

Order of worship

March 11, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Lent

10:00 am

MORNING MEDITATION - *Please enter the sanctuary in quiet meditation.*

“Sometimes I go about pitying myself;
And all the while I am being carried across the sky,
By beautiful clouds.”

Ojibway Indian saying

PRELUDE

OPENING WORDS

Dot Lambert

*****CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: O dear Lord let us gather together as a community of faith that extends far beyond our doors.

People: Lord we come into your dwelling this morning, from the hurts of a broken world. We come to remember and honor our traditions of faith through the celebration of Lent.

Leader: We come from the pain of illness and death. We come from the tensions and challenges of living life to its fullest. We come knowing that Jesus has felt our pain and still gives his life for us.

People: We come seeking hope that beyond our power to reason, beyond our science or even our rationalizations there is the Christ whom we worship in Spirit and in Truth.

*****OPENING HYMN "At the Name of Jesus"**

UMH # 168

INVOCATION

Dot Lambert

Leader: O, Lord who has given us your Son: come to us this day that our hearts may open widely to your love and grace.

People: We know, Lord that you are with us and that your miracles include our own.

Leader: You create new beginnings from the old, you bring life from death, you give hope from despair.

People: You change sinners into saints, and the uncaring into those with have zest and a will to live.

Leader: Be with us today as we work through our doubts and trials

People: As we walk your path to the Cross, help us to give thanks and understand the mysteries of our unconditional love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. David F. Hurst

O Gracious and loving God there is no way that we can repay you for your love. Forgive us our iniquities, and our errors of commission and omission. Spare us from the illusions of innocence. Help us to understand that earthly wisdom does not

answer all of our questions, nor does it cure our maladies. Forgive us when we expect too much from our friends and loved ones. Open our hearts to fill our lives with humility instead of righteous anger. Give us your grace and your salvation. Help us each day to rely upon your teachings. In our worship may we offer to you, a small portion of who we really are. Open us to your heart and will; and receive us ALL as your grateful children. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Almighty God, who in your mercy, we are promised forgiveness. Help us to accept your love so that we might change. Strengthen us, that we will follow your Will. Through the love and blessing of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God

***** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Psalter Reading: Psalm 107 (Red Hymnal) pg. 830-831

Joe DeGrande

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. David F. Hurst

Pastoral Prayers:

The Lord's Prayer

*****Response: "Glory Be to the Father"**

"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"

Scripture Reading

First Lesson Numbers 21:4-9 (chair Bible OT Pg. 139)

Joe DeGrande

*****Hymn of Preparation: "Lord Throughout these Forty Days"**

UMH # 269

Second Lesson John 3:14-21 (chair Bible NT pg. 94)

Rev. David F. Hurst

Sermon: "Not To Judge - But to Save"

Rev. David F. Hurst

Ministry of Giving

*****Doxology**

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all gifts; Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts Praise the Spirit! Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Prayer of Dedication

*****PARTING HYMN: "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"**

UMH # 126

BENEDICTION

Leader: May the Lord bless you, and keep you throughout the Lenten season.

People: Bless us, O God, with energy and enthusiasm for our journey. Life is ours to live with hope and joy through each of your blessings and sacrifices.

POSTLUDE

A reminder to enter the sanctuary in silent meditation for those wishing to sit in silence and pray.

Church dates for this week, the week of March 11th.

Today, Sunday, March 11th - March Birthday Celebration following the service.

(Doris Grala, Joyce Monska & Vera Gaughan)

Today, Sunday, March 11th - Bible Study - Pastor's office - 11:30am

Monday, March 12th - Finance/Trustee Mtg. - 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 14th - Church Office Open 10am - 3pm

Church dates for next week, week of March 18th

Today, Sunday, March 18th - Bible Study - Pastor's office - 11:30am

Monday, March 19th - Cot Shelter Meal

Tuesday, March 20th - Choir Rehearsal - 6:15pm

Wednesday, March 21st - Church Council Meeting - 6:15pm

Altar flowers this morning are given in honor and glory of Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Sundays are available to flowers. Sign up on bulletin board in foyer)

Rev. David is still looking for additional Lay Readers to assist in the morning worship. Please let Rev. David or Pam know if you are interested.

Easter Flower order is inserted in the Bulletin this morning, Please place your order(with payment to CUMC) to Virginia Ahart by Sunday, March 18th!!

Signup sheet for the Monday, March 19th Cot Shelter Meal - to prepare or serve will be on the table in the Library during Hospitality Time following this morning's service.

See insert for Maundy Thursday Evening Service information.

See insert for April 7th Roast Pork Dinner.

SPRC has a part-time (10 hr wk) Custodial Position open for our church, Christ United involving custodial maintenance of church building. If interested, please apply to SPRC in writing by Saturday, March 17th.

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email: christnorthampton@gmail.com / office phone (413) 584-5935

Web: ChristUMCNorthampton.org / Facebook: ChristNorthampton

Rev. David F. Hurst (413) 426-60

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"OPEN HEARTS, "OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"

Sunday, March 11, 2018
Morning Worship - 10:00am



Rev. David F.Hurst, Pastor
Music Director, Pam Kukucka

"Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ and to fulfill God's will for the transformation of the world through spiritual growth, education worship and fellowship. We express our faith through others."

We welcome you to join us in this journey!