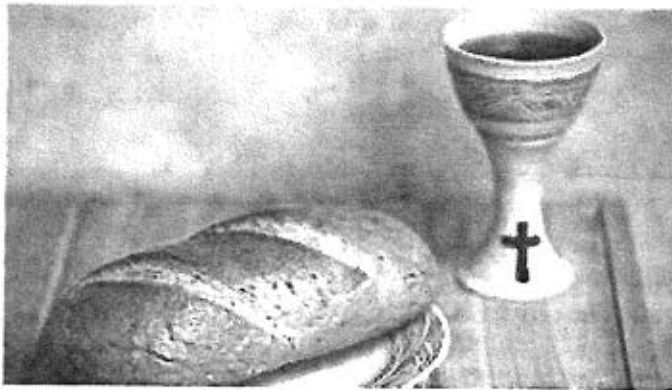


Christ United Methodist Church

"Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world."

Sunday Morning Worship
January 3, 2016, 9:00 a.m.



Rev. Catharine A. Cummings, Pastor

271 Rocky Hill Road (Rt. 66) P.O. Box 701
Northampton, Massachusetts 01061

Telephone: (413) 584-5935
Email: ChristNorthampton@gmail.com
Web: ChristUMCNorthampton.org
Facebook: Christ Northampton

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome of our Guests & Members

Pam Kukucka

Art Cooper

****Opening Hymn**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

UMH #220

****Call to Worship**

(based on Psalm 147)

One: Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

Many: For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.

One: He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.

Many: He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

One: He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

Many: He hurls down hail like crumbs-- who can stand before his cold?

One: He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

Many: He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.

All: Praise the LORD!

Opening Prayer

Congregational Hymn

“What Child Is This”

Art Cooper

UMH #219

Prayers of the People

Rev. Catharine A. Cummings

One: Lord in your mercy—

Response: Hear our prayer.

Prayer of Confession & Pardon

Pastor: In the light of Christ, we see the shadows of our world and of our hearts. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Together: Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions.

Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Pastor: Friends, This is the good news: Christ is the light of the world, who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins. **AMEN.**

****Passing the Peace**

One: "The peace of Christ be with you."

Response: "And also with you."

Prayer of Illumination

"Lead Me Lord"

UMH #473

Lead me Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makes me dwell in safety.

Scripture Reading

Virginia Ahart

First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-14

Response

"Glory Be to the Father"

UMH #71

"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."

Preparatory Song

"Mary, Did you Know"

Joe DeGrande

Sermon

Rev. Catharine A. Cummings

Ministry of Giving

Response

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #94

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Thanksgiving and Communion

We celebrate an open Communion Table – All are welcome at the Lord's Table

Announcements

Virginia Ahart

****Closing Hymn**

"Blessed Assurance"

UMH #369

Benediction

Postlude

Pam Kukucka

****Please stand if able**

Bold print— Congregational participation

Announcements

Sunday Service Flowers

Sunday church service flowers may now be ordered through Pam Kukucka. They may be in memory of, in honor of someone special or any other occasion. The only thing Pam asks is that you bring in your own vase and pay the \$20.00 charge at the time you place the order. You may bring the flowers home with you after the service. Please call Pam two weeks ahead of time.

We also now have a Flower Sign Up Sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the office door. You may put your name and phone number here and Pam will give you a call. Let's see if we can pull this together as simply as we can. Should be nice to see pretty flowers on the Altar again. Nuttelman's Florists will make the flowers arrangements.

Invitation to the Choir!

The choir would love to have a few more members. We sing simple but lovely music during two services monthly. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm - church music room. If interested let Pam know and she will send you a schedule.

Choir Rehearsal is this Thursday, January 7 at 6:30pm. All are welcome to come out and sing. The choir will sing Sunday, January 10.

Pledge/ Giving Envelope Boxes

Pledge Envelope Boxes are ready today for those who have completed Pledge Forms for 2016. Please be sure to pick up your box located on the Table of Opportunity by the front door. Your financial commitment, large or small, is vital to the operation of this church. If you haven't but would like to complete a 2016 pledge form - they are located on the Table of Opportunity - please return it next Sunday, January 10th by placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church: CUMC, P.O. Box 701, Northampton, MA 01061 %Finance.

Please keep the family of Ruth Parsons & George Scheel in this time of loss.

Pastor: Rev. Catharine A. Cummings
Organist: Mrs. Pam Kukucka

Rev. Cummings is available for Pastoral emergency such as members in crisis, death, and sickness. You may contact her at the church office, (413) 314-3405 voicemail, or email ccummings5@gmail.com.

Nursery is available for children ages 0 - 6