



O, the Mystery of God's Dwelling!

Second Sunday of Advent

*Deep Run East Mennonite Church
December 8, 2013*

DEEP RUN EAST MENNONITE CHURCH

“Bringing people in contact with God”

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, with prayer as our foundation,
we at DRE envision a community of faith that will glorify God in worship, open our
lives to our community, and share our gifts and resources
in faithfulness to Jesus Christ.*

Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Advent 2. . . in our relationships!

Inviting the Mystery

Pre-service Katrina & Kimberly Rice

Silence

Prayer Kermit Yoder

Call to Worship

Leader: Come and welcome one another in the name of Christ!

People: Let us awake to peace!

Leader: Live in harmony and join your voices in song.

People: Yes—let us with one voice glorify God.

Leader: In Christ, we see the confirmation of God’s promise:

All: O, the mystery of God’s dwelling in our relationships!

Congregational Song Adult Worship Team
“Longing for Light” STJ# 54

Engaging the Mystery

Confession and lighting the Advent Wreath Ethan & Andrew Rice

Congregational Response:

**In this light, we receive forgiveness,
knowing that God dwells in our relationships.**

Children’s Time Karen & Ken Burkholder

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-10 and Romans 15:4-13 Henry Rice
(Pages 491-492 & 805 in the pew bible)

Special Music Chimes Choir
“Christmas Chummings” – arr. Edwards

Congregational Sharing Time and Prayer

Congregational Song “Jesus Messiah”

Celebrating the Mystery

Sermon “*The Mystery of God...in US!*” Brent Camilleri

Song of Response “Will You Let Me be Your Servant” HWB #307

Offering / Offertory “Christmas Offering”
(Guests, please fill out the welcome card and place in the offering.)

Sending Song “Come! Walk in the Light” in pocket of HWB
or on pews

Benediction

The Mystery of God, Dwelling in Us

1. What is one way that I can bring Harmony to others in the next seven days?

2. Where is one place that I can extend Hope to someone in the next seven days?

3. How can I offer God my Hallelujah in the next seven days?

“*O, the Mystery of God’s Dwelling!*” is our worship theme for Advent this year. As we come into the presence of God for worship this season, may we invite, engage, and celebrate the mystery that is God’s dwelling in all of its varied and surprising ways. May we prepare for and anticipate Christmas – the mystery of Christ making His home with humanity. “The Word became flesh and lived among us.” - John 1:14

IT BEGS THE QUESTION

The Nativity of Christ is based in the icon tradition of early Christian art. While most elements in this artwork easily correlate with modern nativity arrangements - angels, shepherds, Mary, Joseph, the Christ child, the star, and the stable animals, there are a few key features in this particular image that are worth explaining and a few that are notably different.

In the top right corner an angel proclaims the "good news" of Christ's birth to a lowly shepherd. Note the staff held by the angel signifying heavenly authority to carry this message directly from God. Two angels, opposite, bend in praise and adoration over the newborn King. Why are their hands draped with cloths? Here is a very ancient custom whereby any common person who received an audience with a king was required to cover his/her hands, thus sparing the king the unpleasant experience of seeing the calloused, dirty hands of a working class individual. In this instance, it signals to the viewer that the baby is royalty. We also see a second shepherd playing flute in adoration.

Christ's ultimate mission of dying for the salvation of the world are hinted at: swaddling cloths that resemble grave cloths, a cross filled halo, and a lamb reminding us of John the Baptist's words, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

But the heart of The Nativity of Christ is the scene playing out between Mary, Joseph and the old man in the shaggy coat kneeling in front of Joseph. Note that neither Mary nor Joseph gazes in amazement at the miracle God-child as a modern nativity would portray them. Instead, we see Mary quietly focused on her husband, who is seemingly engaged in an interaction with the old man. What's going on here? That old man is God's adversary, Satan, ever so gently planting the seed of doubt in Joseph. He asks, "Do you really want to get involved with this Mary and her baby? Why not quietly divorce yourself from them?" Mary watches and waits for Joseph's answer.

Joseph represents each of us - each of us must face doubt and answer the question, "Do you really want anything to do with this baby?" Mary often represents the church in icon art - Christ's church watches and waits for our answer . . . as does Christ himself. - Michelle L Hofer, artist

Guests! - We are glad to have you here for worship today. We trust that you will encounter God's presence, as you worship with us. Please know you are welcome to worship with us again!

Sunday School Hour – 10:15 am

Classes for all ages – Nursery through adult

Next week is the third week of Advent. Pastor Ken Burkholder will be preaching on the Advent theme, “*O, The Mystery of God’s Dwelling, in our transformations.*” The sermon title will be, “**Seeking Joy this Christmas?**,” based on scripture text, Psalm 146:1-10. There will not be a time for congregational sharing or prayer requests. If anyone has a prayer request or praise, please see Pastor Ken.

The **Children’s Christmas Program**, “*Christmas Questions,*” will follow after the worship service at 9:45 am. All are welcome to enjoy coffee and refreshments in the fellowship hall following the program.

Nursery attendants: **Today** – Kate Gohl & Justin Burkholder
Next week – Wendy & Lauren Leatherman

Greeters: **Today** – Henry & Darla Rice, Clyde & Libby Hiland
Joe & Char Myers
Next week – Bob & Kathy Moyer, Dean & Kathy Myers
Dalton & Mae Kulp

Prayer room (*between the worship service and Sunday school*):
Today – Phil Nyce **Next week** – Duane Bishop

(You are also invited to submit a prayer request/praise on the prayer cards in the pews and place in the prayer box in the mailbox foyer area)



Congratulations to Chris and Julie (Leatherman) Markley on their new baby girl Samantha Mary born December 3rd. Grandmother is Mary Leatherman.

Congratulations to Curt and Gail (Moyer) Wireman on their new baby girl Rachel Grace born November 28th. Happy grandparents are Nevin and Louise Moyer.

The MAMA teams are planning for our trips- January 12-20 to San Francisco de Yojoa and March 15-24 to San Pedro Sula.

Medicine needed for clinics (generic brands are fine):

Multivitamins, especially for children, Tylenol, cough syrup- adult and children's, Ibuprofen, Tums, Antibacterial and antifungal creams. Also: small stuffed animals (beanie baby size), match box car size toys, large suitcases. Items can be dropped off in the designated box in the mailbox area. We appreciate your support.



Please pray for:

Tina Yunger is a patient at Jefferson Hospital.

Ed Wyse is a patient at Doylestown Hospital.

Norman Trauger had knee surgery this past week.

Dock Christmas Concert

You are invited to Christopher Dock's Christmas Concert on Thursday, **December 12 at 7 p.m.** in Clemens Auditorium. Hear performances by Dock's Concert Band, Orchestra and choirs, and join with friends and alumni to sing the Hallelujah Chorus. Come and help us celebrate the birth of Christ!



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Last Sunday

Attendance: Worship Service - 185 Sunday school – 136

Offering: Budget Receipts – \$ 5,357.75 E-tithing Offering: \$ 1,520.00

Total Budget Offering: \$ 6,877.75

MCC 12/1 Offering: \$75.00

Thanksgiving Eve Offering to MCC: \$ 2,381.00 Attendance: 135 (approximately)