

Christmas can be a time of mixed emotions. We celebrate the joy of the season, while at the same time acknowledging the bitter-sweet feelings that the holidays can bring. When there is grief, when there is a broken relationship, when things are not as we had hoped, then there is struggle, and we yearn for comfort. Perhaps you or someone you know is grieving over the loss of a loved one, is coping with illness, or has experienced the loss of a job. Maybe you wonder how you will get through the holidays apart from family, or you simply struggle to feel the joy that rings out from the carols. Know that in the midst of such feelings, God invites us to worship, even in our brokenness. CCUPC will be celebrating a **Blue Christmas Service** of wholeness and healing on **Sunday, December 17th** at **6:00 PM** in the Sanctuary, and we invite you to attend. This service is designed to give space to those who struggle, while still pointing to the hope that is ours in Christ. If you know of others who would benefit, please invite them, as well. All are welcome. Postcard invitations are available on the Visitors Table.

Hey Bakers! Preheat your ovens! The youth groups will once again be hosting their annual **Cookie Sale** on **Sunday, December 17th**. There will be trays of cookies for sale before and after the worship service. Each student in youth group is asked to donate 5 dozen cookies for the sale. The youth will also gladly accept donations of cookies from the congregation. This is one of our best fundraisers, and helps us to send youth to various events, including the New Wilmington Mission Conference each summer. Donated cookies can be of any kind (except chocolate chip). You can bring your cookies to the church office from Monday through Friday, December 11th- 15th from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, or Saturday December 16th from 5:00 - 5:30 PM in the Greeting Area. All donations need to be turned in by 5:30 PM on Saturday, December 16th and should be clearly marked "Cookie Sale." The youth group are assembling the trays that evening.

We will be **setting up the luminaries** on **Friday, December 23rd** at **9:00 AM** for the Candlelight services on Christmas Eve. If you are able to help, please sign "LUM" on the registration sheet in the sign-up box as it is passed to you this morning.

After all the running around you have done in weeks past, wouldn't you like to sit on the floor and play with some of our cutest members? Give an hour of your time on Christmas Eve to help out in the **Infant/Toddler nursery** during the **5:00 and 8:00 PM** worship services. Please prayerfully consider helping out with this most important ministry. We often have new families visiting our church, some for the very first time, and we can only offer a nursery if we have loving caregivers, like YOU! Sign up by writing "CE-6" or "CE-8" in the sign-up box on the registration sheet. Dana Early, the Nursery Coordinator, will then contact you.

The **Spiritual Growth Committee** is encouraging the Sunday School students (in lieu of individual Sunday School Teacher gifts) to make a donation to the **"Sunday School Project"** that will benefit area families who are in need this Christmas. We often get calls and "drop in" visitors at the church requesting support. We supply these needs from the gift cards donated through this project. You can purchase Giant Eagle or WalMart gift cards from the Scrip Gift Card Center, place the gift card(s) in a pew envelope, and write **"Sunday School Project"** on the front. Just drop it in the offering plate!

THIS WEEK AT CCUPC

Sunday	12/3	First Sunday of Advent/Communion <i>Pray for Nauru</i>	
	9:00 am	Sunday School	All Over
	10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:15 am	Coffee Social Village A	Greeting Area
		Session Meeting	Conference Rm.
	5:00 pm	Jr. Youth Group	Lower Level
	6:30 pm	Middle/High School Youth Group	Lower Level
Monday	12/4		
	7:00 pm	Worship Team Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Tuesday	12/5		
	7:00 pm	Worship Committee Meeting	Conference Rm.
Wednesday	12/6		
	6:15 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Thursday	12/7		
	11:30 am	Ladies Lunch & Learn	TBA
Sunday	12/10	Second Sunday of Advent <i>Pray for Nepal</i>	
	9:00 am	Sunday School	All Over
	10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:15 am	Coffee Social Village B	Greeting Area
	6:30 pm	Middle/High School Youth Group	Lower Level

A LOOK AHEAD AT OUR SCHEDULE:

- The **Giving Tree gifts** are due back on Sunday, December 10th.
- The next **Men's Breakfast/Bible Study** will meet Tuesday, December 12th at 8:30 AM.
- The **Youth Group Cookie Sale** is Sunday, December 17th after both services.
- **Blue Christmas Service** will be Sunday, December 17th at 6:00 PM.
- **Luminary Set-Up** will take place Saturday, December 23rd at 9:00 AM.
- **Christmas Candle Light Services** will be at 6:00, 8:00 and 10:00 PM.

Please pick up your **2018 Giving Envelopes** that are located in the Greeting Area. If you find that you do not have a box of envelopes and would like one, please write your name on the sheet provided. Those with EFT, the envelopes are not in yet.

Would you like to sponsor the **luminaries** that outline the church property on Christmas Eve? The purchase of the candles can be funded in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Recognition will be noted each week in the bulletin during Advent. Please contact the church office office@ccupc.org/724-776-5310) if you're interested in sponsoring this gift.

