

Our Mission

-A family of God growing in Christ, empowered to serve -

**Worship
December 23, 2018
8:30 a.m.**

The 4th Sunday in Advent

**And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God!
Romans 5:2b New International Version**

All I Want For Christmas

Gathering

Informal Moments for Sharing

Prayer

Prelude *Christmas Joy Medley* arr. G. Lanier
Trio with Cody & Ali Toms

Reading *Later*
by Ann Barr Weems
from the book, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*
The Westminster Press, ©1985, 1987

Lighting the Candle of *Time* Luke Preso

*Caroling
Angels We Have Heard on High #184
O Little Town of Bethlehem #196

Please be seated.

Invitation Words by John Heagle, clergy and professor, minister for peace and justice

Offering
(Please print your name on the attendance register. If you are a guest, please include your address and/or telephone number.)

All I Want for Christmas is...

Offertory *O Little Town of Bethlehem* arr. L. Smith
piano/organ duet with Robin Hockenberry

*Response *What Can I Give Him?* #207
(to the tune of *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* by Gustav Holst)

Dedication **(together)**
Gracious God, we lift these gifts to you and, with them, our very lives. Receive our offerings, and may they bless your heart and your will. May all that we have and all that we are bring you glory and honor and blessing and power. It is in Jesus' name we give. Amen.

Anthem *God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen* arr. Heather Sorenson
Chancel Choir

The Word II Corinthians 6:2 and Luke 2:15-20 NRSV

Advent Meditation *One Moment More* Pastor Joel

Remembrance and Dedication Service

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of one of his saints. Psalm 116:15

The Story of the Tree of Life

**Prayer
The Ceremony of Lights**

We remember with gratitude those who will be celebrating Christmas in heaven with the Lord this year. We celebrate their life by lighting candles in their honor as well as their memory. Holding these dear ones in our hearts, we recall them now with thanksgiving.

The Reading of Names and Our Silent Prayers

Carol *Silent Night, Holy Night* (verses 1, 2 & 3) #206

Blessing

*Postlude *Shepherds Leave Your Pastures* arr. W. I. Nevins

Greeters Gary and Sherri Stahl
Jane Hughes

Ushers Judy Witter, Mel Kendle
Greg Wengert and Ralph Kegerreis

Thank you to all who serve us in worship today:
Worship Leadership Sherri Stahl
Music Leadership Elizabeth Thorpe
Organist Pamela Wert

PERK Worship

10:45am

Praise God through song and dance for he is worthy of our praise!

*Psalm 150:1-2, 6
Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens...Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

Engage in worship through different styles of prayer, skits, videos, and offering.

*Matthew 7:7-8
Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you.*

Reflect on the living Word and how it speaks to your life.

*Psalm 119:105
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

Koinonia: Spend time in community with fellow believers.

*Romans 12:4-5
For as in one body we have many members and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.*

Thank you to all who serve us in worship today:
Music Leaders Praise Team
Greeters/Ushers Jay and Barb Boushell

Schedule of Events and Activities

Today, December 23
Childcare is available for infants thru age 3 in the Crib Room during the 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. worship services.

9:30 a.m. - Advent Small Group/Bible Study - In keeping with our 2018 theme, *All I Want For Christmas*, Pastor Joel will lead a small group/Bible study today in the Sanctuary. If you are not currently in a class, this would be a great, short-term commitment for you. Come, bring your bible and a friend along!

Monday, December 24

6:30 p.m. – Pre-Service Music in Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 25

Office Closed – Merry Christmas!

Wednesday, December 26

Office Closed – Merry Christmas!

Please take Note

Christmas Eve Service

will begin at 6:30 p.m. with pre-service music in our sanctuary, followed by a family-friendly traditional candlelight service at 7:00.

Our Christmas Eve service will be a family-friendly service, filled with carols and special music, a children's story, the preaching of God's Word, Holy Communion and, of course, the traditional candle lighting. Plan to bring your friends and family to celebrate the birth of Jesus together.

Message: *What Does God Want for Christmas?*

The Church Office will be closed on Tuesday, December 25, 2018 and Wednesday, December 26, 2018 in observance of Christmas!
Merry Christmas!

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2019 in observance of New Year's Day!

Contributions for 2018 Giving – Special gift contributions need to be in the Church Office by Sunday, December 30th. Any giving received after December 30th will be credited to 2019 giving.

2019 Offering Envelopes are available today in your church mailbox. If you do not presently have offering envelopes and would like offering envelopes, contact the church office and you will be issued envelopes for 2019.

2019 Flower Chart – A New Flower Chart is posted in the narthex for altar flowers for 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. worship. Altar arrangements are \$30.00.

Mid-Week Connection, Wednesday, January 2, 2019 – Come and join us for a night of Bingo! Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. Menu is BBQ, Mac-n-Cheese, Green Beans and Ice-Cream.

Properties Commission will meet on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Please take note that the next Pastor's Pen will combine the months of January and February. Deadline for the January/February Pastor's Pen is Sunday, January 6th. Please submit all information to the church office.

Smart Cookies Nursery School Committee will meet on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Mid-Week Connection Planning Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

KidNecton: For Children in Pre-K (age 4) thru 5th grade. Come and join us on **Thursday, January 10th**, and will continue every 2nd Thursday of the month. We will be meeting in the BLC for Worship, Bible Story, Games and a Craft!!

The Church Board Planning Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2019 beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Mini-Fellowship Hall.

S.O.N. - Your continued support of donations for Serving Our Neighbors deserves a THANK YOU! It has been a great success throughout the year as we have collected and gave out many items at our monthly Mid-Week program. During December and January, we will be collecting: hats, gloves/mittens and scarves for men, women and children. These donations will be given out at both January and February Mid-Week nights.

Church Weather Related Closings - If you would like to be notified by phone of Sunday morning weather cancellations, you are invited to sign up for this service. Calls should arrive between 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sign up forms are available in the BLC Lobby area and Narthex. You can still check the church's website at www.chambcob.org or call and check for a message on the church's answering machine. If you need to update contact information, please use this form to do so. If you have previously signed up, you do not need to resubmit. If you wish to be taken off the call list, please notify the office.

Needed: Non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry. Place items in the barrels located in the narthex or BLC Lobby. Please check expiration dates on the items as some have been outdated. **Empty egg cartons are no longer needed. Please do not bring them to the church any longer.**

Church Closing Schedule – December – Judy Witter;
January – Terry Gibbons

December 16, 2018
U.B. = Unified Budget)
Worship – 198 Sunday School – 83

Senior Pastor: Joel Nogle
Minister of Music and Congregational Life: Elizabeth Thorpe
Director of Christian Ed and Youth: Jamie Rhodes
Administrative Assistant: Carol Wingert
*Sunday Worship – 8:30 AM * PERK – 10:45 AM*
Sunday School – 9:35 AM
Office Hours 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM - Monday – Friday – Lunch 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.
Chambersburg Church of the Brethren
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