

OLD UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

200 Union Church Road, Mars, PA 16046

724-538-8672

www.OldUnionChurch.com

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Peter d.

Choir Director/Organist

Shelley Z.

Pianist

Cindy M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 15, 2024, 11:00 AM

PRELUDE (Time for preparation)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES (tune #157)

The candle of joy’s flame reminds us to sing,
For God is at work and will do a new thing.
The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.
God’s kingdom is one of delight and surprise.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child” HS #32

*CONFESSION OF SIN: “Come to us in our weakness, Lord Jesus. We are unable to live as you desire, no matter how hard we try. Come to us, Lord Jesus, and soften the hardness of our hearts with your loving touch. Come and deliver us from evil: the evil of the world around us but also the evil that lurks within us. Set us free from ourselves, and shine the light of your love upon us to save us. As we celebrate your coming as King, we ask that you reign over us with justice and righteousness. Amen.”

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI (Song of Praise) #622

SPECIAL MUSIC

NEW TESTAMENT (Unison): Luke 1:26-38

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 72:1-19

CHILDREN’S TIME

*HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #123

SERMON “The King’s Blessing”

*HYMN “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” #133

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (back cover of hymnal)

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY (Song of Dedication) #624

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*APOSTLES CREED (back cover of hymnal)

*BENEDICTION (Closing Blessing)
(Response: “...And build each other up.”)

*CLOSING SONG “Child of Love” #156

(* If you are able, please stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leading Worship This Morning:

Advent Candles: Janine C. and John Y.

Scripture Reader: Jill M.

Children's Time: Lorene W.

Today is the deadline to drop off cards for our Christmas card exchange. Please bundle your cards in alphabetical order, and only include people who attend worship. Unclaimed cards will be discarded after the first of the year.

The session will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00.

The Adult Study is exploring the meanings of the Advent candles this month. Next week's theme will be "love."

The study meets at 10:00 in the conference room.

The choir will present the Christmas cantata "Messiah: Heaven's Glory" during worship next Sunday.

Make plans to celebrate Christ's birth with us at our Christmas Eve service, which begins at 7:30. The service will include carols, candle-lighting, communion, and an original Christmas tale. The offering from the Christmas Eve service will support the work of the deacons for the coming year.

A lot of love was shared during the Christmas party last week! Posters of Bible verses that people love were hanging all around the fellowship hall. They are laying on the front of the stage: feel free to take any that you would like. If you can't find the one that you want, please speak with Ruth Geller.

The Lego Tournament will be held Saturday January 11. Please speak with Peter if you'd like to help.

You can pick up an updated copy of the phone and address list in the lobby.

The Evan City Food Cupboard is collecting paper products and storage bags for December.

Special Prayers of Concern:

Louise S.
Josh K.
Maggie D.
Ed & Jeanne C.
Gloria U.
Dick C.
Logan R.
Betty L.
Dolly K.
Joan T.
Howard B.
Midge M.
Josh H.

Mission Co-Workers
John McCall, Taiwan

Military:

Matthew David M.
Justin T.
Scott F.
Will B.
Jacob H.
Christian C.
Ryan W.
Hunter M.
Christopher H.
Kevin E.
Danner C.
Daniel B.
Spencer K.
Luke O.
Addison D.
Colton V.