

Morning Worship
January 3, 2010
Second Sunday After Christmas

Coming Together in Christ

10:55 AM MEDITATION (Please pause in quiet preparation for worship.)

11:00 AM CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Savior, Source of Every Blessing* Mozart

Entering God's Presence

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In a world that is lost—

People: Show us the way.

Leader: In a world full of lies and deceit—

People: Show us the truth.

Leader: In a world that is sick and decayed—

People: Show us life and love.

**All: O Jesus, help us to remember that you are the way, the truth and the life,
on Christmas Day and New Year's Day and every day.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE #22 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* "Regent Square"

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

SILENCE

AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (together)

Loving God, the gospel stories have become so familiar over the years that we accept them almost unthinkingly. Grant that we may open to their shock value as well as to the comfort of the news they bring. We pray that we may see the relevance of them to life today, and may extend our compassion to those whose stories resonate with yours.

KYRIE ELEISON (Congregation & Choir) #574, The Hymnal

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE DECLARATION OF PARDON

John Dillon

* THE RESPONSE IN PRAISE

#579, The Hymnal

**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearing God's Word

TIME FOR CHILDREN

* SONG

Come, Share the Lord

#126, Lift Up Your Hearts
Jeffery Leech

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 138

pew Bible p. 545

ANTHEM

*March of the 3 Kings
O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Gwen Harris, Piano
arr. Joan DeVee Dixon

THE SERMON

"Thank You For Me"

Rev. John Dillon

Our Response to God's Love

* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Christian faith is not an opinion or human conviction, but a most firm trust and a clear and steadfast assent of the mind, and then a most certain apprehension of the truth of God presented in the Scriptures and in the Apostle's Creed, and thus also of God himself, the greatest good, and especially of God's promise and of Christ who is the fulfillment of all promises.

But this faith is a pure gift of God which God alone of his grace gives by the Holy Spirit by means of the preaching of the Gospel and steadfast prayer.

—from Chapter 10, 5.112-5.113 of the Second Helvetic Confession)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(Please partake of the communion elements as you receive them.)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY SOLO

My Heart Ever Faithful

Bach

* THE DOXOLOGY **“#114 Lift Up Your Hearts**
Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say, “I am strong;” Let the poor say, “I am rich”
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

* THE HYMN OF PARTING #28 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* “In Dulci Jubilo”

* SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

* SUNG BENEDICTION *Rejoice! Rejoice!* “Veni Emmanuel”
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. (repeat)

Going Forth in God’s Love

* THE POSTLUDE *Jubilate Deo!* Nordman

* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand

Music Notes

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” is not the usual musical setting for a Phillips Brooks hymn. It is a traditional English melody, as arranged by Joan DeVee Dixon. “The March of the Kings” is an arrangement of a 13th century carol.

About the Affirmation of Faith

The PC (USA) Book of Confessions is a collection of Confessions from the church in many ages and many different situations. Therefore, its expressions of faith cover a multitude of theological opinions, many of which are obviously influenced by who participated in their preparation and the times and customs of their era. While not necessarily agreeing with every statement precisely, our Ministers, Elders, and Deacons swear to be guided by its principles and truths. We select a passage from one of these Confessions each month to experience and explore the breadth and depth of our heritage.

Continuing our exploration of the Confessions, in January we will be using extracts from the Second Helvetic Confession of 1566.

The word “Helvetic” is Latin for “Swiss.” The setting of the Second Helvetic Confession is Swiss-German Reformed Protestantism.

In 1561, renowned Minister of the Church of Zurich, Heinrich Bullinger, composed the document that later became known as the Second Helvetic Confession. He intended to attach it to his last will and testament to the Zurich church, but events in Germany soon brought it into the public arena. In 1566, the churches of Switzerland adopted Bullinger’s confession as their new confession of faith. Soon finding wide acceptance throughout Europe and beyond, it was translated into French, English, Dutch, Polish, Hungarian, Italian, Arabic and Turkish.

From the opening paragraphs the Second Helvetic Confession emphasizes the church and its life and affirms the authority of the Scriptures for the church’s government and reformation. The Confession asks the church to trust in God’s free and gracious election of its membership in Jesus Christ and at the same time, addresses the practical life of the gathered community, detailing matters of worship, church order and conflict, ministry, the sacraments and marriage.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The Big Event is **Saturday, February 20** at Woods Memorial Church in Severna Park.

What's Happening This Week:



- SUNDAY, JANUARY (3)**
11:00 AM Worship Service, 2nd Sunday after Christmas
Cents-Ability Collected, On the Air WCBC
- MONDAY, JANUARY (4)**
9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool
- TUESDAY, JANUARY (5)**
9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool
6:30 PM Worship Committee Mtg. in the Parlor
6:30 PM Pee Wee Basketball Practice at Westside School
- WEDNESDAY, JANUARY (6)**
9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool
6:15 PM JoyBells Rehearsal
6:30 PM Pee Wee Basketball Practice at Cresaptown
7:30 PM Jr. High Basketball Practice at Cresaptown
- THURSDAY, JANUARY (7)**
9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool
- FRIDAY, JANUARY (8)**
9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Preschool
- SUNDAY, JANUARY (10)**
9:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages
10:15 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
11:00 AM Worship Service, Baptism of the Lord Sunday
On the Air WCBC