

MINISTERS - ALL MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

PASTORAL & OFFICE STAFF

Pastor.....Joel Gibbel
E-mail.....pastor@yorkfirst.org
Church Secretary.....Karen Bowman
E-mail.....secretary@yorkfirst.org

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Music Director.....Rebecca Wolf
Acccompanist.....Becca Miller
Worship Leader.....Dave Witkovsky
Children's Time.....Rebecca Wolf
Readers.....John Gibble, Becca Miller, Rebecca Wolf
Audio/Visual.....A/V Team
Ushers.....**Leader – Becky Wenger**
.....Darrell Gipe, Marjorie Schardt, Steve Hoover, Melanie Miller
Worship Center Team.....Judy Yingling, Bev Raney

THIS WEEK'S GREETER(S)

Main Entrance: 10:05 am – Sheldon & Doris Markel

NEXT WEEK'S GREETER(S)

Main Entrance: 8:40 am - 10:05 am – Leonard & Helen Stoner

DEACONS are available and their responsibilities include assisting the pastor with the needs of the church. Please welcome these Deacons when they call upon you. Each member and friend has been assigned a deacon. If you do not know who your deacon is, please contact the church office. If you have a need that a deacon may help you with, please contact your deacon or contact Pastor Joel.

A copy of the weekly e-newsletter can be picked up in the gathering area. If anyone would like to receive the e-newsletter by mail, please send your request to secretary@yorkfirst.org

Would you like a Listening Assistance Device? Please see the AV person in the AV booth for a device OR search for “WaveCAST Audio Receiver” on your smartphone app store and be connected to the church WIFI password (SimplePeace2gether) to listen.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

“The Heart of Christmas –
Stories behind the Carols”



January 1, 2023



Continuing the work of Jesus
Peacefully
Simply
Together

YORK FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
2710 Kingston Road, York, PA 17402
Phone: 717-755-0307
yorkfirst.org
WIFI password: SimplePeace2gether

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*"To become a community of committed Christians
who Love God, Share Christ, and Serve the World"*
2710 Kingston Road, York Pennsylvania

10:30 AM

January 1, 2023

WELCOME AND THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *"Of the Father's Love Begotten"* #104
Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413AD Music: Plainsong

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God is from everlasting to everlasting; with God
there is no beginning or end.

People: God oversees the endlessness of space,

One: Yet each of us is always in the Holy One's view.

**People: God is always creating, all things become new,
yet abides the same forever.**

One: As we begin this New Year,

People: We are confident in our Lord's keeping power,

One: Assured of God's infinity.

People: May we mirror God's virtue,

One: Model God's suffering love,

People: And live out God's righteousness.

One: It is good to know that though the world may change
around us, God remains the same, yesterday, today
and in the years to come, always and forever.

**All: May we serve God with our whole being, in worship
and in serving others so that we may glorify our
Creator and Maker, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

***HYMN** *"God of our life"* #486

*UNISON PRAYER

O center of stillness and peace, now that the mad rush is over
and the needles are falling from the tree, we thank you that you
are still God-with-us. As we face the year ahead, help us to
accept the difficult parts of our lives; help us to make the
changes we must make; bring us to new places of openness
and love toward you and the people around us; help us to
overcome the fears which keep us from fullness of life. As the
frigid days of January and February draw near, help us to keep
warm places alive within us. As we face the year ahead, we

thank you for one another and for your grace in Jesus Christ.
Help us individually and as a congregation to be signs of your
compassion, hope, joy and unity in this world you love in Jesus,
our Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE/STORY/SONG

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs 1,4) #245CH
Words: Latin Hymn Music: Plainsong by Thomas Helmore

CHILDREN'S TIME *"Away in a Manger"* (vs 1) #262CH
Words: John T. McFarland (3rd vs.), 1851-1913
Music: James R. Murray, 1841-1905

***SCRIPTURE/STORY/SONG** *"Silent Night"* (vs 1,3) #253CH
Words: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848 Music: Franz Gruber, 1798-1863

TIME OF PRAYER

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn of Prayer *"This is a day of new beginnings"* (vs 1,3,4) #640

***SCRIPTURE/STORY/SONG** *"There's a Song in the Air"* (vs 1,2,4) Insert
Words: Josiah Gilbert Holland, 1819-1881
Music: Karl P. Harrington, 1861-1953

SCRIPTURE/STORY/SONG

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" (vs 1,3,4) #267CH
Words: William Wadsworth Longfellow, 1807-1882
Music: John Calkin, 1827-1905

SHARING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Share

Offertory *"The Huron Carol"* ("Twas in the Moon of Wintertime) Hayes

*Song of Thanksgiving *"What gift can we bring?"* (vs 2,3,4) #385

*Prayer of Dedication

SCRIPTURE/STORY/SONG

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" (vs 1,3) #258CH
Words: John W. Work, Jr. 1872-1925 Music: Negro Spiritual

SCRIPTURE/STORY/SONG *"The Twelve Days of Christmas"*
Words: Frederic Austin, 1872-1952 Music: Unknown

SPECIAL MUSIC “*Every Time You Hear Auld Lang Syne*”
Barbra Streisand

***NEW YEAR'S LITANY**

One: God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power.

People: **May we walk gently. May we speak only after we have listened well.**

One: Creator of all life, help us to enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose.

People: **May we regard the world with tenderness. May we honor rather than destroy.**

One: Lover of all souls, help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

All: **May we welcome your lavish love. In this New Year, may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead. Amen.**

POSTLUDE “*I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In*” Schmidt

***Please stand in body or in spirit**
CH – Celebration Hymnal

RESOURCES USED FOR CAROL STORIES

1. Sounds of the Season by Daniel Partner
2. Then Sings My Soul, Special Edition by Robert J. Morgan
3. Amazing Grace by Kenneth W. Osbeck

*The asterisk indicates that worshipers should stand, however, please feel free to sit or stand as your personal needs determine! Please see one of our ushers at the entrance to the sanctuary if you need LARGE PRINT bulletins or hymnals. Face coverings are optional for all attendees.

Activity bags for children to use during worship are available. Please ask an usher for assistance. Nursery care is available and the “worship nursery” in the rear of the sanctuary is open for use anytime.

Please see back of bulletin for those assisting in worship

There's a Song in the Air

Josiah G. Holland

Karl P. Harrington

There's a song in the air!
There's a star in the sky!
There's a mother's deep prayer
and a baby's low cry!
And the star rains its fire
while the beautiful sing,
for the manger of Bethlehem
cradles a King!

There's a tumult of joy
o'er the wonderful birth,
for the virgin's sweet boy
is the Lord of the earth.
Ay! the star rains its fire
while the beautiful sing,
for the manger of Bethlehem
cradles a King!

We rejoice in the light,
And we echo the song
that comes down through the night
from the heavenly throng.
Ay! we shout to the lovely
evangel they bring,
and we greet in his cradle
our Savior and King!