

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2020

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

God of blessing,
you call us to be one with you and your creation
in love, faithfulness, and truth.
Help us to carry out the vows we make:
to adore you with our whole heart,
to live in mutual support of one another,
and to love as if your reign has fully come. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight James Biery

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are those whose footsteps follow the way
of the Lord—

**the path of justice and mercy
that draws us toward wholeness.**

Happy are those whose hearts delight in the law
of the Lord—

**teachings that root us in love, sustain us in hope,
and nurture generous spirits within us.**

Happy are our souls when we gather to worship the Living Lord—

the Fountainhead of Grace, the Giver of Life.

*SONG OF PRAISE O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing Hymnal, No. 610

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**God of steadfast love,
how often do we utter careless words
that humiliate or harm?
How often do we lash out in anger,
when we could reach out with kindness?
How often do we hurt those we love
and tear away at relationships that give life?
Forgive us, we pray.
In your abundant mercy,
give us the grace
to confess our faults,
to seek forgiveness,
and to work for reconciliation**

**in our homes and our communities.
Turn our hearts back to you
and teach us the ways of love,
so that we might hold fast to one another,
and draw near to your presence.**
(Time of silent reflection)

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace!
Thanks be to God.

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE Glory Be to the Father Hymnal, No. 581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Alice Lanning

SCRIPTURE READING
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Page No. 163
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 118:1-8
Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.
**Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their
whole heart,**
who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.
You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.
O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!
**Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your
commandments.**
I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.
I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

ANTHEM Clap Happy Psalm Joe Ridenour

SCRIPTURE READING
Matthew 5:21-37 Page No. 786
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE But I Say to You Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

We Are One in the Spirit

Hymnal, No. 300

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**In Jesus of Nazareth,
true humanity was realized once for all.
Jesus, a Palestinian Jew,
lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations,
joys, and sorrows.
He expressed the love of God
in word and deed
and became a brother
to all kinds of sinful men and women.
But his complete obedience
led him into conflict with his people.
His life and teaching judged their goodness,
religious aspirations, and national hopes.
Many rejected him and demanded his death.
In giving himself freely for them,
he took upon himself the judgment
under which everyone stands convicted.
God raised him from the dead,
vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.
The victim of sin became victor,
and won the victory
over sin and death for all.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.08

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

When Love is Found

Emma Lou Diemer

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymnal, No. 606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

Lord, Make Us More Holy

Hymnal, No. 313

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Toccata in 7

John Rutter

*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for February 23: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2 or Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9.

The **Food & Shelter** item of the month for February is **easy open food items**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

Ushers for today's service are Nick Lindley & Michael Yeager.

Join us after worship for the Annual Congregational meeting following a soup potluck today.

Ash Wednesday service will be Wednesday, February 26 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend this brief yet meaningful service marking the beginning of the Lent season.

No garage sales, no raffles, no magazines to buy! Let's make this easy! You are invited to participate in our **Envelope Fundraiser for our Camp and Conference Fund**. Simply pick one or more envelopes off the bulletin board in the hall. The number of the envelope should be the amount you are giving...though you are always welcome to give more! Place your donation in the offering plate, or give to the office. Thank you!

SUNDAY

February 16

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
12:00 P.M. – Potluck and Annual Congregational Meeting
5:30 P.M. – Stewardship Meeting

WEDNESDAY

February 19

3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir
6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

THURSDAY

February 20

6:00 P.M. – Worship Committee Meeting

SUNDAY

February 23

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

KNOWN JOYS & CONCERNS

Those who seek healing

Lola Carroll
Sandy Clarke
Jan Cunningham
Laura Eckel
Doug Forsyth
Blair Lanning
Judd Lanning
Jayelle Martin
Emily Ryther
Gary Thraikill
Jona Thiessen
Janann Yeager
Melinda Clements
Pam Normile
Darrell Hinson (Karen Upton's father)
Paul Gallagher (Karen Upton's biological father)
Carole Jo Evans (Tracy Evans' mother)
Jim Leseney (Vince Leseney's father)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Samuel McCann whose grandmother died December 11.

Joys

Julian Warren Beck, born December 26, son of Jenny and Warren Beck, proud grandparents are Susan and John Beck

Seminary Graduate

Samuel McCann, Pittsburgh Theo. Seminary

We lift up in prayer the country of Cameroon and pray for the unrest our brothers and sisters are experiencing there.

Birthdays

February 16 – Mary Clark

February 16 – Ryan Johnson

Anniversaries

February 19 – Nathan & Cassie DeClaire

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week:

France, Germany, Monaco

We are thankful for:

- the rich historic and cultural legacies that have come to the world from these lands.
- Franco-German friendship, reconciliation and cooperation that has emerged since the hostilities of the second world war.
- how churches and governments in France and Germany have welcomed new immigrants.
- the generosity in supporting ecumenical, interfaith and development work in the world.

We pray for:

- overcoming fears and suspicions that still remain from 20th century atrocities, and more recent terrorist attacks.
- churches and governments to effectively counter anti-immigrant populist sentiments in these countries so that they truly will become more multi-ethnic.
- economic decisions that are accountable to those who are most vulnerable and not only to those making a profit.
- election of political leaders who will further the common good not only for their country but for the sake of Europe and the rest of world.