

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. 4th Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

November 20, 2011

Reign of Christ Sunday

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost **8:00 and 10:30 AM**

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: "A Christian is nothing but a sinful man who has put himself to school for Christ for the honest purpose of becoming better."

- Henry Ward Beecher

Organ Prelude (8:00)

Bell Choir (10:30) "Celtic Grace" Geschke
"For the Beauty of the Earth" Raney
...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry" #75
...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Now is the time to harvest; the time when we gather bounty.

People: We bring before God our bountiful lives.

Pastor: Come, offer your praise and thanksgiving to the Lord of the Harvest.

People: We offer our praise to God who blesses our lives with goodness.

Pastor: Gather us in, Lord. Gather us in.

People: Let our praise and worship to be a tribute to your greatness, O God. Amen

Act of Confession:

Pastor: Let us confess our sins.

All: Since September, Lord, the malls, stores and media have blared the music of Christmas. Each call comes to us, inviting us to spend, hurry, plan, participate. It is easy to get caught up in the mood of the coming season. We confess that we, too, have gotten caught up in the secular "reason for the season" which is to buy and spend. Slow us down, Lord. On this day of Thanksgiving, let us put aside our rush to Christmas and offer our prayers of gratitude for your constant care. As the man who was healed of his leprosy returned to Jesus thanking him for the healing; so help us return to you with our songs and spirits of praise. You have blessed us with work to be done, harvests to be gathered in, and people with whom to share our bounty. We are called to look beyond our laden tables and filled cupboards to those for whom this time is just another day of hunger and loss. Help us to reach out to our friends and neighbors and to those whom we have called strangers. Remind us that the harvest is given to be shared and not hoarded. Open our hearts in actions of gratitude that we may truly offer our praise and thanksgiving to you. Amen.

Silent Confession

Kyrie:

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Forgiveness:

Pastor: We are not alone. No matter how lonely we may feel, God is with us. God's loving care surrounds each and every one of us. Feel the power of God's love in you. Be at peace. Amen.

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

Children's Choir Selection (10:30)

A Time to Pass Our Faith Onto Our Children

The Holy Scripture:

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 34:1-16 Page 702

Epistle: Ephesians 1:15-23 Page 949

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:31-46 Page 807

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

Sermon: "Doers and Ignorers"

Kayli Freeman

...Please Be Seated...

Order of the Baptism: *Hope Ryan Pearson*

Invitation and Welcome: Lighting the Baptismal Candle

Pastor: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

All: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us.

Pastor: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.

All: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ.

Address

Pastor: Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "yet you have come to me!"

People: Jesus said, "Let it be so for now. For in this way, we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.

Pastor: As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him.

People: Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Pastor: At another time Jesus said: Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

Questions of the Candidates

Pastor: Sean and Carrie, do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Will you teach this child that she may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents and Sponsors: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ, as best you are able?

Parents and Sponsors: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that she may affirm her baptism?

Parents and Sponsors: We do, with the help of God.

Congregational Assent:

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ?

People: We promise our love, support, and care.

Affirmation of Faith:

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.
Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Prayer of Baptism:

Pastor: Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Act of Baptism:

Pastor Sean and Carrie, by what name will your child be called?

Parents: Hope Ryan Pearson

Pastor: Hope Ryan Pearson, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer for the Baptized:

Benediction:

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: *"This Child We Dedicate to Thee"*

**This Child we dedicate to Thee,
O God of grace and purity!
In Thy great love its life prolong,
Shield it, we pray, from sin and wrong.
O may Thy Spirit gently draw
Its willing soul to keep Thy law;
May virtue, piety, and truth,
Dawn even with its dawning youth.
Amen.**

The People of God Pray

Celebrations of Joy and Moments of Concern

Litany of Thanksgiving:

Pastor: We praise and thank our God.

People: For all that we have been given!

Pastor: We praise and thank our God.

People: For earth and oceans, rain and sun, for food and homes.

Pastor: We praise and thank our God.

People: For the blessings of life and faith and hope.

Pastor: We praise and thank our God.

People: For the Creator who made us, the Christ who saved us, and the Counselor who guides us.

Pastor: We praise and thank our God.

People: For family and friends, for neighbors and coworkers.

Pastor: We praise and thank our God.

People: For God has blessed us beyond all expectations.

Pastor: We praise and thank our God.

People: For all blessings which compel us to reach out to those with less, to be of service to any in need, to keep company with the unwelcome, to seek peace and make friends of our enemies.

Pastor: Let us pray for those in need.

People: Let us be in silence.

Pastor: Let us pray as Christ our Lord and Savior taught us:

**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.**

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offering Invitation

The Offering

The Offertory: Organ Meditation (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: "Faithfulness Medley" (10:30)
...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

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: "Lead On, O King Eternal" #632

Silent Moment

Postlude: "Voluntary" Selby

Welcome

Thank you for honoring us with your presence as we celebrate our citizenship in the kingdom of Christ Jesus.

