

**January 6, 2019**

# St. John - Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

**Epiphany Sunday**

**January 6, 2019**

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

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE                      “The Star in the East”                      E. Higgins

## CALL TO WORSHIP

+HYMN                      “We Three Kings”

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*

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Father, we have done wrong,  
by not caring when we should have loved;  
by our indifference to the cry of need;  
by hating and ignoring our neighbors.  
We have rejected the way of your Son.  
Forgive us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

+SILENT CONFESSION

+WORDS OF ASSURANCE

+RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*"O Thou Joyful"*

Blue Hymnal No. 117

"O Thou Joyful" words by Eden Publishing House, ©1921 CCLI License #11085161

*O thou joyful, O thou wonderful Grace revealing  
Christmas-tide! Jesus came to win us From all sin  
within us: Glorify, glorify the Holy Child!*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**God, source of all light,  
by your Word you give light to the soul.  
Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and  
understanding that, being taught by you in Holy  
Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to  
know the things that pertain to life and holiness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

[OT page 654]

Isaiah 60:1-7

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 12:1-12

[NT page 11]

SERMON

"Strange Visitors"

Pastor Chuck Maxfield

+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 "Another Year is Dawning"

+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; give my heart.*

+OFFERING PRAYER

SHARING PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN Blue Hymnal No. 122

"O Morning Star"

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (responsive)

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord God!

**It is good that we do!**

We give you thanks, Lord God, creator and Father, for bringing the worlds into being, for forming all persons in your likeness, for recalling us when we

rebel against you, and for keeping the world in your steadfast love.

**We praise you especially for Jesus Christ, who was born of Mary and lived as one of us; Who knew exactly the life we know, and yet was obedient to your purposes, even to his death on a cross.**

We thank you that you stamped his death with victory by raising him in power and by making him head over all things.

**We rejoice in the continuing presence of the Holy Spirit, in the church you have gathered, in its task of obedience, and in the promise of eternal life.**

With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your Holy name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy. God of love and majesty, the whole world speaks of your glory, O God, most high!**

Grant O Lord, by your Holy Spirit, that the bread we break and the cup we share may be for us a means of grace; that receiving them we may be made one with Christ and he with us, and remain members of His body, until we feast with Him anew in His kingdom.

**In the strength Christ gives, we offer ourselves to you, giving thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

*This morning we will receive the Communion Elements by coming to the Communion Table. The servers will escort worshippers to the front of the sanctuary. Note that the outer rings are filled with wine, while the inner rings have grape juice, and are a lighter color. Please partake of each element as you receive it.*

+HYMN      “This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,  
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No! I’m gonna let it shine,  
Hide it under a bushel? No! I’m gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Won’t let satin blow it out, I’m gonna let it shine,  
Won’t let satin blow it out, I’m gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Shine all over Hill Church, I’m gonna let it shine,  
Shine all over Hill Church, I’m gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Let it shine till Jesus comes, I’m gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine till Jesus comes, I’m gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

+COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

+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

“The Opening Year”

L. Smith



- \* 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 TODAY. 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 - 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

***HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:***

**Sunday - January 13**

8:30 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Worship Service  
10:30 am Worship Team  
Meeting

**Monday - January 14**

9 am Bible Study

**Tuesday - January 15**

6:30 pm Cemetery Audit  
7:30 pm Cemetery Meeting

**Wednesday - January 16**

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 January: Terry Shane & Matt Weller

Worship Assistant: Ray Kochey

Nursery Caregivers: Dennis & Nancy Weller

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins: Marie Schollenberger

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: 63

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Last Week's Offering: \$3,168.69

2018 Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$3,099.11

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**Rev. Charles Maxfield, Interim Pastor**

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

**Elmer Miller, Organist**

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**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