

SAINT PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Fleetwood, Pennsylvania
First Sunday After Christmas
 December 31, 2017

GATHERING PRAYER

Almighty God, by the power of your Holy Spirit open our eyes, ears, hearts and our very lives to your presence this day. As we worship you this day, may our lives be a healing remembrance of your love to all the lives of those we touch. Amen

INTROIT

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *"As With Gladness Those of Old"* No. 159

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

CENTERING

PRELUDE (8:55) "Little Drummer Boy" Nick Hill -snare drum

PRELUDE 10:25) "Hutlaanee" Jill Haley

This is an Alaskan Indian word for : "invoking the necessity for respectful behavior in all interactions with humans and nature. It also points one toward proper respect of what is sacred". As we start 2018, I hope we can remember these wise words of the Alaskan Indians.

Pastor: We gather in the name of the father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All (singing): Amen

Installation of 2018 Consistory

Pastor: Grace, mercy and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth.

People: To God be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever.

All (singing): *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.
(The Congregation may be seated.)

Recognition of Those Who Have Served

Pastor: Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

People: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

Pastor: There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

People: The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

Pastor: Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

People: It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

Pastor: If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all parts share its happiness.

People: All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

Pastor: These people have been called by God, in accordance with the faith and order of this church, to serve among us. They have accepted their call and are before us in witness to their willingness to serve.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with the responsibility for a particular service in the ministry of the church, whether gathered or scattered.

Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

Individuals: I am.

Pastor: Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

Individuals: I do, relying on God's grace.

Pastor: Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters in Christ who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

People: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

Laying on of Hands

Pastor: Let us pray. Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on; them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name.

People: Amen.

Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of St. Paul's United Church of Christ of the United Church of Christ, I rejoice to announce: You are installed in your respective positions.

SPECIAL MUSIC (8:55)

"Hutlaanee" Jill Haley

This is an Alaskan Indian word for: "invoking the necessity for respectful behavior in all interactions with humans and nature. It also points one toward proper respect of what is sacred". As we start 2018, I hope we can remember these wise words of the Alaskan Indians.

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM (10:25)

"Led by a Star"

Larson and Martin

Many nights the wisemen looked into the evening sky,
Searching through the glorious heavens for a long expected sign.
When at last the star appeared upon a cloudless night,
quickly leaving everyone they followed in its light.

Led by a Star, looking for a Child;
Led by a Star, over many miles.
Led by a Star with the gifts they bring;

Led by a Star, searching, searching for a King.

Through the winding countryside,
Not knowing where it led, faithfully they
followed on with the starlight overhead.
When it came to rest above the place the Baby lay,
kneeling down, they worshipped Him
and went upon their way.

Led by a Star, looking for a Child;
Led by a Star over many miles.
Led by a Star, with the gifts they bring;
Led by a Star, searching, searching for a King.

WORD (Congregation Standing)

Soprano 

Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le lu ia, Al-le lu ia, Al le lu ia. Al-le

S 

lu ia, Al le lu ia, Al le lu ia Al le lu ia.

SERMON TEXT

Luke 2:22-40

NT pg. 59

(Congregation May Be Seated)

SERMON

"Great Un-expectations"
(Congregation Stands)

RESPONSIVE HYMN

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"
(Congregation May Be Seated)

#144

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORDS PRAYER

6

Choral Response:

Be Near Me, Lord Jesus

Soprano Be Near me Lord Je sus I ask Thee to stay; close by me for -

S 7 ev er and love me I pray. Bless all the dear chil dren in Thy ten der care; and

S 14 fit us for hea ven to live with Thee there.

GIVING

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

THE OFFERTORY *"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"*
(The Congregation stands)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

All (singing):

Soprano Let's wor ship and a dore Him, let's wor ship and a dore Him, let's

S 6 wor ship and a dore Him - Christ the Lord.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SENDING

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

7

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

#154

THE BENEDICTION

CHORAL SENDING

Fourfold *Music: Roland M. Carter (b. 1942)*

A - - men,

A - men, a - men, a - - men.

CHIMES

POSTLUDE



MISSION STATEMENT

As Followers of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves to:

- Enthusiastically proclaim and teach God’s love through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Share God’s love with neighbors near and far.
- Live as a Christian community of hope, acceptance, and encouragement in a rapidly changing world.

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL’S

- If you are visiting and would like to know more about St. Paul’s please fill out the visitor’s card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. One of our pastors will contact you.
- There are assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired available at the sound board in the rear of the church.
- **Adult Sunday school is held at 9 a.m. - Generations Class in the Lounge off the Narthex. Also, Adult Bible Study is held Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings. See Announcement sheets in the bulletin for details.**
- Children are always welcome in our worship space (as are the joyful noises that they sometimes add). For those moments when it might be needed, we do have a nursery room in the rear of the church that anyone with younger children is welcome to use. The room is equipped with a speaker that will allow you to continue enjoying the service. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.
- Activity bags for children can be found on a rack in the Narthex.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(For the week of December 31, 2017)

The **Altar Flowers** are presented in loving memory of Kenneth Bingaman by his wife, Lorraine, and his sons, David and Bradley.

The **Bulletins** are sponsored by Kathi and Jim Fry in celebration of their 20th wedding anniversary.

The **Upper Room Publication** for this month is sponsored by Anna Mae Weiss with congratulations to Linda Sue Speece on her well deserved retirement. We will miss you!

Coffee Time Sponsor: The Walizer Family

Ushers: 8:55 a.m. – Dennis Wanner, Betsy Becker, Mike Werner, Christoph Snyder

10:25 a.m. – Paul Moll, Stephen Maurek, Grace Hetrick, Jack Creswell

Readers: 8:55 a.m. – Nancy Boyer **10:25 a.m.** – David Balmer

Acolytes: 8:55 a.m. – Herbert Dunkelberger and Jaiden Valick

10:25 a.m. – Parker Milyo and Emma Ertel

Attendance: December 24, 2017 8:55 a.m. – 102 10:25 a.m. – 84

Christmas Eve 7:00 pm – 197 11:00pm - 201

November	Income	Expense	Difference
General Acct	\$35,157.13	\$28,402.30	\$ 6,754.83
Other Accts	\$19,960.50	\$ 9,373.81	\$10,586.69

Year to date

General Acct	\$366,817.28	\$433,392.09	-\$66,574.81
Other Accts	\$142,648.89	\$132,434.00	\$10,214.89



Position	Out Going	New Member
Elder	Mary Ann Hayes	Marie Richdale
Elder	David Balmer	Ro Wolf
Deacon	Tom Agnew	David DeAngelo
Deacon	Betsy Becker	Dennis Raudenbush
Deacon	Linda Schaeffer	Bill Thomas
Deacon	Allen Crockett	Jason Crockett
Deacon	Jack Creswell	Jim Goldman – Fill 2 year term
Deacon	Mike Werner	Seth Walizer Fill 2 year term
Deacon	Donna Rader	Melissa Blickley Fill 1 year term

Junior Deacons:

Grace Hetrick	Caroline Blickley
Stephen Maurek	Jamin Valick