

December 15, 2019

St. John – Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Mary Did You Know”

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

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.

Gift of love: Emmanuel.

Gift of love: 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 love

And reign forever more.

(Narration – read by Ray & Tracy Kochey)

(Sung Responsively – Lead by the Choir)

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

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/11/christmas-confession.html>

O God, you search us out and know us,
and all that we are is open to you.
We confess that we have sinned.

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we make no room for Christ,
and fail to welcome him into our lives,

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we seek to cut down those
who might rise above us,

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we sanitise your birth place
and erase from memory the poor and displaced,

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth,
and fail to rejoice over his everyday presence,

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

We turn to you, O Christ,
perfect union of Spirit and flesh;

**We renounce evil;
We claim your love;
We choose to be made whole.**

+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.***

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Christmas Readings

“The Greatest Gift” read by Zach Weller & Jacob Weller

“The Best Part of Christmas”

read by Tre Dolansky & Zach Weller

“The Christmas Story”

read by Celie Bender, Julie Weller & Macy Weller

Song

“Listen to the Christmas Story”

“Christmas”

read by Maddy & Gavin Bender

“Year Round”

read by Samantha Jo Dolansky

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

CALL TO OFFERING

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Shepherd’s Hymn”

J. Mansfield

+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

Blue Hymnal pg. 37

CANTATA

+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

G.F. Handel, arr. by L. Smith

"And the Glory of the Lord"



- * 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.*

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

**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.

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!

Thank You – Thank you to the Wagner Family for donating the beautiful Christmas Tree in the sanctuary.

2020 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 **2020** sign up charts for “Flower & Bulletin Sponsorship” are posted on the Narthex bulletin board. The cost is \$35 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!

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.

Newsletter Deadline – Today, December 15 is the January newsletter deadline. Please submit your information to Nikki (nikki@stjohnhillucc.org) by this evening. Thanks!

Upcoming Christmas Worship, Fellowship & Events

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



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

A Thrill of Hope

By Joel Raney

A Thrill of Hope

*Long Ago, Prophets Knew
Sing We Now of Christmas
The First Noel
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

A Gift of Love

*Love Came Down at Christmas
Angels, from the Realms of Glory
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Away in a Manger
The Gift of Love*

A Prayer for Peace

*Silent Night, Holy Night
Let There Be Peace on Earth
O Holy Night*

A Song of Joy

*Rejoice
Mary Had a Baby
Angels, We Have Heard on High
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Joy to the World
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

Cantata Participants

Soprano

Kristen Bender
Dottie Fronheiser
Tracy Kochey
Sonya Moyer
Gloria Romig
Sally Shirk
Susan Standhardt
Dorothy Wagner

Alto

Eileen Fisher
Clara Shakespeare
Pam Vargo

Tenor

Ty Botts
Jan Fisher
Bunny Hare

Bass

Rick Furches
Brian Schaeffer
Gary Smith

Narrators

Carey Anderson
Cheryl Anderson
Ray Kochey
Jane Prutzman

Sound Technician

Nikki Weller

HAPPENING THIS 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

HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:

Sunday - December 22

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

Tuesday - December 24

7 & 9 pm Christmas Eve
Worship

Wednesday - December 25

Merry Christmas!!

"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: Ray Kochey

This week's flowers are sponsored by Matt & Kira Weller in honor of Jake's 7th birthday.

This week's bulletins are sponsored by Jan & Eileen Fisher in honor of their 43rd wedding anniversary.

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins: Fronheiser's

Flowers: Fronheiser's

2020 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: 56

Last Week's Offering: \$2,555.00

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