

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. 4th Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

October 30, 2011
Reformation Sunday

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 and 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *“However many blessings we expect from God, His infinite liberality will always exceed all our wishes and thoughts.”*

- John Calvin

Prelude: *“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”*
...All May Stand...

arr. McCluskey

Processional Hymn: *“A Might Fortress Is Our God”*
...Please Be Seated...

#65

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Come, all who are thirsty, whose souls are fainting.
Come, all whose troubles seem overwhelming.

People: **The Source and Creator of all things welcomes us.**
God hears our cries and is ready to help us.

Pastor: Come, all who are pure, upright, and blameless.
Come, all who dwell day by day in God’s realm.

People: **The Messiah has more to teach us.**
Jesus turns us from seeking honor to humble service.

Pastor: Draw near and hear the word of our God.
Open your lives to the Spirit who fills all things.

People: **We sense the presence of truth seeking to enter us.**
We feel the love of God eager to embrace us.

Act of Confession:

Pastor: Let there be no pretense among us as we address our thoughts to God. We may fool one another, but God knows us as we really are. All that we try to hide from ourselves comes to light before the One who searches our hearts.

All: **Gracious God, help us to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you. We have sought excitement in places that turned out to be desert wastelands. We have burdened others with our mistakes. We have sought honors and made comparisons to look better than those around us. We have devoted little time to thinking and praising you, the Source of all things. Open us now, O God, to the Word we need from 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: God gathers us from the east and the west, the north and the south, drawing us into a caring community where burdens are shared, hope is renewed, and people are freed and equipped to use their God-given gifts. Springs of water emerge from parched lands as we alert one another to blessings we have overlooked. Let the redeemed of the Creator say so. Let us give thanks to God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

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

Jr. Choir Selection (10:30)

A Time to Pass Our Faith Onto Our Children

The Holy Scripture:

Old Testament Lesson: Joshua 3:7-17 Page 170

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Page 959

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 23:1-12 Page 804

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

Sermon: “*Performance or Ministry*” Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger

UCC Statement of Faith (8:30)

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

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

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.

Prayer Response: *“In the Name of the Lord”*

#28

**There is strength in the name of the Lord, there is pow’r in the
name of the Lord; there is hope in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Offering Invitation

The Offering

The Offertory: Organ Meditation (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: *“Built On A Rock”* (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.**

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Commission:

Pastor: Our hunger and thirst are being satisfied.
Our fainting souls have found refreshment here.

People: **Surely God has been with us and helped us.
Our cries have been heard in this place.**

Pastor: God sends us out, purified, forgiven, and equipped.
We can be sure that God is with us every day.

People: **We can be confident that God will teach us.
Day by day we can learn as we serve.**

Pastor: We commit ourselves anew to living God's word.
We ask God to bless and multiply our efforts.

People: **God will provide a way for us through life's deserts.
God will go with us to make life meaningful.**

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation" #272

Silent Moment

Postlude: "Voluntary" Purcell

Welcome

On Reformation Sunday, we pray that our church and our lives may be always open to the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Preparation for Worship

We welcome all members and guests to this worship service and invite you to share in fellowship afterward.

Baptism

Congratulations to our newest member being baptized this morning:

Hope Ryan Pearson, born August 29, 2011; daughter of Sean and Carrie (Powell) Pearson.



8:00 AM

Acolytes: Alexis Dries, Renee Martin
Greeters: Steve Heck, Amber Koehler
Lector: Rev. Lisa Weida
Ushers: Dolores Fioriglio, Shania Koehler, Kevin Krause,
Randy Weidner
Sound System: Don Keck

10:30 AM

Acolytes: Emily Hartranft, Joscelyn Hengeveld
Greeters: Jennifer Hartranft, David Hengeveld,
Dylana Labenberg
Lay Reader: James Gardner
Ushers: Richard Miller, Greg Herbine, Drew Labenberg,
Scott Stenroos
Sound System: Darren Labenberg
Nursery: Joan Keiser, Dylana Labenberg
Tape Ministry: Nancy Wieder
Flower Delivery: Ron and Gerry Mosemann
Hospitality: Les and Debbie Schoenberger