Preparation for Worship

On this final Sunday of the church year, we rejoice that Christ is King for all time and eternity. Alleluia!

Baptism

Congratulations to our newest member being baptized this morning: **Hope Ryan Pearson**, born August 29, 2011; daughter of Sean and Carrie (Powell) Pearson.



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: 8:30 to 11:30 & 12:30 to 3:30

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 Hanna, Kenneth Heck
Greeters: Curt Fehr, Dolores Fioriglio
Lay Reader: Linda Roosa
Ushers: Mike Ackerman, Brian Dillman, Jr. Kyle Heck,
Randy Weidner
Sound System: Brian Dillman

10:30 AM

Acolytes: Harrison Ike, Renee Martin
Greeters: Tracy Dell, Kimberly Ike, Rachel Wentz
Lay Reader: Lauren Stenroos
Ushers: Marty Beers, Adam Beers, Amber Koehler,
Shania Koehler
Sound System: John Hill
Nursery: Heather Gross, Kim Gormas
Tape Ministry: Harold Huber
Flower Delivery: Nancy Wieder
Hospitality: Doris Trumbauer

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sunday, November 20

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 am Worship

Tuesday, November 22

9:00 am Quilts for Kids
6:30 pm Girl Scout Troop #6640

Wednesday, November 23

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #25
6:30 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm "Journeys Through Grief" (Parlor)
7:45 pm Senior Choir

Saturday, November 26

8:30 am AA
8:30 am Al Anon

Sunday, November 27

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

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Church Announcements for Sunday, November 20, 2011

November Mission – Harvest Home – Mission 1

This year we share our Harvest Home mission with Mission 1, the National United Church of Christ theme, November 1st through the 11th with the opportunity to raise awareness and do something about the issue of hunger in the U.S. and around the world. The National UCC goal is to collect more than 1 million items of healthy food and household items and to raise \$111,111 during the eleven-day period. A portion of the Neighbors in Need offering will go to this effort. St. John's goal is to collect at least 111 healthful food items during the entire month of November. As items are collected they will be counted and displayed in the narthex. The food will be divided between needy families and the Emmaus Food Pantry which is located at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church. What better way to share with our brothers and sisters in need! Many individuals and families never expected to find themselves asking for food. Sadly the time has come, whether due to the economy or for personal reasons. Please help St. John's to achieve its goal and go beyond 111 items! Food donations may be left in the narthex.

Phoebe Home Ministries

Please support as you are able this important mission and ministry for older adults. Specializing in healthcare, housing and medical support for senior adults, this important mission has served many members of St. John's. They provide short-term and long-term care with an emphasis on the word, "Care." Place your donation in the special offering envelope or designate "Phoebe" on your weekly offering envelope.

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!

Poinsettia Sale

The Altar Guild will hold its annual poinsettia sale beginning today. A representative for the Altar Guild will be available after both services each Sunday through December 11th to take your order. Final orders must be received in the Church Office by Monday morning, December 12th. You can order poinsettia plants for \$10.00 each or give a donation of at least \$10.00. Please complete a form with the appropriate information along with payment to the representative seated in the Narthex or place a form and payment in any envelope in the pew rack and mark it "Poinsettia Sale" and place it in the collection plate. Thank you for your support.

Cemetery Update

The St. John's Lutheran and Reformed Cemetery Association has found it financially prudent to raise the price for a cemetery plot from \$400 to \$450 for members of our sponsoring churches. This change is effective January 1, 2012 to give you time to plan for your needs. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Floyd Schmoeyer, President.

Youth Fellowship

There will be a Youth Fellowship Night tonight from 6 to 8:00 PM. Youth from grades 5-12 are welcome. Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Advent Wreath Sign Up

We are looking for families, individuals or groups to light the Advent candles during the worship services through Advent and the Christmas Eve services. There is a sign up sheet located on the welcome desk in the narthex. The church office will send the liturgy to you and your family or group, so please sign up and be part of our worship experience. Dates still available are December 4th and December 18th for the 8:00 service and Christmas Eve for the 11:00 PM service

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: Paul DeVries, Tracy Dell, Miriam Gair

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:

Paul DeVries, Lois Koch, Kevin & Beryl Snyder, Wanda Fretz, Joel Carl

The Altar Flowers are dedicated to the memory of father and grandfather, Kenneth Held, by the Krause Family.

The Organ Flowers are dedicated in memory of husband, Kenneth, by Mary Ann Held.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Ben and Carolyn Powell in honor of their 39th wedding anniversary.

Church Attendance – November 13, 2011: **8:00 AM** – 61 **10:30 AM** – 124

Income Report for Sunday, November 13, 2011:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$2,334.00

General Fund - \$14,312.37