



Worship Service
4th Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020 10 am

"To build a body of committed Christ-followers who demonstrate His love daily."

Gathering Music

Welcome w/ Pastor Deanna

Announcements

*** Crossing the Threshold**

*I believe in the light, I believe in the light
 That has come, that has come, and is coming.*

*I believe in the light, I believe in the light
 That has come, that has come, and is coming.*

One: We see the star rising

All: We see the star rising

One: We hear the glad tidings

All: We hear the glad tidings

One: We know we are not alone

All: We know we are not alone

Lighting of the Advent Wreath w/ Worship Team

*One: Holy One, we thank you for the glimpses we catch of your gift of
 peace on earth. Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle -
 even when we aren't sure that goodwill among us can be found, ignite
 the flame of peace within us,*

All: That we might glow with its brilliance from the inside out.

*I believe in the light, I believe in the light
 That has come, that has come, and is coming.*

Prayer

*One: Help us face the pain of life and embrace the assurance that light
 is already here and always coming.*

All: Amen.

*** Opening Hymn**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*** Opening Prayer**

Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Prayer

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7 (NRSV)

Special Music w/ Beth Rose Schindler & Colette Schindler

Mary Sweet Mary

Gospel Lesson John 1:1-18 (NRSV)

Message w/ Pastor Deanna

"I Believe in God: Illuminating Peace"

*** Closing Song**

Go Tell It On the Mountain

*** Dismissal with Blessing**

*** Response (screen) "Come On Ring Those Bells"**

** Those who are able, please stand*

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**Facemasks are required when entering
 the Church and the entire Worship Service.
 Practice social distancing also.**

TODAY'S HELPERS IN MINISTRY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor - Rev. Deanna Geiter

Music Director - Colette Schindler

Secretary - Deb Shuey

Treasurer - Sheila Seaman

Email Prayer Chain Contact - trinitylickdale@gmail.com

(If you have a joy or concern that you would like prayer for contact the
 church office at 717-865-4361 or Pastor Deanna at 717-989-0333
 or send an email to trinitylickdale@gmail.com.)

CCLI #799107/CVLI #504252179/Streaming License #20236460

Birthdays and Anniversaries This Week



Sue Moriarty - December 20

Steven Connatser - December 22



Altar Flowers are presented by Dawn Stuart
in Memory of her mother, Betty Soliday.



Christmas Eve "Drive-In" Service

Thursday, December 24

5, 6 and 7 pm

Join us for a brief drive-in Christmas Eve Service in the
 church parking lot. Listen from the comfort of your vehicle by
 a FM radio transmission. Safely in your vehicle, we will sing
 carols and listen to The Christmas Story from Scripture.

We ask everyone to remain in their vehicles for the duration of the service.
 Sign-up sheets are on the table in the multi. purpose room or contact the
 church by phone or email the church with your choice of service time.

2021 COMMUNION ENVELOPES - Are on the cart in the multi. purpose room.

CHURCH MAILBOXES - Don't forget to check your mailbox in the multi.
 purpose room. Contact the church if you would like your mail sent to you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - For all ages has been canceled until further notice.

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING FOR DECEMBER - Hospital of Hope. Donations can be given thru this Sunday, December 20th. Contact the church if questions.

Christmas Poinsettias



GIVEN BY

Gloria & George Speck
Tim & Deb Shuey & family

Judy Warner
Jeff & Sue Werner
Lynn & Kitty Werner

GIVEN BY

Sandy & Melody Newman
Gloria & George Speck
Judy Warner
Jeff & Sue Werner
Lynn & Kitty Werner

IN MEMORY OF

Our Loved Ones
Tom & Lucille Shuey,
Deb's parents
Richard Warner
Lewis & Janet Werner
Our Lord Jesus

IN HONOR OF

Three Mothers Named Mary
New great grandchild, Elliot
Peg Warner
Alta Bomberger, Sue's mother
Our grand & great grand-children

Please take your Poinsettia(s) home with you after the Service.
A list is on the piano with the poinsettia(s) you ordered.