CHURCH STAFF

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

Rev. Curt Sandrock, 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

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sunday, October 30

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

Tuesday, November 1

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

Wednesday, November 2

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

Thursday, November 3

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

Saturday, November 5

8:30 am AA
8:30 am Al Anon

Sunday, November 6

All Saint's Sunday

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

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Church Announcements for Sunday, October 30, 2011

October Mission – Neighbors in Need (NIN)

NIN is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Basket Bingo

Our Fall Basket Bingo is today! Doors open at 1 pm and bingo starts at 2 pm. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Tickets will be sold after the 8:00 and 10:30 am services or in the church office during regular business hours. Tickets are \$20 for 20 games and specials will be available for purchase. We are looking for people to sponsor baskets, donate items for the Chinese auction, donate door prizes, volunteer to help the day of the bingo and donate baked goods. If you are interested in any of these, please call Wendy Moyer-Drabick at 610-754-1988.

“Journeys Through Grief”

St. John's is once again hosting “Journeys Through Grief”, a six week seminar for those who are grieving. The seminar provides a safe place to learn about the stages of grief and explore the feelings you may have associated with the loss of a loved one in your life. The group meets Wednesdays, October 19 – November 30 [no session on November 23] from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the church parlor. Registration is required. Contact Pastor Kerry W. Smart at 610-770-9205 or www.lutherancongregationalservices.org

Calling All Bakers!

The dessert committee for the pork and sauerkraut dinner needs bakers for this event. We are in need of cakes and pies. Your help is greatly appreciated. Please call one of us to sign up: Jean Deischer at 610-791-2699, Carolyn Powell at 610-391-1385 or Doris Trumbauer at 610-967-2349.

Gress Mountain Ranch

On behalf of the Sunday school, we would like to support our guests from Gress Mountain Ranch who provide care for 44 animals, most with some form of health issue. Some of their animals help provide animal therapy to children with medical and physical disabilities. They also visit nursing homes and groups. You can help support God's creatures and these dedicated people. Their needs include: bottles of mineral oil for LeRoy the pig and Tide Total Care HE laundry detergent. There are 3 loads of wash daily for LeRoy alone. They also need shredded wheat, Raisin Bran cereal for the goats, large and small bars of soap, Purina horse chow, Equine Senior and Strategy horse foods, pine shavings in big bags for the horse stalls and all the small animals in the house. Timothy hay for the rabbits and guinea pig, applesauce – 6 lbs a day – for Ellie, the big plow horse, peanut butter – both smooth and chunky – for some of the animal's medications, and of course \$\$\$\$\$. We will be collecting these items from the Wish List and your generous \$\$\$\$ through the month of October. **The Gress Mountain Inc. is a non profit 501 (c) Public Charity as of 11/10/08 and all donations are tax deductible.**

If You Invite Them, They Will Come...

It's a simple concept that works! How often does a friend tell you that he or she has been waiting for an invitation to your home? In your mind, this person may not need an invitation. You have been to your friend's home often enough. But the person feels the need for an invitation to yours.

Your friends may know what church you attend, and may have heard exciting things about what our church is doing, but they still need you to extend an invitation. Research suggests that three out of four people attend a church for the first time because they were invited. However, less than two percent of church members will ever invite someone to church. That means there is an abundance of people simply waiting for an invitation...from you! Churches grow when members extend personal invitations to others. The United Church of Christ has 1.1 million members. If only 10 percent brings a friend to church November 6th, 110,000 additional persons will visit a UCC congregation that day—and some will find a church home that day!

Monthly Food Collection

Please remember that next week is the first Sunday in the new month – time to bring in food donations for the monthly food collection for the local food bank located at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church. Items most needed include cereal, peanut butter & jelly, tuna, pasta, rice, canned meats & stews, canned vegetables & fruit, soup, canned milk and spaghetti. Please place your donations on the designated baskets in the narthex.

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: Verna Gilbert, Madeline Hillegass, Grace Markowitz

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:

John Kissinger, Jacqueline Yandle, Mary Lou Hilbert, Joy Roth

The Organ Flowers are dedicated in honor of Hope Ryan from Pop-Pop, Nana and Family.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Jeff and Jen Hartranft in honor of their daughter Emily's birthday.

Church Attendance – Sunday, October 23, 2011: 8:00 AM – 66 10:30 AM – 100

Income Report for Sunday, October 23, 2011:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$1,148.00

General Fund - \$4,018.25