



St. John's
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
161 North Main Street
Red Lion, Pennsylvania



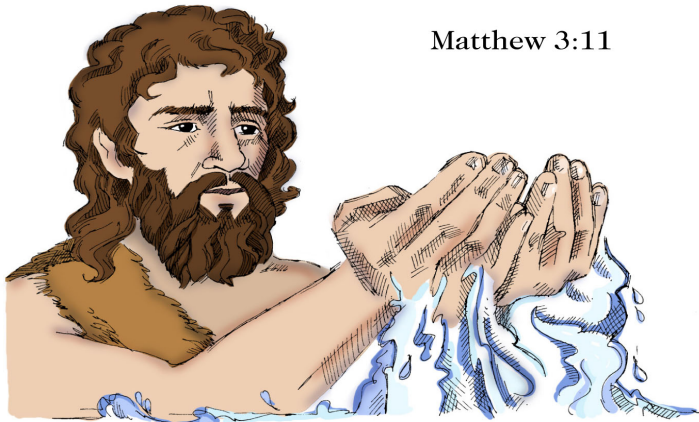
The Service of Worship—January 8, 2012—10:15 a.m.

The Baptism of Our Lord

The First Sunday after Epiphany

But after me will
come one who is
more powerful than I,
whose sandals I am
not fit to carry.

Matthew 3:11



*The altar flowers are in honor of my daughters, Missy and Kristy,
presented by their mother, Linda Woltman.*

We Gather Together to Worship

The Prelude

Please avoid visiting after The Gathering Music begins that by your silence others may hear the still, small voice of God.

The Chiming of the Hour

The Responsive Call to Worship

Come to the fountain of life.

Come touch God's stream of mercy.

Come dip in the reservoir of God's forgiveness,

Immerse yourself in its waters of healing.

Come be renewed at God's eternal spring,

And be filled with overflowing blessing.

Come, walk beside the still waters,

And be empowered by the rivers of justice.

Come, all you yearning for meaning, hoping for truth, thirsting for God.

In God's presence, we find our thirst quenched and our spirits flooded with joy.

The Processional Hymn

Crashing Waters at Creation

The New Century Hymnal #326

The Call to Confession

Today, as we remember the baptism of Jesus, we rejoice that we, too, have been baptized into the family of faith. Along our life's journey we have been committed to the way of Jesus. Yet, sometimes we have wandered from that way of life. Confession allows us to turn around and rediscover the paths God intends for us. Therefore, let us pray together:

The Unison Prayer of Confession

Purifying God, we know we are yours, and in you we find an abundant life, yet we continue to forge our own paths, as if we know better than you. You bless us with many gifts, yet we convince ourselves that our blessings are simply from our own hard work or dumb luck.

The truth is, through your love, we can find rest and restoration. Yet, when we are tired and weary, we seek renewal through possessions, people or even chemicals. Forgive us when we reject your claim upon our lives. Remind us of the power of our baptism, and help us remember that we are your beloved children. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness

The prophets testify that all who believe in God's messenger receive forgiveness of sin through His name. We believe that Jesus is that beloved messenger, with whom God is well pleased. Through this One on whom God's Spirit was poured out, like a descending dove, we know ourselves to be beloved by God, forgiven and freed from the bonds of sin. Rejoicing in our liberty, let us pray the prayer you taught us by singing...

The Singing of the Lord's Prayer

The Words of Welcome, Announcements, Joys and Concerns of the Church

Please sign and pass the ivory colored Fellowship Register found on the aisle seats, If you are a visitor, please sign a welcome card and let that be your offering to us this day!

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism

The Baptismal Hymn

Little Children, Welcome
The New Century Hymnal #323

The Welcome

*They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant, and said to them,
“Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.”
And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.*

The Pouring of the Baptismal Waters

The Questions of the Parents

The Congregational Covenant

*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 support, care and love to the one about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ?
We promise our support, care and love.*

The Prayer of Dedication

The Act of Baptism

TODAY THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM IS OFFERED TO:

Tyler Donovan and Kaitlyn Paige Markle

*The proud parents are Ryan and Tracy (Bortner) Markle
We offer our congratulations and pray God's blessing upon this family!*

The Unison Prayer of Blessing

**And now may the Lord bless you and keep you;
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.**

We Listen to God's Word

The Children's Message

Children between the ages of 4 and 10, move to the Kindergarten classroom
for song, offertory, lesson, “concerns,” and prayer.

The Hebrew Scripture Lesson

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God!

Isaiah 42:1-9

The Responsorial Psalter

The New Century Hymnal, p. 638

Psalms 29

The Gospel Lesson

God is still speaking!
Spread the word!

