

Service of Divine Worship

First Sunday After Epiphany

Liturgist: Walter Hoffman

We Gather To Serve God In Worship

Prelude "Communion" Dubois

*Chimes Sounding the Hour

*Time of Greeting

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

Solemn Declaration - - Amen Sung

*Responsive Call to Worship

Liturgist: Gather together people of God, the Lord has something special to give you.

People: We are here, ready to receive and be empowered.

Liturgist: Come and hear the words of faith.

People: We come to follow the Lord with action.

Liturgist: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

People: We are prepared and ready and eager to receive now.

*Hymn "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" No. 324

Confession of Sin

*Call to Confession

*Unison Prayer for the Confession of Sin

Merciful God, we fail to remember the importance and meaning of our baptism. We lose the dimension of our faith that is solely dependent upon you for salvation, preferring instead to work out our own pathways. Lead us again into the waters of life and cleanse us with your Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

We Proclaim The Word of God

The Old Testament Reading Genesis 1:1-5 (Page #1 of Pew Bible)

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer *{we pray debts}*

Let the Children Come

Anthem

"In This Moment of Remembrance"

Wood

The Gospel Reading

Mark 1:4-11 (Page #910 of Pew Bible)

Sermon

"Are We in a Muddle or the Middle of It All?"

We Respond To The Word of God

THE ORDER OF INSTALLATION OF LAY LEADERS

- Elders: Tom Danze, Sauni Johnson, Myra Thompson
- Deacons: James Atkinson, Betty Barr, Anne Fletcher
- Trustee: Steve Smith
- Elder Emeriti: Joyce Price and Roy Bevan

Introduction

Leader: Affirmation of Ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

People: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

Leader: There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

People: The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

Leader: Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

People: It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

Leader: If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it, if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

People: All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

Presentation of Leadership and Covenant

*Congregational Response:

We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

Laying on of Hands

Prayer

Invitation to Give

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

*Our Response

“We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise”

*The Offertory Prayer

Creator, you love us. You hold us close and offer us kisses. Now, O God, we seek to hug you back. Accept our offering and we pray that you teach us to use it creatively to offer your love to the world. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Leader: May the Creator of heaven and earth be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: People of God, lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the One who gave his Heart to heal us.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the One who made everything and called it ‘good’.

People: How right it is to give our thanks and praise to the One who calls us ‘Beloved’.

Leader: Into the shadows of silence we join our voices in praise to God

Text and music: Anon., Argentina

Chords: C, G7, C, F, C

Spanish lyrics: ¡San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
English lyrics: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

Chords: F, C, Am, F, G7, C

Spanish lyrics: cor - a - zón te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Dios.
English lyrics: heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, God.

Leader: Blessedness is God’s nature we speak of that mystery we call faith:

All: Bathed in your tears, Christ died for us; washed in the resurrection waters, Christ rose for us; bringing the waters of life to us, Christ will come again.

Sharing from the Lord’s Table

(Communion Hymn: “Spirit Song”)

**O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love,
let Him fill your life and satisfy your soul.**

**O let him have the things that hold you and his Spirit, like a dove,
will descend upon your life and make you whole.**

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

**O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy,
lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.**

**O give him all your tears and sadness, give him all your years of pain
and you’ll enter into life in Jesus’ name.**

Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

We give thanks, almighty God. You refresh us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve God

*Hymn

“Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”

No. 126

*Responsive Call to Dedication

Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”

People: Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

*The Benediction

*Postlude

“For the Blessings of the Year”

Clark

***THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND**

Sunday, February 5th will be **“Souper” Bowl Sunday**. More than 20 years ago “Souper” Bowl of Caring began with this simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since that day, more than \$71 million has been raised for local charities across the country. After the church service, the children will be stationed at the church exits with pots to receive your donations. There are so many homeless and hungry people right here in Davidson County that needs our help. Your donations will be given to local food banks. Please give generously.



Soup and Sandwich Lunch and Congregational Meeting

Soup and Sandwich Lunch



On **Sunday, February 5th** we will be served delicious vegetable soup along with sandwiches for lunch immediately following the worship service. Meal donations will assist with support of our Johns River Campers. **NOTE: LEFTOVER SOUP WILL BE SOLD FOR \$5.00 A QUART.**

Following lunch, the annual business meeting of First Reformed United Church of Christ will be held. Board chairpersons and treasurers will give annual reports. All members are encouraged to be a part of this important process in the life of our church.



First Reformed United Church of Christ Members,

Betty Link, Flower Chairperson, is in the process of filling in the flower chart. Many of you have a standing date and we thank you for your faithfulness to the flower ministry. However, there are several open slots. If you would like to donate flowers for a Sunday service or have a special date that you would like to use (in honor or memory of a loved one), please contact Betty Link at 956-2507, jill3@ptmc.net or the church office at 248-2617, church@frucc.org.

Note: There are two open dates this month...January 22nd and 29th.

Stephen Ministry

The table below shows a summary of all the caregiver contacts made by our Stephen Ministers from July 29th through November 30, 2011.



Categories of care receivers include shut-ins, hospitalizations, deaths of congregational members and others. These 143 contacts include 46 phone calls, 66 visits, 31 others. This totals almost 102 hours in 4 months. Outstanding! We should all be proud of this new ministry now functioning in our church.

DATE	CATEGORY			TYPE OF CONTACT			MONTH TOTAL	
	SICK	SHUT-IN	OTHER	PHONE	VISITS	OTHER	CONTACTS	MINUTES SPENT
July 2011	X	X		2	4		6	280
Aug. 2011	X	X	X	14	15		29	887
Sept. 2011		X	X	10	10		20	463
Oct. 2011	X	X	X	10	11	16	37	1520
Nov. 2011	X	X	X	10	26	15	51	2940
PERIOD TO DATE TOTAL							143	6090