Family Christmas Film Festival Fourth Week of Advent: *The Muppet Christmas Carol* - Peace

Bible Verse:

Isaiah 9:6 - A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

This week we will explore peace through *The Muppet Christmas Carol*. Along the way we will find that peace isn't necessarily about being "nice and quiet." There is an outer peace and an inner peace that only come when we do as Micah 6:8 would remind us - do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.

Note: Unlike the first three "movies" which are really 30-minute television specials, *The Muppet Christmas Carol* is a full-length movie (86 minutes).

Talking Points:

- Like Professor Hinkle and the Grinch, Ebenezer Scrooge is the "bad guy" in this Christmas movie. Both of those other characters experienced change. I wonder what will happen with Scrooge.

- In the opening song, we learn about Scrooge that "He never gives. He only takes." Scrooge has way more wealth than he could spend in a lifetime, while so many others go without enough food or the warmth of a home. It is hard to find peace on the inside or the outside when so many suffer unjustly.
- He has nothing good to say about Christmas and refuses to give to charity.

The Ghost of Christmas Past [Consider pausing right after the visit from the Ghost of Christmas Past ends to discuss the following.]

- Fozzywig tells Scrooge, "Stop working. Enjoy yourself."
- There is a peace that comes when you realize that you are a person of worth, not because of what you do, or how much you make, but because of who you are - a child of God.
- You don't have to earn God's love. You don't have to deserve Christmas.
- From time to time, stop, rest, play, and find peace knowing that God loves you no matter what.

[Continue movie.]

The Ghost of Christmas Present - [Consider pausing right after the visit from the Ghost of Christmas Present ends to discuss the following.]

- At this point, we already see Scrooge warming up, even smiling and telling a joke.
- They look in on Bob Cratchit's house. What do Bob and Tiny Tim do when they mention Scrooge? They toast Scrooge as the "Founder of the Feast." Even though Bob Cratchit gets paid so little, he is still grateful and kind.
- This is a real turning point for Scrooge. We see the glimmer of the possibility of healing and reconciliation.

[Continue movie to the end.]

The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come (Future) -

- We learn that Scrooge dies with no friends and having never made a positive difference in the lives of those around.
- He dies rich, but completely empty.

After-Movie Discussion:

- When we see Scrooge on Christmas morning, what has changed? He realizes there is a chance for healing and for reconciliation.
- We learn from Charles Dickens (Gonzo) that "What made Scrooge happiest of all was that his life lay before him, and it could be changed!"
- What are some of the things he does that show us he has changed? [examples below]

He speaks kindly to others, wishing them Merry Christmas.

He donates to the charity he had refused the day before.

He receives a scarf for his donation, and accepts it with real gratitude.

He sings.

He leaves gifts for his workers.
 He brings gifts to his nephew Fred and Fred's wife.
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 He brings gifts to his old mentors.
 He buys food for the needy.
 He brings cheese to the mice (mouses).
 He surprises the Cratchit Family with a feast, gifts, and gives Bob a raise.
 • One thing we can't change is the past. But we can change what we do today and throughout our life when we choose to live a life of hope, love, joy, and peace.

Prayer:

Loving God,
 We choose to live in hope,
 In love, In joy, In peace.
 God bless us everyone.
 Amen.

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Film Festival for Advent 2020

This Advent season we are focusing on the power of music in our lives and in the world. Music often provides hope and brings people together, especially during difficult times.

Please note: These films are not appropriate for young children because of the difficult circumstances that are shown through the films. Please use the Family Christmas classics for your young children.

The Fourth week of Advent:

Sweet Honey In The Rock: Raise Your Voice!

