

St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street † Whitehall PA 18052
www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org † 610-264-8421



*We Worship, We Love, We Serve –
No Matter What!*

January 8th, 2023
8:15 am and 10:45 am

Feast of the Epiphany

The Order of Worship

~ We Worship ~

*** Those who are comfortably able, please stand**

Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton! We are a place where love can grow!

*As the music begins, please find your place and begin
to center your spirit for our worship of God together*

Prelude

The Journey
Lloyd Larson

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

~ Baptismal Affirmation, Sunday, January 15

***Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

***Call to Worship**

From Worship Ways
(Inspired by Psalm 29)

One: Give glory to the Creator and bow in holy splendor!

All: The voice of the Creator renews and rebirths.

One: Give glory to the Holy One and bow in holy splendor!

All: The voice of the Holy One redeems and restores.

One: Give glory to the Living Water and bow in holy
splendor!

**All: The voice of the Living Water refreshes and revives.
Glory to God!**

***Opening Hymn #126**

Angels from the Realms of Glory
Verses 1 and 2

Prayer of Confession

From Worship Ways

One: Holy One, we confess our need for grace and mercy. We seek forgiveness for the ways in which we have drawn away from you and our neighbors.

All: **We express remorse for our participation in the systems of the world that are actively opposed to your kingdom. Transform us to be carriers and promoters of your good news of new life, liberation, and hope in the world. Amen.**

(Time for silent prayer)

Words of Assurance

From Worship Ways

One: The God of peace is faithful to offer forgiveness and new life in Christ. Receive the good news of new mercies with each new day and a future with hope.

All: **Amen.**

Children's Message

Children and youth are welcome to come up to the chancel steps. "Busy bags" are at the kids' table in the parlor and Rm 201 is open for those whose children want additional activities and space during worship. The livestream of worship is shown there. Please have an adult join them!

***Hymn**

We Three Kings

Verses 1 and 5

Hymn found on page 3

***Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

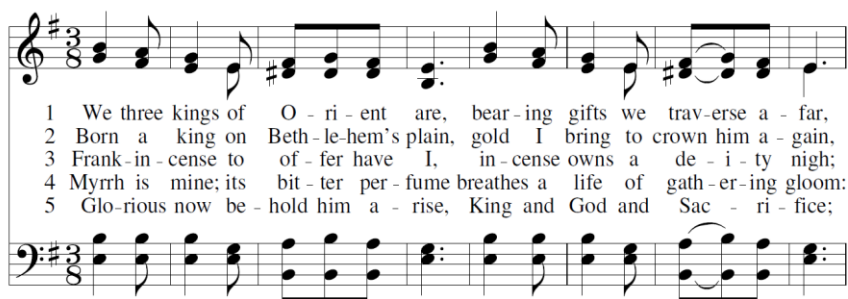
(8:15) Sharon Antrim

(10:45) Linda Powell

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

We Three Kings of Orient Are 233

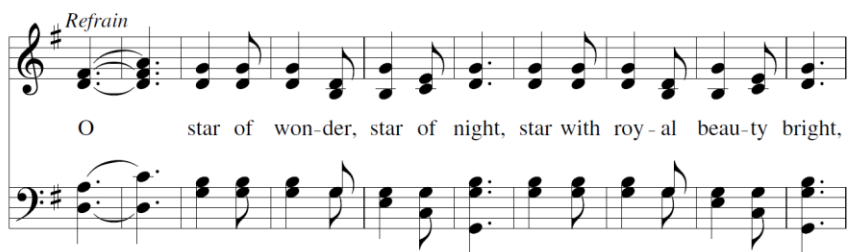


1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far,
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I, in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom:
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

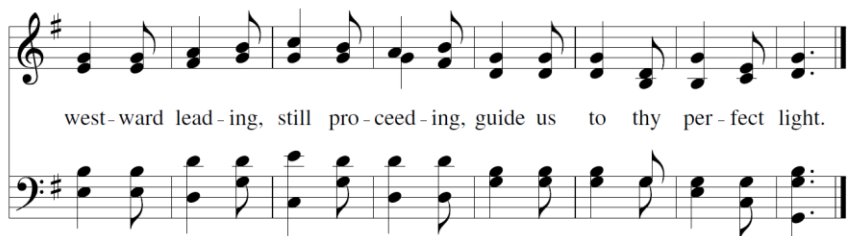


field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

WORDS and MUSIC: John H. Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt.

KINGS OF ORIENT
8.8.8.6.Ref.

