

December 29, 2019

St. John – Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

1st Sunday after Christmas **December 29, 2019**

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “The Babe of Bethlehem” F. Ritter

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

God has come among us. Let us rejoice.

Praise the Lord, all creation.

For God’s name alone is exalted.

God’s glory is above heaven and earth.

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God of goodness and light, illumine a path for us by which we may walk in faithfulness. Too often we have lost our way. Too often we have lived out of our pride and stubbornness and failed to turn to you in our times of need. You have given us all that we need to live sober lives in a right mind. Impel us to sin no more and give us a more perfect knowledge of your divine ways in the world. Help us accept the forgiveness you offer if we but only ask for it. Grant us the opportunity to celebrate this coming year with a faithfulness that we scarcely knew we had in us. Power this celebration through your Holy Spirit – the greatest gift you can offer us today. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

CAROL "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Angels, from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth;
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Shine in our hearts, Lord Jesus. Shine in our lives.
Shine in the Word now read and proclaimed, and
we, children of your light, shining for all people,
will follow. Amen.**

CAROL

“Joy to the World”

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing.
And heaven and nature sing;
and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the World! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, Rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy. Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat, Repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love. And wonders of His love.
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM “Let There Be Peace On Earth”

+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

CAROL "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Good Christian friends, rejoice,
With heart and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born to-day;
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born to-day!
Christ is born to-day!

Good Christian friends, rejoice,
With heart and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened the heavenly door,
And man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice,
With heart and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

CAROL "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous songs prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, our newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

SHARING PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Blue Hymnal pg. 37

CAROL "Silent Night"

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia!"
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light!
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

SONG

"O Holy Night"

Solo by Kristen Bender; Guitar by Rick Furches

+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

"Joyful Tidings"

J. Moffatt



* Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex.

* Weekly Communitas are available on our website.

January Sponsorship Opportunities

Bulletins: 12, 19, 26

Flowers: 12, 19, 26

*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 – We will be collecting for the Boyertown Salvation Army Food Pantry during the month of January. Below is a list of items needed to fill the shelves in the pantry and the hearts of their clients. If you have any questions, please see Nikki Weller.

- Cereal
- Cereal Bars
- Pop Tarts
- Granola Bars

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!

De-Decorating – Following worship on Sunday, January 5th we will take down the Christmas decorations in the church and Sunday School. If you are able, please stay for a short time to help de-decorate. Many hands make light work.

Inclement Weather – In the event of inclement weather on Sunday mornings, announcements regarding the Hill Church Sunday schedule will be given in the following ways:

Church website: <http://www.stjohnhillucc.org>

Church telephone answering machine: 610-367-8114

WFMZ TV Storm Center – Broadcast Channel 69

(May be a different channel on your system)

Also, please keep in mind that power outages may affect our ability to use certain of the above resources, and the ability of some members to have access to those outlets. So we encourage church members to be in touch with one another to help spread the word about possible cancellations and changes. Thank you.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday - December 29

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

Wednesday - January 1

Happy New Year

HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:

Sunday - January 5

8:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Worship Service
De-Decorating the Sanctuary
& Sunday School after
Worship

Monday - January 6

9 am Bible Study
7 pm Sunday School Meeting

Wednesday - January 8

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 January: Sally Shirk & Matt Weller

Worship Assistant: Eileen Fisher

Nursery Caregivers: Dale & Dottie Fronheiser

This week's flowers and bulletins are sponsored by Bob & Clara Shakespeare in memory of loved ones.

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins: Forest & Rosalie Fronheiser

Flowers: Glen & Carolyn Rambo

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: 52 Christmas Eve: 7 pm: 89 9 pm: 71

Last Week's Offering: \$1,455.00

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:

By Appointment

Wendy Shane, Treasurer

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