

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. 4th Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

January 8, 2012

The Baptism of Christ

8:00 and 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *“Cherish all your happy moments; they make a fine cushion for old age.”*

- Christopher Darlington Morley

Prelude: *“O Hail This Brightest Day of Days”* Bach
...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”* #67
...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements
...All May Stand...

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship:

Pastor: The powerful voice of God created all worlds.
That same voice calls us to worship.

People: **Ascribe to our God glory and strength.**
Come before God’s glorious majesty.

Pastor: God’s strength shakes the wilderness.
That same strength is offered to people of faith.

People: **The flames of God penetrate our cold hearts.**
May God bless all people with true peace.

Pastor: Come together to remember your baptism.
Gather to celebrate the Spirit’s gifts.

People: **The heavens open to us at the Word of God.**
Surely God forgives and makes whole.

Act of Confession:

Pastor: John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We who have received the gift of baptism, recognize the need to confess our sins to remind ourselves of our finitude and of God’s amazing grace.

All: **Creator God, you have created us, but we have chosen to go our own way. You have reclaimed us, but we have, by our arrogant attitudes and actions, rejected the claim. You have sent your Holy Spirit to break into our controlled and unimaginative routines, and we have not appreciated that burst of creative energy. We are ready now, ready to admit that our ways are full of dangerous byways. Our mistakes and failures have often come because, in our false pride, we have not listened to you. Save us again by your forgiving love. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness:

Pastor: A voice from heaven said to Jesus: “You are my own Child, the Beloved; with you I am well-pleased.” Jesus Christ passed on that gift to those who dared to follow. We, too, are beloved children of God, loved, forgiven, and sent on a mission. All who are truly sorry for their sin are relieved of its burden and are recreated in God’s image. Celebrate God’s strength and glory!

Sung Response: “Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.
...Please Be Seated...

The People of God Share the Word of God

Loud Offering

A Time to Pass Our Faith Onto Our Children

The Holy Scripture:

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5 Page 1

Epistle: Acts 19:1-7 Page 903

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:4-11 Page 812

If you would like to follow the readings, the Bibles are under the hymnal rack.

Sermon: “*New Beginning in Water*” Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger

Installation of Deacons, Elders, Board of Christian Education, and
Special Gifts Committees

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

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 or in various settings in the life of the world. 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 the other 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 as deacons, elders, members of the Board of Christian Education, and Special Gifts Committee. 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 responsibility for a particular service in the ministry of the church.

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? If so, please answer, I am.

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of God? If so, please answer, I do, relying on God’s grace.

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.

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.**

(Those individuals requiring ordination by the laying on of hands, please kneel at the chancel rail.)

The People of God Pray

Celebrations of Joy and Moments of Concern

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Invitation

The Offertory: *Organ Interlude* (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: “*Come, Follow That Star*” (10:30) Besig
...*All May Stand...*

The Offertory Response: “*Doxology*” #46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication and Commitment

We Share the Lord's Supper

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Communion Prayer

Seraphic Hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of Thy glory;
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
...Please Be Seated...**

Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.
Amen.**

Words of Institution

Consecration of the Elements

Pastor: Consecrate, therefore, by Your Word and Spirit, both us and these gifts of bread and wine, that in receiving them at this table, and in offering here our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and one another, and remain faithful to the tasks He sets before us.

People: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to You, eternal God, and give thanks that You have called us to serve You. Amen.

Pastor: Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we participate in the life Christ gives. Come, for all things are ready.

The Communion

The Blessing

...*All May Stand...*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: We thank You God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all His gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth Your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Commission and Blessing:

Pastor: God gives strength to those who will receive it. God will bless the people with peace.

People: We need the strength God will provide. We accept peace as God's generous gift.

Pastor: Listen to the majesty of God's voice, calling you! Glorify God's name in your work and worship.

People: We have been baptized in the name of Jesus. The triune God has blessed and empowered us.

Pastor: Then go out as a new creation in Christ. Let others see how God is changing you.

**People: We are unworthy servants of the Most High
Yet we are ready to do what God expects.**

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: "This Is a Day of New Beginnings" #518

Silent Moment

Postlude: "New Faith, New Life" Ritter

Welcome

Welcome to worship and fellowship with the family of God. Greet one another in Christ's name.

Preparation for Worship

As God addressed Jesus at his baptism, he also calls us his beloved.

What a blessing to live in God's love

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger, Senior Pastor,

pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org

Rev. Curt Sandroek, Assisting Pastor

Patrice DiCarne, Minister of Music

Colleen Bernini, Administrative Secretary

Diane Ritter, Financial Secretary, dedemarit@juno.com

Pat Dillman, Director of Christian Education

Kayli Freeman, Seminarian

Cheryl Clauser, Sexton

Church Office Hours: 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Phone Number: 610.965.9158.....Fax Number: 610.967.5380

Email: office@stjohnsuccemmaus.org

Website: www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:00 AM

Acolytes: Alexis Dries, Emily Hartranft
Greeters: Jennifer Hartranft, Adele Schaffer
Lay Reader: Jean Deischer
Ushers: Phil Rhode, John Zayaitz, Mike Ackerman, Jim Beers, Don Keck, Barry Miller
Sound System: Jim Schaffer
Nursery: Alex Racines, Sarah Demmy
Tape Ministry: Nancy Wieder

8:00 AM

Acolytes: Alexis Hanna, Nicole Karol
Greeters: Tracy Dell, Linda Gardner, Les Schoenberger
Lay Reader: Les Schoenberger
Ushers: Larry Delhagen, Jim Gardner, Richard Miller, Marty Beers, Dave Davis, Christine Hanna, Pat Roth, Scott Stenroos
Sound System: John Hill
Nursery: Heather Gross, Tori Delhagen
Tape Ministry: Harold Huber
Flower Delivery: Les and Deb Schoenberger
Hospitality: Donna Wert