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

When You Follow a Star

Special Music

Night Song

J. Ailor

Chancel Choir

~ We Love ~

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Davis

God of many names, in faith we name these persons and needs before you, trusting you to bring your peace, healing and hope to people and circumstances. Hear our prayers for...

We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus, the Christ, whose hope, peace and joy draw us together to pray, saying...

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen**

Prayer Response

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Verse 4

O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin and enter in; Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to God



Thank you for your
generosity and
faithfulness in
supporting the ministry
of
St. John's UCC!

***Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Based on *The First Noel*

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

From Worship Ways

**Giver of Gifts, we thank you for providing in abundance
and allowing us to participate as co-givers with you. We
dedicate our offerings in your many names. Amen.**

~ We Serve ~

Installation of Consistory 2023

Elders (Spiritual Council): Bill Fink (President) 2023,
DonnaLee Yeatts (Vice President) 2024, and Wendy Fox 2025

Deacons: 2023 - Janet Ebert, Brenda Pascoe, Margaret Young
2023 Youth Deacon - Tyler Shankweiler
2024 - Joy Gravely, Wayne Lichtenwalner, Kim Hillegass (E)
2025 - Sharon Antrim, Paul Raszler (E), Kathy Roth

Response of the Congregation

We gather in celebration of our covenant and the shared joy of being partners with you in the service of Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you as we worship, love and serve, that together, we may be faithful as the Church in the spirit of Christ.

***Hymn**

The First Noel
Verses 1 and 2

Hymn found on page 7

***The Benediction**

Rev. Davis

Postlude

Postlude on “The First Noel”
N. Rawesthrone

When the altar candles have been extinguished, our time of worship is concluded and our service in the world continues. The Benediction and Postlude send us out to be the people of God in our community.

In Our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill or are in our area hospitals: Richard Baatz, Jim Carr, Carl Case, Sandra Diefenderfer, Shirley Downing, Milton Focht, Sally Gibson, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Ginny Hess, Ted Hess, Travis Kaintz, Geraldine Keim, Karen Moyer, Eleanor O'Donnell, Jack Ohl, Brenda Pascoe, Joey Raszler, Marietta Seyfried, Madeline Slivka, Eleanor Smith and Nancy Weaver.

We pray for Jean Litzenberger and Nancy Dougherty on the death of daughter and sister Donna Rice.

We continue to pray for all those serving in our nation's military and for their families for their sacrifices on behalf of our freedom.

If you or a family member is admitted to the hospital, tell them you are a member of St. John's or use the church code, 473.

If you have someone for us to remember in prayer, please contact the church office.

The First Noel

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1 The first No-el, the an-gel did say, was to cer-tain poor
 2 They look-ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west, o'er Beth-le-
 5 Then en-tered in those wise men three, full rev-erent-prais-es
 6 Then let us all with one ac-cord sing

shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keep-ing their
 east, be-yond them far, and to the earth it gave great
 came from coun-try far, to seek for a king was their in-
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and
 ly up-on their knee, and of-fered there in his pres-
 to our heav-en-ly Lord, who hath made heaven and earth of

Refrain
 sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 light, and so it con-tin-ued both day and night.
 tent, and to fol-low the star wher-ev-er it went. No-el, No-el
 stay, right o-ver the place where Je-sus lay.
 sence their gold, and myrrh, and frank-in-cense.
 naught, and with his blood our life hath bought.

el, No-el, No-el, born is the King of Is-ra-el.

WORDS: English carol
 MUSIC: W. Sandys' *Christmas Carols*, 1833; arr. John Stainer (1840-1901)

THE FIRST NOEL
 Irregular

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Attendance – January 1

Onsite - 10:45 - 50 Online - 47

Serving in Worship Leadership

January 8

Ushers 8:15 - Charlotte Kerrigan, Margaret Young

10:45 - Wendy Fox, Roger Knauss, Dewey Yeatts

Worship Tech 8:15 - Michelle Gutekunst

10:45 - Bill Castello

January 15

Ushers 8:15 – Susan Rarich & Sharon Antrim

10:45 - Sharon Czekner & Bob Czekner

Worship Tech 8:15 & 10:45 - Bill Castello

Did you know...? You can sponsor Sunday bulletins as well as altar flowers. Cost is \$20 for bulletins, \$25 for flowers and the monthly newsletter can be sponsored for \$100.