Read: Isaiah 9:2-7; John 1:1-18

Prayer: God of hope and love and joy, gather us in and center us in the Spirit's presence. Open us to your find your peace in the stories we have heard and in our own lives. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Introduction to the film:

A description of this week's film, from the Director, Stanley Nelson:
 Emerging from the strong tradition of Freedom Singers, Sweet Honey in the Rock is a group that's as soulfully rich as it is provocative. Using song to stand in unison, five African American women sing solely a cappella, along with a sign language translator. Their music evokes stories from the past, encourages introspection in the present, and inspires progress for the future. Since it was founded in 1973, over twenty different women have contributed to the Grammy Award-winning group's distinct sound, which embraces semblances of gospel, blues, and hip hop, all with a political tone. The film features a trove of concert and rehearsal footage as it follows the group on their thirtieth anniversary tour, which is also coincidentally when founder Bernice Johnson Reagon announces she will retire. Through a variety of interviews with members, historians, and

fellow artists, the film explores the roots of Sweet Honey in the Rock's existence and influence.

Reflection Questions:

1. What was a particular moment or scene that surprised you or that resonated with you?
2. Is a story told differently when shared in song? Is a story heard differently when experienced in song? How so?
3. One of Sweet Honey in the Rock's classic pieces is "Ella's Song." This piece, with words from freedom fighter Ella Baker, was set to music by Bernice Johnson Reagon, and released in 1988:

*We who believe in freedom cannot rest
 We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes
 Until the killing of black men, black mothers' sons
 Is as important as the killing of white men, white mothers' sons
 That which touches me most
 Is that I had a chance to work with people
 Passing on to others that which was passed on to me
 To me young people come first
 They have the courage where we fail
 And if I can but shed some light as they carry us through the gale."*

What words still resonate over 30 years later? What could they teach us about peace today and what we are called to do in this moment?

4. Part of this film was the story of how Bernice Johnson Reagon, who had been with Sweet Honey in the Rock since the beginning, moves on to retirement. Even though she is the only remaining original member, the group remains strong as she passes the torch. What does it take to build something that lives beyond your involvement? How does the group move forward, and how could this be a model for discerning transition, change, and leadership?

Reflection: Please take a couple minutes to reflect and journal.

Fill in the blanks with words that those who Sweet Honey in the Rock first sang to might have used complete this statement (and how would you?):
 "I believe _____, even when _____."


Closing Prayer:

Holy One, we thank you for the glimpses we catch of your gift of peace on earth. Even in the midst of fear, of challenge, of struggle- even when we aren't sure that goodwill among us can be found, ignite the flame of peace within us, that we might glow with its brilliance from the inside out.



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Welcome to:

 **Trinity United Methodist Church - Lickdale**
98 Fisher Avenue
Jonestown, PA 17038
Rev. Deanna Geiter
(717) 865-4835 (Parsonage)

(717) 865-4361 (Church)
e-mail: trinitylickdale@gmail.com
website: www.trinitylickdale.org



Trinity United Methodist Church - Lickdale

Church office hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 1 pm
Pastor drop-in office hours: Monday thru Thursday 10 am to 1 pm

Eastern PA Conference ~ The United Methodist Church
West District
Rev. Peggy A. Johnson, Bishop
Rev. Bumkoo Chung, District Superintendent

Before Worship ~ Speak to God
During Worship ~ Let God
Speak to You
After Worship ~ Speak to Others

Vision Statement ~

We believe we have been called to reveal that God is real and relevant in people's lives and in our community. We strive to do this by...

- Identifying and reaching the unsaved with the Gospel and the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- Offering ministries to support and strengthen the family.
- Becoming a seven day a week church that is committed to Spiritual growth through: worship, Christian education, Bible study, prayer, support, accountability, small groups and Christian fellowship.
- Continuing our caring outreach with diversity that touches our church, community, nation and world.
- Providing dynamic worship that is God-centered, Spirit-filled and Biblically based.
- Identifying the spiritual gifts of each person and employing them in ministries that match their gifts.

Purpose Statement ~

***To build a body of committed Christ-followers
who demonstrate His love daily.***

December 20, 2020