

December 17, 2017

St. John – Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “The Hands That First Held Mary’s Child”

By D. Forest

Violin & Piano duet by Samantha Anderson & Elmer Miller

+CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my
God as long as I live.

**May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the
Lord.**

+HYMN “O Come All Ye Faithful” Blue Hymnal No. 112

CONFESSION OF SIN

~ Silent Prayers ~

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

Hear the Good News in Jesus Christ. We are forgiven;
Thanks be to God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The light of Christ shines in the darkness and the darkness
cannot overcome it.

Christ’s light shines in the hearts gathered here today.

We are the church – called to be a beacon of light to the
world.

**We are shepherds of the light – called to be ministers of
Christ’s gospel of reconciliation.**

We will carry Christ’s light forth into the world.

**We will proclaim the Good News, rejoicing with exceeding
great joy!**

Today we light the third candle in celebration of the joy of
Christ’s coming into the world, and the joy of
discipleship! Like the shepherds who rejoiced at the
message of the angel, we rejoice today; and we are

called to bear the message to the world that this tiny baby is God's promise of hope, peace, and joy to us all. Thanks be to God.

(light the first, second & third candles)

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Early Elementary Class Recitation "We Are Grateful"
Maddy Bender, Gavin Bender, Zachary Weller, Lisa Anhalt

Pre-K Class Recitation "Sing A Song" & "The Greatest Gift"
Amy Anhalt, Noah Anhalt, Tre Dolansky, Jacob Weller

Christmas Song "Three Wise Men"

CALL TO OFFERING

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Good Christian Men Rejoice" Small Town Poets

+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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

CANTATA

+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 "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" arr. by J. Denton



Sing *Joy* to All the World!

A Christmas Celebration By Lloyd Larson

Tidings of Comfort and Joy!

A Light Shall Shine

Prepare the Way!

David's Royal City

Glory in the Highest!

Joy of Every Longing Heart

Worship Christ, the Newborn King

Sing Joy to all the World!

Cantata Participants

Soprano

Kristen Bender
Dottie Fronheiser
Tracy Kochey
Mary Lake-Dillensnyder
Linda Mauger
Sonya Moyer
Sally Shirk
Susan Standhardt

Bass

Rick Furches
Gary Smith

Narrators

Carey & Cheryl Anderson
Ray Kochey
Jane Prutzman

Alto

Andrea Anderson
Samantha Anderson
Eileen Fisher
Clara Shakespeare
Pam Vargo

Tenor

Charles Anhalt
Jan Fisher
Bob Fleming
Bunny Hare

Sound Technician

Nikki Weller



Special thanks to all the participants in this morning's Worship Service. My sincere gratitude extends to all! May you have a Blessed Christmas. God Bless! ~Elmer Miller

Join us following the worship today in the basement for a visit and gift from a special guest and also upstairs for a luncheon.

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.

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

2018 Offering Envelopes – The 2018 offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex.

Newsletter Deadline – Today, December 17 is the January newsletter deadline. Please submit your information to Nikki (nikki@stjohnhillucc.org) by this evening. Thanks!

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 (note the price increase for flowers). 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!

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 TODAY 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 17

8:30 am Sunday School
8:30 am Confirmation Class
9:30 am Worship Service with
Cantata & Children’s Program
Joyful Noise Offering Collected
1 pm Christmas Caroling

Monday - December 18

9 am Prayer Group
9:30 am Bible Study

Wednesday - December 20

7 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal

HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:

Sunday - December 24

8:30 am Sunday School
8:30 am Confirmation Class
9:30 am Worship Service
7 pm Christmas Eve Worship
10 pm Christmas Eve Worship

Monday - December 25

Merry Christmas!

Wednesday - December 27

No 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.

- 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

Serving Today

Consistory Helpers for December: Matt Weller & Bob Fleming

Worship Assistant: Barb Helbig

Nursery Caregivers: No Nursery – Children's Program

This week's flowers are sponsored by Tyler & Wendy Shane in memory of Russell Dobson.

This week's bulletins are sponsored by Lisa Wagner in honor of Kyah's 17th birthday.

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins: Arlan Schaeffer

Flowers: Arlan Schaeffer

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.



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: Mon. - Thurs. 12:30 – 4 pm

Wendy Shane, Treasurer

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