

*Calling Disciples (1999) by He Qi*

## **Shine the Light**

### Third Sunday after Epiphany

Our Epiphany theme is **Shine the Light**, a reference to the prophet Isaiah: “Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.” Epiphany means “manifestation” or “appearance.” As we continue through the season of Epiphany we find more people drawn to Jesus. Earlier it was the wise men who were drawn. Now Jesus is drawing disciples. Jesus isn’t promoting himself; instead, he is inviting others to become apprentices in the work of joining God’s “kingdom” or realm. You and I are also invited to become apprentices of Jesus, and as we move through Mark’s gospel, we will find out just what that means!

**January 21, 2024**  
**10:15 am**

## Order of Worship

St. John's United Church of Christ

500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446

10:15 am—January 21, 2024—Third Sunday after Epiphany

*You are invited to stand when indicated by an asterisk and speak the words in bold if able.*

PRELUDE: Will You Come and Follow Me.....Setting by Hiram Titus

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*OPENING HYMN: Hear the Voice of God, So Tender.....174

*The hymn is sung to the tune BEACH SPRING, the tune of As We Gather at Your Table.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus began with a simple invitation. Instead of ordering people around, Jesus simply said, "Follow me."

**That invitation is for everyone. It doesn't matter where we've been, or what we've done,  
the invitation to become an apprentice of Jesus is for all.**

Jesus invites us into a way of life, seeing the world as God sees it.

**And to follow Jesus means, among other things,  
a disruption in our lives because God's ways are often not our ways.**

We don't have to know everything about Jesus to begin that life-long journey of walking with him.

**It means taking that first step and living each day one step at a time.**

**That's how faithfulness unfolds, one step at a time!**

\*CONFESSION

Ever faithful God, we can admire Jesus; we can even worship Jesus. However, none of that means much if we don't follow him. Jesus isn't looking for celebrity status, nor is he looking for our approval. Instead, he's looking to transform our lives in order that they might reflect God's kingdom. That means rolling up our sleeves, putting on our walking shoes, and preparing to go where Jesus leads us. That's when things get tough. We want to do God's will on our terms, at our convenience, when it suits us. We are even arrogant enough to think we don't need Jesus anymore and live as if "we've got this." Yet, the fact remains that we don't live our lives as well as we should. So we confess our hubris, God, for mistaking ourselves as the ultimate source of authority, instead of you. Forgive us, we pray. Amen.

\*ASSURANCE

It all begins with the realization that we are not simply living for ourselves. There is a world in which we are called to serve following in the footsteps of Jesus. That realization is the beginning of our path back to true humility and wholeness. We are grateful God forgives and sets us back on the path of right living! **Thanks be to God!**

\*SUNG RESPONSE: Gather Us In

Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
van-ish-ed a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings,

(continued on page 3)



#### SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

##### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

ANTHEM: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say.....Arr. Johnnie Vinson, Ad. Andrew Paulson

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me; your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."*

*I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.*

*-Horatius Bonar*

SERMON: "Compelling, not Campaigning".....Rev. Dale Davis

*\*HYMN: Will You Come and Follow Me*

*Stanza 1: Choir*

*Stanza 4: Lower Voices*

*Stanza 2: All*

*Stanza 5: All*

*Stanza 3: Higher Voices*



1. Will you come and fol - low Me if I but call your name?  
 2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?  
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?  
 4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
 5. Lord, Your sum - mons ech - oes true when You but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you set the pris - 'ners free and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
 Let me turn and fol - low You and nev - er be the same.



Will you let My love be shown, will you let My name be known,  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,  
 In Your com - pa - ny I'll go where Your love and foot - steps show.



Will you let My life be grown in you and you in Me?  
 Will you let Me an - swer pray'r in you and you in Me?  
 And ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in Me?  
 Through My sight and touch and sound in you and you in Me?  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in You and You in me.

