

Trinity United Church of Christ
Gettysburg, PA

1st Sunday in Christmas

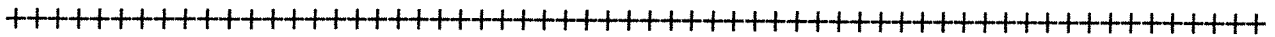


No matter who you are or where you are

On life's journey...

You are welcome here!

January 1, 2023
1st Sunday in Christmas



*Denotes all who are able, please stand.
Congregational responses are in **bold print**.

TIME OF SHARING/GREETING

PRELUDE

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Setting by John Leavitt

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!
**The rhythms of life praise the Everlasting God
through the markings of time.**

Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!
**The flowers, land, and trees praise the Divine Gardener
through rest and renewal.**

Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!
**Living creatures praise the Spirit of God through
our breathing, living and being. Praise God!**

*HYMN #145 “Once in Royal David’s City”

*PRAYER

Holy Love,

**You make us a community. You gather us as your offspring
and knit us together with grace and mercy. In your presence,
there is fullness of love, joy, hope, and peace.
Thank you for being among us this day
and with us in every moment of our being.
Receive our praise, dwell in our midst,
and create in us a heart that yearns for you and your kingdom.
In the name of Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.**

CAROL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, the dawn of a new year prompts us to
reflect on our past and hope for our future.
Help us live every day seeking your
way and moving on your path. Help us commit to love
and resolve to extend the grace and mercy
we need from you and our neighbor. Make us new. Amen.**

(Moment for Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

The God who counts our days knows us intimately,
loves us abundantly and abides with us relentlessly.
Receive the brand-new mercies of this day.
Hold the love of God closely, firmly, and freely.
Transformation, grace, and new life is assured on this day. Amen.

CAROL

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:13-23

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child

and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

CAROL

NEW YEAR'S DAY MESSAGE

*** HYMN #128 "In the Bleak Midwinter"**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Still Speaking God, as we enter this new year,
may it be a year in which you are near to us in every moment.
For we believe in you, Almighty Creator of Heaven and Earth.**

Lord Jesus, stay by our side day by day.

We place our faith in you,

the one who is both God and flesh.

**From your lowly birth in Bethlehem
to your ministry of healing and of grace,
from your self-giving death on the cross for us
to your powerful resurrection and ascension,
we believe in the truth of your Word.**

**Holy Spirit, come to us this year
in a thousand different ways.**

With your gentle direction,

your quiet voice,

and your wise instruction,

guide us along our paths.

Still Speaking God – Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer –

you have gone before us into the new year,

and you call us to join you.

We come in confidence and joy,

loving and trusting you. Amen.

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it was in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins**

**As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

CAROL

CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS

Let us put our trust in the Living God, who is faithful.

Let us praise God for the abundance of creation
in the sharing of our gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE "*Go Tell It on the Mountain*" (Refrain)
*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere.
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous Love, bless these offerings.
Stir up the gifts within for your glory,
show your provision through the sharing of our resources,
and empower us to steward our days as precious and holy. Amen.**

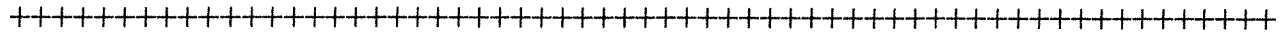
*CAROL

*FINAL BLESSING

May we remember the magnificent acts of the Holy One.
May we proclaim the wondrous ways of our God.
May love be our compass and mercy our guide.
Go into the world as kinfolk of the Christ who trust in the faithfulness
of the One who calls, who comes, and who walks with us.
Go in peace. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"
Words by: John W. Work
African American-Spiritual



Portions of today's worship have been taken from:

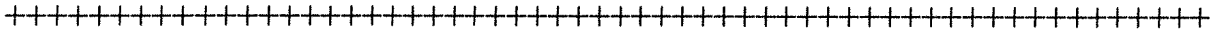
Love and Mercy: Service Prayers for the First Sunday after Christmas was written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ. 2022.

Prelude - In the Bleak Midwinter. Setting by John Leavitt. © 2000 Hal Leonard Corp.

Hymns - Once in Royal David's City. Words: Cecil Alexander (1848). Music: Henry Gauntlett (1849), harm. Novello and Co., Ltd.

Go, Tell It on the Mountain. Words: John W. Work (1907). Music: African-American spiritual © 1992 The Pilgrim Press.

Postlude - Go, Tell It on the Mountain. Setting by Wilbur Held. © 1991 MorningStar Music Publishers. Permission to reprint / podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONELICENSE with License # A-712060. All rights reserved.



Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young
Pastor

Kara Young
Lay Liturgist

Jane Eiker
Organist

Terry and Ruth Krietz
Ushers/Greeters

Buck Harvey
Acolyte

Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young, Luke Milhimes, Carl Barrick, Russell Bailey,
Sue Churchill, Garrison Redding, George Steckert, Mike Chase
Tech Team