UKRAINE RELIEF FUND - THE NEED CONTINUES

Help is urgently needed as harsh winter conditions have arrived in Ukraine. With no end in sight to the war and cruel attacks on civilians and healthcare workers continuing, the situation becomes increasingly dire. The long, hard, cold winter creates an alarming new challenge in keeping internally displaced people safe. Nearly a quarter of them don't have safe housing for the winter, including a lack of power, electricity and heat. This could be deadly as temperatures rapidly decline.

Your donations will help undergird an expanding spectrum of services, such as food, shelter, medical care, WASH (water, sanitation, hygiene), spiritual and psychological care, protection and more in Ukraine and in countries where Ukrainians were forced to relocate. For the month of January, contributions will be sent to UCC National to support programs to help with Ukraine's infrastructure and other needs of the Ukrainian people. Be sure to note that your contribution is for "Ukraine Relief Fund." Special offering envelopes, along with yellow and blue lapel pins showing your support can be found on the table in the lounge area. We are happy to report that for the month of November, \$100 was sent to Project HOPE to help with the people's medical needs.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

JANUARY 2023

Overall	
Overall Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	4,842.30
Overall Percent	21.5%

Last Week	
Start:	1/1/23
End:	1/7/23
Total:	4,842.30

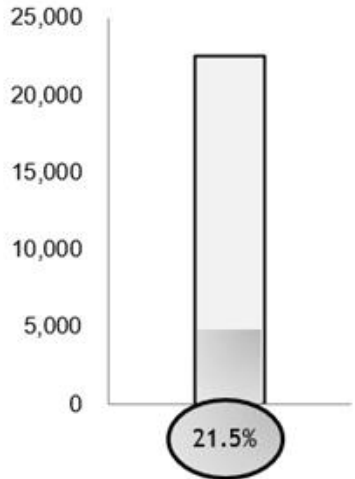
Amt need to reach Target

JANUARY 2023	17,657.70
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Progress

Overall Target

Overall Total



YTD OFFERINGS

JANUARY 2023

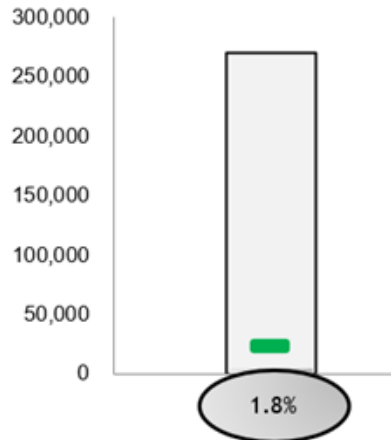
Overall	
Overall Target	270,000.00
On Track Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	4,842.30
Overall Percent	1.8%

Progress

Overall Target

Overall Total

On Track Target



GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

If you are grieving the death of a loved one, you are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury UM Church, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown. The group meets the 4th Tuesday monthly at 1pm in the upper level Parlor and is led by Rev. Evelyn Stupp, Asbury's Pastor of Bereavement and Care Ministries. Please contact her at estupp@asburylv.org or 610-428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next support gathering is **Tuesday, January 24.**

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

Donations needed for January: pancake mix, syrup, jelly and peanut butter. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Monetary contributions are also welcomed. Special offering envelopes are available; you can also make a contribution via text or online.

Church Calendar for the Week of Jan 8 - Jan 15, 2023

Sun, 1/8	8:15 am	Worship Service
	9:30 am	Faith Formation/Confirmation
	10:45 am	Worship Service
Mon 1/9		Newsletter Deadline
	6:00 pm	Bells of St. John's
	7:00 pm	Jubilation Choir
Tues, 1/10	10:30 am	Visitation Committee
	1:30 pm	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Elders
	7:00 pm	Consistory
Wed, 1/11	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	6:30 pm	Mission Committee
Thurs 1/12	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir
Sat, 1/14	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun, 1/15	8:15 am	Worship Service
	9:30 am	Faith Formation/Confirmation
	10:45 am	Worship Service

OUR STAFF

Rev. Steve Davis sjfsrpastor@sjuccf.org	Senior Pastor
Patrick Sandt sjfmusic@sjuccf.org	Director of Music Ministries & Organist
Alison Berger Boor sjfofficesecretary@sjuccf.org	Office Administrator
Sue Weldner sbweldner@gmail.com	Treasurer
Thomas and Emilie Moyer tommoyer54@gmail.com	Financial Secretary
Michelle Gutekunst sjfstars@sjuccf.org sjfcustodians@sjuccf.org	Worship Tech & Coordinating Custodian
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