

Salem United Church of Christ
German Reformed

231 Chestnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101



Present Building Erected 1821-22, Organized 1787

Welcome to Salem UCC

We're delighted that you have joined us for worship today. If you would like to receive a pastoral call or be put on our mailing list, please fill out a visitor card found in the aisle racks and place in the offering basket.

Parking

In addition to street parking, parking is available at the lot at the bottom of Dewberry Street. As you travel NE on Chestnut, pass 3rd street and take the next right onto Dewberry. The lot is on your left as you go around the bend.

Some Basics

Restrooms are located out the left door at the front of the sanctuary. Take a left and a quick right and you will find both the men's and women's restrooms off the hall to the church office on the left.

For your safety, yellow and red cards are placed at each pew with emergency procedures in case they are necessary. The church doors are closed 10:40. If you will arrive after that, please text your name and the time you will arrive to 717-319-8992 (Susan Nelson) and we will make sure you are welcomed at the door on the east side garden at the corner of Chestnut and 3rd.

Church Tours

Salem (from the Hebrew word for peace) has been a congregation committed to loving God and serving others for more than 200 years. For information on a tour, please contact one of our ushers.

Our information

Website: www.salemuccharrisburg.org

Facebook: Salem United Church of Christ, Harrisburg, PA

Church phone: (717) 232-7145

Church email: salemucc@hotmail.com

Pastor email: pastor.salemuccharrisburg@gmail.com

Salem United Church of Christ
January 2, 2022
Epiphany Sunday

Our Mission

"Historic Salem, in the heart of Harrisburg, seeks the Holy Spirit's guidance in welcoming all people to worship God; by encouraging participation in the ministry of Christ through Christian outreach with the city's heart."

*Please rise as you are able.

Welcome and Pre-liturgY Announcements

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

Solo

We Three Kings

J. J. Hopkins

*Call to Worship

L: The light of the world has come.

P: Let us walk in the light.

L: The light of the world has come.

P: The Holy One will bless us with peace.

The light of the world has come.

P: The joy of the Lord will be our strength.

The light of the world has come.

All: God is here among us. Let us rejoice and be glad in God's presence.

*Hymn

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Black 154

Prayer of Invocation

L: God of mystery and of power, nothing is hidden from you, to you all things are plain.

P: Give us grace, O Lord, to hear your word and see your hand.

L: Your might and your strength are beyond all comparison. Your love is greater than words can say.

P: Give us grace, O Lord, to hear your word and see your hand.

L: You call us Lord to a closer walk with you. You guide us into the paths that you have chosen in your wisdom.

P: Give us grace, O Lord, to hear your word and see your hand. Keep us from fleeing your presence. Make us responsive to your loving call.

Time for Silent Reflection

Kyrie



M: Gracious Father, you promise to hear our prayers and make us new.

ALL: We walk in the light, forgiven and cleansed, In the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. Amen.

Scripture Lessons

Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 1:1-7

The Purpose of Wisdom

1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:

2 for gaining wisdom and instruction;

for understanding words of insight;

3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior,

doing what is right and just and fair;

4 for giving prudence to those who are simple,

knowledge and discretion to the young—

5 let the wise listen and add to their learning,

and let the discerning get guidance—

6 for understanding proverbs and parables,

the sayings and riddles of the wise.

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,

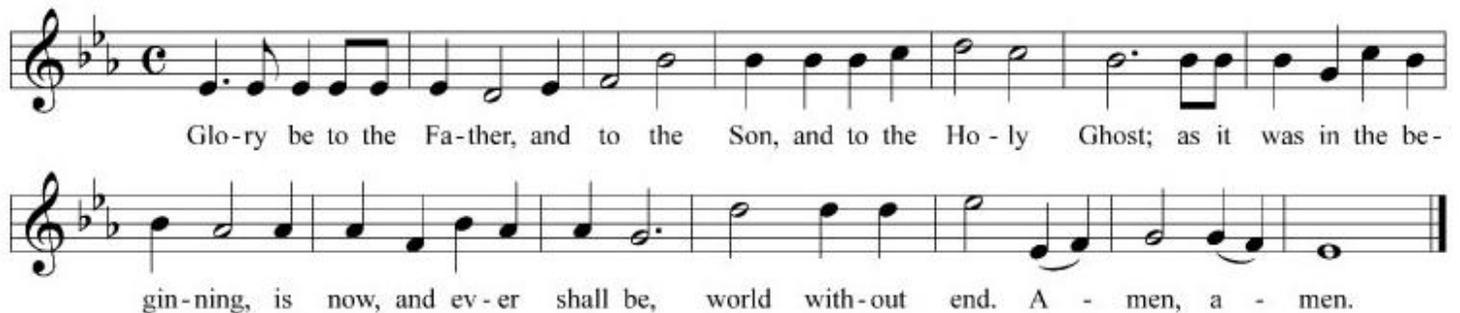
but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

*Gloria Patri



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the be-
gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

*Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi Visit the Messiah

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Sermon

Becoming Wise

Hymn of Response

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

1. May the mind of Christ my Sav - ior
2. May the Word of God dwell rich - ly
3. May the peace of God, my Fa - ther,
4. May the love of Je - sus fill me

3

live in me from day to day, by his love and
in my heart from hour to hour, so that all may
rule my life in ev - ery - thing, that I may be
as the wa - ters fill the sea, him ex - alt - ing,

6

power con - trol - ling all I do and say.
see I tri - umph on - ly through his power.
calm to com - fort sick and sor - row - ing.
self a - bas - ing— this is vic - to - ry.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

M: Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

M: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good...Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

M: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory...Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

M: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we love one another as Christ loves us...Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

M: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. We especially remember... and those we now lift up silently in our own prayers... Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

M: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom...Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

M: We offer these prayers in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying...**Our Father which 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 and ever. Amen.**

Offering
Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

M: Generous God, we give you thanks for all you have given to us. May our hope continue to be in your faithfulness, so that we can be generous and joyful in our giving. Bless these gifts so that your kingdom may come in and through Salem. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: *As With Gladness* Black 159; 1,2,4

*Benediction (from Ephesians 1:16)

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

*Extinguishing of Candles

Postlude (please stay seated until the postlude has concluded.)

THOSE SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY

Organist: Caleb Sisak

Worship Leader & Lay Reader: Susan Nelson

Soloist: Joe Sobel

Ushers: Sandy Sgrignoli & Joann Smith

Pastor: Rev. Sue Schmidt

The flowers on the altar are placed by Joann Smith in loving memory of her brother, John Keith Pressley.

CALENDAR

- Today Epiphany Sunday; No Sunday School
- Jan. 3-9 Pastor Sue on vacation. If there is a pastoral emergency, please contact Janet Kelley.
- Jan. 9 No Sunday School; Bob Deibler will bring the sermon
- Jan. 16 Sunday School resumes; Consistory meets after the service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The cost of altar flowers is increasing to \$35 for 2022. Flowers may be used two consecutive weeks and the sponsor may take them after the service. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board. Special bulletin covers may be sponsored for \$10 and sign-up sheets are also on the bulletin.

Wellspring Pastoral Counseling: Did you know there is pastoral counseling at Salem church? Pastoral counseling services are available for individuals, families, and couples with concerns, such as: anxiety, depression, feelings of shame and guilt, spirituality, or grief and loss. Appointments are available Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (evening hours are also available.) For more information, contact: Scott M. Watts, MS, LPC, NCC, call 717-443-7426 or email: wellspringpc@outlook.com.