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sunday, January 8

8:00 am Worship/Holy Communion
8:50 am Children's Choir
9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 am Worship/Holy Communion

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 am Quilts for Kids
6:30 pm Girl Scout Troop #6640
7:00 pm Brain Tumor Support Group
7:30 pm Consistory

Wednesday, January 11

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #25
6:30 pm Bell Choir
7:45 pm Senior Choir

Thursday, January 12

10:15 am Women's Bible Study
6:30 pm Girl Scout Troop #6123
6:30 pm Cadettes
6:30 pm All Dens

Saturday, January 14

8:30 am AA
8:30 am Al Anon

Sunday, January 15

8:00 am Worship
8:50 am Children's Choir
9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 am Worship

Consistory Nominations

Deacons:

Larry Delhagen 3 year term
(1st term)
Sandra Bartholomew 3 year term
(1st term)
Jean Deischer 3 year term
(1st term)
Carolyn Powell 3 year term
(1st term)

Elder:

Mike Bolza 3 year term (1st term)

Junior Deacon:

Drew Labenberg

Board of Christian Education

Sarah Roth (1st term)

Paulette Labenberg (2nd term)

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139 North Fourth Street, Emmaus, Pennsylvania

Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger, Senior Pastor, pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org

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Church Announcements for Sunday, January 8, 2012

January Mission: Lehigh County Conference of Churches Linkage Street Ministry Program

During the month of January, we will be collecting the following items needed by Ben Stephens, Linkage Coordinator, as he strives to move the homeless towards self-sufficiency: men's warm hats, gloves and socks, deodorant, soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Please give as you are able. A box is in the narthex for your donations. *"When we share what we have, we are the Church."*

Sign the Pew Register

To encourage fellowship at St. John's, please sign the pew register found at the center aisle of your pew. Pass the register on for others to sign it. As it is passed back, read the register and learn the names of those worshipping with you this morning!

Loud Offering

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE...Deposit your loose change (bills are welcome, too) in the cans during the **Loud Offering Collection**. Just by saving a little each and every day, we can make a BIG difference. If you have spare change on other Sundays, the cans will be in the narthex.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 19, 2012 after the 10:30 AM worship service. A sign up sheet is located on the welcome desk in the narthex to sign up for the luncheon that will be provided.

If you are responsible for a report to be included in the Annual Report, please note that the deadline for information to be submitted to the church office is **NO LATER THAN MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2012.** Early submissions are always greatly appreciated!

Gently Used Handbag Sale & Mother's Day Tea

The Mission Committee is planning a gently used handbag sale and tea in conjunction with Mother's Day 2012. All proceeds will go to the Garden Committee for their use in purchasing perennials/shrubs/trees for the church gardens. Details will be forthcoming. Please save your clean gently used purses and tote bags for the 2012 Mother's Day Celebration!

Stewardship Devotional

Please pick up a stewardship devotional called *The Big Secret of Giving: Hidden Treasures in Life and Church* by William Green in the narthex. May this booklet help you gain some powerful understandings of the spiritual practice of stewardship.

Blood Pressure Screening

Today, January 8th, representatives of the Health Ministry Task Force at St. John's will be doing blood pressure screening. You are invited to stop by the Health Room following the 8:00 AM service or before and after the 10:30 AM service to have your blood pressure checked.

Church Flowers

Please call the church office if you are sponsoring organ or chancel table flowers so your dedication can be included in the bulletin. You must also call George's Greenhouse to place your order for those flowers at 610-965-4215. For altar flowers, please fill out a card located beneath the sign up poster and submit it to the church office. **Please remember there are no longer ANY standing flower orders from year-to-year. It is your responsibility to sign up and get the information to the church office promptly.**

Altar Flowers and Bulletins

There are still a few opportunities to sponsor altar flowers and bulletins for January 22nd and 29th.

Confidentiality

It is important that we honor the rights to privacy of medical information for our St. John's members. If someone in the congregation shares a prayer concern, a medical issue, or hospitalization information with you, **please ask their permission** before sharing that information with the pastors, Undershepherd Ministry, Prayer Tree or church office, or for announcement in worship. If you are hospitalized or are sharing any prayer concerns, the pastors will ask your permission before disclosing information to anyone beyond the pastoral staff.

Church Hospital Code Number is 466!

The pastors visit our hospitalized members. If you, or a member of your family enters the hospital, please ask the hospital to place the patient's name on church code #466, St. John's UCC, Emmaus or call the church office to inform us at 610-965-9158.

Recently Hospitalized: Trevor Schappell, Gloria Schlegel

Greeting Cards

The Undershepherd Ministries give us the opportunity to sign greeting cards for folks on our Home Visitation List, for members of the congregation who need a lift, or just to say "hello". All cards are in the Narthex. Please take a minute to sign the cards and send these folks our Christian greetings. Today we are signing cards for:

Cecelia Stephens, William and Jacqueline Knappenberger, Todd Schappell, Charmaine Fegley

The Organ Flowers are sponsored by Bob and Shirley Slusaw in memory of loved ones.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Ron and Gerry Mosemann to thank Patrice and all the choirs, singers and musicians who used their talents to make this Christmas season at St. John's inspiring and joyful.

Church Attendance – December 24, 2011 **6:30 PM** – 358 **11:00 PM** – 130
December 25, 2011 **10:30 AM** - 37

Income Report for Christmas Eve & December 25, 2011:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$1,596.00
General Fund - \$11,485.60

Church Attendance – January 1, 2012: **10:30 AM** – 64

Income Report for Sunday, January 1, 2012:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$727.00
General Fund - \$3,394.50