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 HEIDELBERG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 251 PERKIOMEN AVENUE, SCHWENKSVILLE, PA 19473
 SCHWENKSVILLE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE - 7:30PM
 HEIDELBERG UCC & JERUSALEM LUTHERAN ELCA
 HOLY COMMUNION
 SERVICE CONDUCTED ON FACEBOOK LIVE & IN-PERSON WORSHIP
 NOVEMBER 23, 2022
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Today's Thought:

"Gratitude can transform common days into Thanksgiving, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings." ~ William Arthur Ward

Centering Words:

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice! for the goodness of God's bounty is sufficient for our needs each day. God's steadfast love never ends.

** = Stand in Body or Spirit*

GATHERING TOGETHER

| | |
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| <i>Ringing the Bell</i> | 7:30pm |
| Introit | Combined Choir |
| "As We are Gathered" | |
| Welcome | Pastor Adrian |
| Prelude | Pat Clemens |
| "Lord With Glowing Hearts, We Praise Thee" | |
| Call to Worship | Pastor Stan |
| L: Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice! | |
| P: Thank you God for the homes that shelter us. Rejoice in the Lord always. | |
| L: Again I say, rejoice! | |
| P: Thank you Christ for the food that nourishes us. Rejoice in the Lord always. | |
| L: Again I say, rejoice! | |
| P: Thank you Spirit for the blessings in our lives. Rejoice in the Lord always. | |
| L: Again I say, rejoice! | |
| Prayer of Invocation | Pastor Stan |

* Processional Hymn "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" #526

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; all us safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin; God, our Maker, does provide for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield, all the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky, all that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land, all that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'er-flowing stores.

These to thee, our God, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow; and for these our souls shall raise grateful vows and solemn praise. Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

* Call to Confession Pastor Adrian

We know that we have not lived as God hopes. But however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another ...

* Prayer of Confession – Silent Prayer

Gracious Creator, you have given us so much, but too often we take those gifts for granted, or as something to which we are entitled. You call us to live in caring community, but too often we place our wants and needs first, with those of others a distant second. You call us to share your gifts with the world around us, but we are worried that there may not be enough, and our worrying gets in the way of our sharing. For all the times when we mistreat and misuse your gifts, for all the times we assume that we get what we have by ourselves, forgive us and lead us back to the path of wisdom. In the blessed name of Jesus, we pray. Amen. [Silent Prayer]

* Words of Assurance

Our God is a gracious giver. Our God is gracious in forgiveness. Our God calls us to new patterns and new life. Hear the good news: we are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God. Amen.

* Hymn of Praise

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

Sin had me bound, Jesus lifted me. Sin had me bound, Jesus lifted me. Sin had me bound, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

When I was downhearted, Jesus lifted me. When I was downhearted, Jesus lifted me. When I was downhearted, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Rev. Bill Massey

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Scripture Lessons (NRSV)

Rev. Bill Massey

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Pew Bible pg#158

Psalms 100 - Responsive Psalter



(Response)

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

P: Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into God's presence with singing!

L: Know that the Lord, who made us, is God.

P: We are the Lord's; we are the people of God, the sheep of God's pasture. (Response)

L: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise!

P: Give thanks and bless God's name!

L: For the Lord is good;

P: God's steadfast love endures for ever; God's faithfulness to all generations. (Response)

Philippians 4:4-9

Pew Bible pg#955

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Lesson (NRSV)

John 6:25-35

Pastor Stan

Pew Bible pg#867

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Stanley Steele

Hymn

"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"

#427

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior's living. What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he's giving. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing! All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

* Thanksgiving Litany

Pastor Adrian

L: Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

L: For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

P: We thank you, Lord.

L: Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord and so we proclaim ...

P: To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Anthem

"Praise Canon"

Combined Choir

SHARING FAITH & LIFE

Call to Offering

Pastor Adrian

From the bounty of our lives, let us bring forth our gifts for the work of God in the world; let us give generously, as we have been given to generously. Offerings given tonight will be donated to the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry.

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Adrian

Lord, we were born with nothing but the breath you breathed into us. All that we have become, all that we have created, and all that we have worked for; all this was made possible through you. We return what you have given to us as an offering of our thankfulness, and as a celebration of your love. Gracious Creator, to you we offer our worship and our praise. Amen.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn in Preparation

"As We Gather at Your Table"

#314

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

Preparing the Table

Note to Guests: Through the waters of baptism; we are born into Christ's family. That family is nourished and sustained at this table. Though we are baptized but once, in the Lord's Supper we reaffirm our commitment to Christ, and God renews us with grace. This is the joyful feast of the people of God! Our Savior invites everyone to share the feast, which he has prepared.

Inviting

Pastor Adrian

L: This is the Lord's table. The Lord Jesus invites us to share this joyful feast. From east and west, from north and south, people will come and take their places at the banquet in the kingdom of God. *(Luke 13:29)*
All are welcome at the Lord's table.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Adrian

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. By your appointment the seasons come and go. You bring forth bread from the earth and create the fruit of the vine. You formed us in your image and made us stewards of your world. Earth has yielded its treasure, and from your hand we have received blessing on blessing.

L: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Remembering

Pastor Stan

L: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor. When hungry and tempted, he refused to make bread for himself that he might be the bread of life for others. When the multitudes were hungry, he fed them. He broke bread with the outcast but drove the greedy from the temple. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

L: On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

L: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

P: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Transforming

Pastor Adrian

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

L: Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

P: Amen.

L: With Christ's words on our lips and in our hearts, we pray:

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.

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

L: The bread of life, to feed our souls. (bread is broken)

Pastor Adrian

The cup we share, to nourish our lives. (cup is poured)

Pastor Stan

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. (elements lifted)

Pastors

Come, for all things are ready!

Sharing of the Elements: you are invited forward to be handed the bread by the pastors, take a cup held by the Elders, and commune and dispose of the cup in the baskets, and return to your seats.

Prayer After Communion

Pastor Stan

We have eaten, we have drunk, we have tasted your goodness. May this meal we have shared here today fill our souls with love. May the meal we share with all the world fill the world with hope. May we leave this table refreshed and replenished, ready to be recipients and agents of grace. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD

* Closing Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

#27

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices, who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is our today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us, and keep us in all grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God almighty now be given; to God, the three in one, who reigns in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore, for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

* Benediction

Pastor Adrian

* Final Response

"First Song of Isaiah"

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense and he will be my Savior.

Postlude

Pat Clemens

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Light refreshments will be served in fellowship hall following tonight's service.

