289.00

2019 Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$2,744.29

+

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:

Mon. 11 am – 3 pm; Tues. & Thurs. 9 am – 3 pm

Wendy Shane, Treasurer

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