

I have always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that gratitude can also be lived as a discipline - an explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy.

Gold Hymnal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Ode to Thanksgiving”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The Apostle Paul admonishes us to rejoice in the Lord always!

People: The people of Israel wondered – how do we sing the Lord’s songs in a strange land? How do we sing our songs of faith while people mock us?

Leader: The disciples wondered – how do we rejoice at the foot of the cross? How do we rejoice when the one who called us and led us is no longer with us?

People: How do we rejoice when things of faith are used as excuses for violence? How do we rejoice when our world and the church is changing so drastically?

Leader: Let us rejoice for no matter what God is with us and God will never leave us. Let us rejoice for Christ is our Savior!
AMEN.

***HYMN “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”.....no. 392**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God we confess that we have more questions of faith than we have answers. We confess that our doubts are sometimes more abundant than our certainty. We confess that our Love for you and for our neighbors is not as confident or as strong as it ought to be. And we do not give thanks as often or as fully as we should.

Merciful God, forgive us and open us to the wonder of your abundant life and love. Forgive us and restore our lives and renew our desire for a community where all are welcomed and you are praised. AMEN.

+SILENT PRAYER *(please use this time to confess your own personal sin)*

+KYRIE

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: If, in Christ, you approach our merciful God with a repentant heart – all is forgiven!

People: Let us rejoice for we are and always will be God’s people. AMEN.

***GLORIA PATRI.....no. 142**

YOUNG PEOPLE’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 23 pg. 435

CHOIR ANTHEM *“Lord of the Harvest”*

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 6:25-33 pg. 787

MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

***THE CREED.....inside front cover of Hymnal**

***HYMN “Let All Things Now Living”.....no. 389**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY *“Lift Thine Eyes”*

***OFFERING RESPONSE/THE DOXOLOGY.....no. 382**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

***HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God”.....no. 525**

CHIMES, QUIET MEDITATION (Congregation seated)

POSTLUDE (those who are able please *- stand, +-kneel)

Church website.....www.peaceunitedchurch.org

Pastor (pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org) William Hoch (335.0387)

Student Pastor..... Gabrielle Kennedy

Organist..... Mrs. Virginia Tobias

Assistant Organist..... Mrs. Lois Haldeman

Secretary (secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org)..... Mrs. Beverly Madara

Treasurer..... Mr. Michael Madara

Altar Guild Workers..... Sylvia Leach and Linda Coventry

Greeters..... Harvey and Esther Schlouch

Head Usher..... Art Pannebecker

The altar flowers are given in memory of Ray Firestone by his wife

Pauline Firestone.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Royce McCrabb

Doris Fultz

Bev Martin

Joan Sheidy

Mel Gerhart

Shirley Crowther

Virginia & Toby

The Health and Welfare Committee has placed a number of prayer shawls in the Narthex. If you know someone who would be comforted with one, we invite you to take one and share it with them.

The Wednesday Work Crew is looking for some help. Members of the work crew arrive between 7 and 8 am and work for a couple of hours. A particular need at this time is someone with some electrical ability for a few, small, occasional tasks around the church. Your help would be appreciated. For more information, please speak with John Haldeman.

Christmas poinsettias can be ordered before and after the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, November 29th, December 6th, and December 13th. The poinsettias will be placed in the church on Friday December 18th and will be there for Christmas Eve and Sunday December 20th. The poinsettias are red, 1 branch, 5 bloom and cost \$7.00 and can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

COMING EVENTS

Monday, December 7th – Benevolence Committee Meeting – 6:00 pm
Thursday, December 10th – Christmas Party at Colonial Lodge – As in the past, we ask for donations of gifts for the residents. Gifts may be cologne or perfumes, candy, socks, health and beauty products or other small, useful items.

HOLIDAY EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 25th – Thanksgiving Eve Community Worship with St. Paul's and Muddy Creek Lutheran Churches – 7:00pm
Sunday, November 29th – First Sunday of Advent – Communion
Sunday, December 6th – Second Sunday of Advent – Hanging of the Greens. Please remain after Services to help us decorate the church for the Christmas Season. A Pot Luck dinner will be held.
Sunday, December 13th – Third Sunday of Advent – Church Program
Sunday, December 20th – Fourth Sunday of Advent
Thursday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:30 pm

PEACE

United Church of Christ

Denver, Pennsylvania

*To all who are weary and need rest; to all who are lonely and need fellowship; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who pray and to all who do not but ought; to all who sin and need a Savior; and to whomsoever will come – this church opens wide the door and says in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ,
WELCOME!*



November 22, 2015
Thanksgiving Sunday