Matthew 1:4-11

The Morning Message

We Respond to God through Giving Ourselves and Our Gifts

The Responsive Prayer Litany

God be with you,

And also with you.

All water is holy,

Blessed by our Creator.

From birth waters to mighty rivers of justice,

From a refreshing sip to the renewal of a quiet stream,

All water is holy,

Reminding us that even when we have been flooded with troubles, we have also been refreshed by a gift we did not earn, and sustained by God's love poured over us.

Like the rainbow, this water is a sign of God's continuing love at work in us and through us.

Bless us and this gift of water as it is poured out for us today! Amen!

The Worship Chorus

Pour Out Your Spirit

Words and Music by Christopher Grundy

From the sacred waters of my birth to the sacred waters of this hour

I have leaned upon You who knit me in my mother's womb,

O pour out your Spirit now.

The Invitation to the Water

The Act of Response: Offering of our Gifts and Ourselves through Baptismal Renewal

When you are ready,

please come forward to present your offering then proceed to the baptismal font.

Touch the water in the baptismal font – as an act of remembrance of your baptism,
and to recommit yourself to live a new life in Christ.

The Hymn of Response

Baptized in Water

Words by Michael Seward

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
born of one Father, we are his children,
joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

The Benediction

May God touch you with rivers of blessing, lead you beside still waters and shower you with God's everlasting love. Amen.

The Postlude

Church Office Information

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Church Telephone

244-5031

Pastor’s Telephone

515-5731

Assistant Pastor’s Telephone

603-340-3187

St. John’s Website

www.stjohns-ucc.com

E-mail: stjohnsuccredlion@verizon.net

Church Ministry Staff

Pastor: David D. Tietje

Pastor Emeritus: Thomas M. Burns, Jr.

Assistant Pastor: Brian Percy

Director of Music: Lee M. Shaull

Preschool Director: Mary Zambito

Church Support Staff

Custodians: Jan and Barb Kehr

Preschool Assistant: Mary Barshinger

Administrative Assistant: Wendy Tompkins

Bookkeeper & Treasurer: Rob Willhite

Weekly Calendar

Today, January 8—First Sunday after Epiphany—Renewal of Baptismal Vows

- 9:00 a.m. Church School
Confirmation Class V
- 10:15 a.m. Service of Worship with the Sacrament of Baptism
and Renewal of Baptismal Vows
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. FROGs meeting

Red Lion Food Pantry Collection

Activities This Week:

- Monday** 6:30 p.m. Personnel Committee—*Shoemaker Conference Room*
Executive Committee—Thompson Music Lounge
Boy Scouts BSR
- 7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting—Pastor’s Study
- Tuesday,** 6:30 p.m. *ByFaith* Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. “Experiencing God” Study Group
- 7:15 p.m. Fundraiser Committee Meeting
- Wednesday** 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 7:30 p.m. Kenya Medical Mission Planning Team
- Thursday** 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
- Friday** **Newsletter deadline** (earlier this month due to short month of February)
- Saturday** 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Boy Scouts Blood Drive—*Social Hall*

Sunday, January 16—Second Sunday after Epiphany—Global Missions Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Church School
- 10:15 a.m. Service of Worship with *ByFaith*

Serving Us Today

Greeters: Keith Bortner, Ethan Detweiler, Gwen King, Steve Vaclavik

Acolytes: Emily Moose and Jennifer Nowicki

Lay Reader: Juanita Klein

Children's Church: Crystal Miller, Sallie Shepherd, Hannah Minnick and Caroline Pritchard

Children's Message: Amy Emlet

Nursery: Karen Gibbs and Pam Girvin

Sound Technician: Chris Emlet

Ushers: Clint Workinger (capt.), Arthur Herrold, Gary McBrein,
Matt Nowicki, Darryl Smuck, Bob Thompson

Accounting: Brian & Barb Doll, Ruthann Young, Glenn & Linda Shaffer

Prayer Needs

Each Sunday's bulletin lists individuals in need of special prayer support. Please communicate your prayer concerns to the Pastors or the Prayer Chain by using the "*Prayer Request*" cards in the pew racks.

Home from the Hospital: Ann Tietje **Prayer Needs:** Annabelle Diffenbaugh, Charles Hoover, Frank Klein, Shirley Meads, Ed Shanabrough, Suzanne Snyder, Pauline Yohe, Robin Leaming and Eugene Turlington (friends of Patricia Ferraris O'Neill), Rocky Davis (friend of John Langley, in need of heart transplant)

Serving in the Military: Dan Hannigan (Army– Fort Campbell, KY); Jim Pritchard (MdNG); Joshua Pritchard (Army-USA); Brant Seibert (Navy-USA)—grandson of Bob and Mary McFarland; and Kyle Smith (Army-USA)—grandson of Art and Ann Herrold; Schuyler Thompson (Navy-Hawaii) and Adam Tietje (Army–Fort Campbell, KY).