Cranberry Community U. P. Church
2662 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township PA 16066
724-776-5310 <http://www.ccupc.org>
Pastor James M. Moran 724-759-4577
Pastor Nadine L. Roy 412-848-0834



Cranberry Community
United Presbyterian Church



December 3, 2017

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP **A WEEKLY CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION**

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made the universe." Hebrews 1:1-2

The Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude Mindy Cable and Jane Meltzer
"Away in a Manger"

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him." Psalm 37:7

(If you have a prayer request, please fill out a green prayer card and pass it to the center aisle as they will be collected during the first hymn and included during the prayer time)

The Call to Worship

WE WORSHIP IN PRAISE

*A Hymn #91 **"O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

WE WORSHIP IN PRAYER

*The Call to Confession

*The Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we open our hearts to You this day, and offer the truth of our lives: the fear that stifles us -- the prejudice that blinds us -- the ignorance that hobbles us -- the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely places, see the world with new and gracious eyes, move to those places where love is needed, have faith that You are with us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*The Assurance of Forgiveness

*Glorifying God **"We Will Glorify"**

**We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb.
We will glorify the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.**

The joys, concerns, and prayers of God's people

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE WORSHIP IN GIVING

Our Invitation to Give

The Offertory

“Born to be the Bread”

The Choir

*Praising God #556 *“Praise God From Whom All Blessings”*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*The Prayer of Dedication

WE WORSHIP IN PROCLAMATION

The Greeting *(Please share words of peace, encouragement, and hope)*

The Children's Lesson and Prayer *(The children may come forward)*

(Children 3 years old - Kindergarten may now leave for TLC out the back doors of the Sanctuary with Miss Gynni)

(Children in 1st - 3rd grades may now leave for KFC out the back doors of the Sanctuary)

The Scripture Lesson (page 1007)
Mark 13:32-37

The Sermon Pastor James M. Moran
“ALL WE NEED TO KNOW”

WE WORSHIP AT THE LORD'S TABLE

*A Hymn *“I Love You, Lord”*

*I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice
To worship You, O my soul rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what You hear,
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.*

The Apostles' Creed (in unison)

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving:

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: **AND ALSO WITH YOU!**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: **WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD!**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE GOD THANKS AND PRAISE!**

WE INVITE ALL who trust in Christ as Savior and Lord, regardless of denominational affiliation, to share in this celebration and thanksgiving! The Table has been prepared for those who seek fellowship and peace with God and each other.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Proclaiming our individual experiences of God's gracious forgiveness, we eat the bread as it is passed. You will note a dish in the middle of each serving tray that contains gluten free bread. Proclaiming our corporate experiences of God's grace to the Church, we hold the cup until all have been served, and drink together as the pastor indicates.

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

*A Hymn *“Rise Up, O Saints of God”*

*Rise up, O saints of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of kings.*

*Rise up, O saints of God!
The Church for You doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task;
Rise up, and make her great!*

*The Benediction

The Postlude *“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*

**Please stand as you are able.*

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Please keep these family members and friends in your prayers:

Friend (Tom Bell), Lillian Grundler (Dick Grundler), Karen Horvath (Jon & Lydia Horvath), Jim (Gary Pugh), Ryan King (Cindy Miller), Sue Kirkland (Nancy MacFarlane/Kelly Stebor), Kim Long (Nancy Hodges), Jim Miller (CCUPC member), Michael Moran (Pastor James Moran), Harriet Murray (Bill Murray), Will Pilarski (Isaiah Clerkley & Lori Zona), Cecil & Phyllis Pugh (Gary & Kim Pugh), Karen Raman (CCUPC member), David Rubinosky (Vera Rubinosky), Ruth & Carl (Karen Raman), Jennifer Sikora (Dean Sikora), Esther Suppa (CCUPC member & friend of John & Marcy Hamman), Chris Thompson (CCUPC member), Tim (Shirl & Roy Lonie), Joe Weber (CCUPC member) and Michelle Yorns (Sherri Kelly).

I WAS JUST THINKING. . . by Pastor Jim

Here are some thoughts offered by Charles Hoffacker in his book, Christ Winks at Us: “There’s an interesting quote - from an unexpected source - that applies to this First Day of Advent, from a book you may have read to your children or grandchildren, or that you may remember from your own childhood. The book is by Dr. Seuss, and is entitled, One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish. The quote to consider today is brief:

‘From there to here,
from here to there,
funny things
are everywhere.’

“Funny things are everywhere! And there are two things funny about this First Sunday of Advent, the start of a new church year. The first of them is that, here at the start of a new year, we don’t look back to the beginning, but we look forward to the end. Here on the first day of the new church year, we do not focus on the past, but we anticipate the future where Christ promises to meet us.

“The second funny thing about today is related to the first. When we look forward to the end, when we anticipate the future, we do not treat this conclusion as some distant, far-off event. It is near at hand. It may be as close as the next second. So imminent is it, in fact, that the future comes and takes up residence in the present. The Christ who will arrive with power and great glory at the end of time comes to us also before the end of time.”

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CCUPC Preschool Registration

Registration for the 2018-19 school year is underway. In order to insure a spot for your child in our 3 or 4 year old classes, church members need to please submit registrations by Wednesday, December 6th. Registrations can be completed through our website, www.ccupcpreschool.org. If you have any questions, please call Debbie Rossi at 724-776-5310.

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The Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary is given by Mindy Cable in loving memory of her mother Geneva M. Cable.

The Christmas Tree in the Greeting Area is given by Gene & Jeanne Smith in loving memory of their parents.

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The vases of flowers are given by Dara Marner to the glory of God, and in celebration of her granddaughter, Alyssa's first birthday.