*The votive candle on the altar is lit each Sunday to remind us to pray for those in need:
Hold in prayer all the troops who are serving around the world, and pray for world peace.*

Serving Us Sunday, January 15

Greeters: Keith Bortner, Ethan Detweiler, Gwen King, Steve Vaclavik

Acolytes: Emily Moose and Jennifer Nowicki

Lay Reader: Juanita Klein

Children's Church: Crystal Miller, Sallie Shepherd, Hannah Minnick and Caroline Pritchard

Children's Message: Amy Emlet

Nursery: Karen Gibbs and Pam Girvin

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Lectionary Readings for January 15

Primary Old Testament Lesson: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Primary Psalter: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel Lesson: John 1:43-51

Announcements

BOYSCOUT BLOOD DRIVE

The York-Adams Boy Scout Blood Drive is Saturday, January 14, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Please call your local scout or 1-800-GIVE LIFE (448-3543) to schedule your life-saving donation.

HELP WANTED: We are in need of someone to schedule the usher captains each month. If you are willing to serve in this position, please speak to Clint Workinger or Pastor David for more information.

The **F.R.O.G.S** will be raffling off Tastefully Simple and Silpada products on February 5th. Tickets will be sold before and after worship on January 15th, 22nd and 29th. Tickets cost \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Thank you for continuously supporting our youth!!

OPEN SUNDAY TO SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS: April 29, May 20, July 17, November 11, and December 30. If interested, speak to JoAnn Moul or call the church office.

SIGN-UP TODAY to serve in 2012! LAY MINISTRY NEEDS YOU! —There are still needs and opportunities to serve...check the Opportunity Board and plug in today!

MEDICAL MISSION NEWS

****Planning Team Meeting—Jan. 11, 2012 @ 7:30 p.m.****
Travel Team Meeting—Feb. 7, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.

FUNDRAISERS

Hoss's Restaurant –TODAY, January 8, 2012, all day, on E. Market St., York, PA. If our sales are over \$1200, we will earn 25% profit towards Kenya. Flyers will be needed — **pick one up in the lobby after worship.**

Mickey's Pizza: Today we will be handing out pizza order forms. If you wish to order, or to sell, please pick-up a form. Order forms should be handed in to the church next Sunday, January 15, 2012. Mickey's pizza is cheese pizza only - no other toppings. Pick-up for the congregation will be Fri., Feb. 3rd. and Sat. Feb.4th - times to be announced later--- Pizza in time for Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 5th.

Please make your checks payable to: *St. John's UCC "Kenya Mission".*

Service of Worship: January 1

Total Attendance (a Year Ago): 115 (195)

Offerings \$7833.90

No Sunday School

LENTEN WORKSHOP & STUDY SERIES

“Using Our Senses to Encounter God during Lent” is a study will be held just prior to and during Lent, with Pastor David giving leadership. The first session will be held on Sunday February 12, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. This lectionary based Bible study will involve “hands-on” approaches to learning and will visually represent the groups’ discussion in our morning worship services throughout Lent. The workshop will take place during the Sunday School Hour in the Auditorium. There is a sign-up sheet on the lobby bulletin board.

Stewardship News: Pledge Update

as of December 29, 2011

(last year’s numbers as of the same date are indicated in the parenthesis)

Giving Units Pledged—54 (47) representing 96 (89) members

Dollars Pledged : \$110,925 (\$104,584)

Have you submitted your 2012 PLEDGE yet??? There’s still time!

Please place it in the offering plate or return it in to the church office as soon as possible.

Call to Annual Meeting

Plan to attend the Annual meeting of the membership of St. John’s United Church of Christ to be held on **Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 8:45 a.m. in the Auditorium.** The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Receive and review Annual Reports for 2011
- Elect new members of Consistory
- Elect new members of the Finance Committee
- Elect new members of the Pastor/Parish Relations Committee
- Act upon the Proposed Budget for 2012
- Consider an amendment to the Endowment to include all church owned musical instruments within the scope of the “Organ Fund.”
- Consider any other business to properly come before the church.

Please remember: the time of the Annual Meeting is **8:45 a.m.**. This starting time allows all members the opportunity to express input on the various issues of church life in the meeting. Our regular Sunday morning service of worship will start at 10:15 a.m. Light refreshments will be served in the auditorium.

Our newly elected Consistory members will be installed to their office during the morning service of worship on Sunday January 29, 2012.