*JOYS & CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/SUNG RESPONSE: O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come*



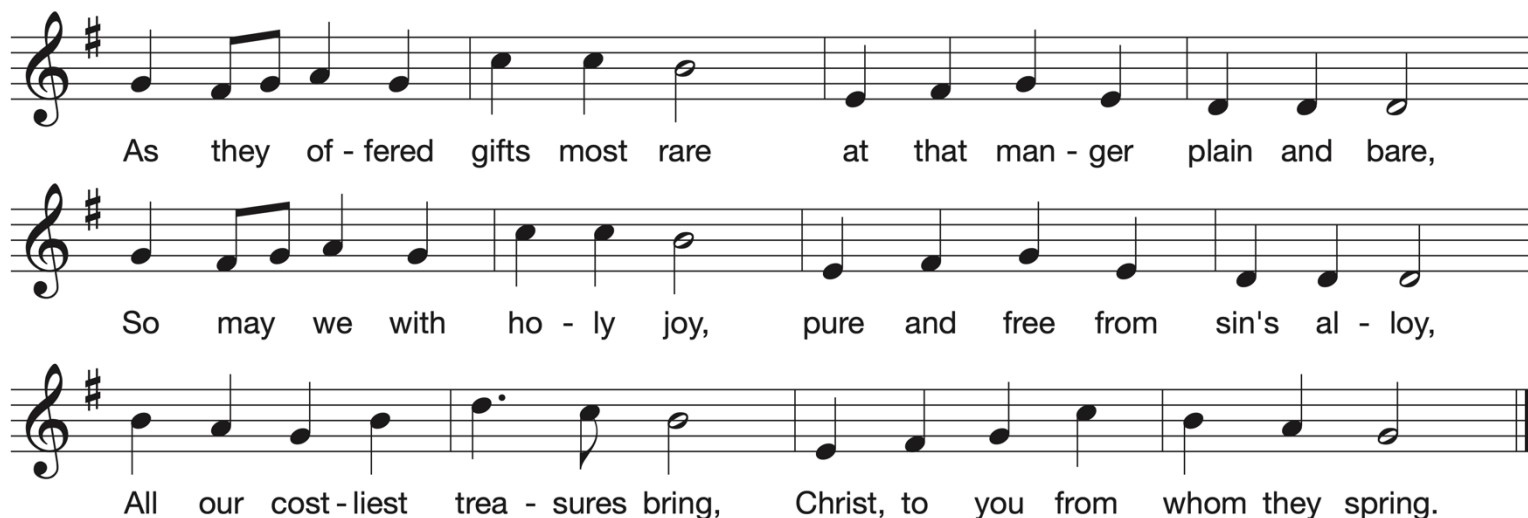
O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.



How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?

**\*INVITATION TO OFFERING/SUNG RESPONSE: As with Gladness Those of Old**

*Today's offering will be brought forward and dedicated during the singing of the response. If you didn't get a chance to drop your offering in the plates by the entrances, you are welcome to place your offering in a plate up front after the service or scan the QR code found in the bulletin to give electronically.*



**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult.....172**  
*Stanzas 3 and 4 may be sung in harmony.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE: Fanfare and Flourishes.....James Curnow**

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***Following worship, you are invited to join us for fellowship in Assembly Hall.***

**Worship Leaders**

Rev. Dale Davis, Interim Senior Pastor  
Rev. Addie Stong, Associate Pastor  
Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music  
Wind Ensemble  
Chancel Choir

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Text and Music: Marty Haugen  
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*Will You Come and Follow Me*  
Text: John L. Bell  
© 1987 WGRG the Iona Community

*O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come*  
Text: Fred Pratt Green  
© 1969 Hope Publishing Company  
*As With Gladness Those of Old*  
Text: William C. Dix; alt.  
© 1993 The Pilgrim Press

**January 21, 2024**

- The Nursery will be open for you to use mindfully, if your little one needs a break. No volunteers will be on duty, so a parent, grandparent, or responsible adult must stay with their child.
- Today's worship available later online on St. John's Facebook Page, Website or YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/stjohnsuccclansdalepa](https://youtube.com/stjohnsuccclansdalepa)
- Please ask a Hospitality Team member for an audio device if you are having difficulty hearing the service.
- CD's of this morning's service are available by contacting the church office.
- Reminder: The wheelchairs and first aid kit are stored in the "First Aid Closet" in the narthex (the door is clearly labeled). The automatic external defibrillator (AED) is located in the church Library on the wall closest to the Sanctuary.

### **Worship Assistants**

**Hospitality:** Bill Leslie, Team leader; Bob Bertollette, Brian Hutchinson, Margie Jewell, Gale Linderman, Scott Vanderburg

**Elder of the Morning:** Bonnie & Ken Hales

**CD Technician:** David Douglass

**Chancel Flower Ministry:** Tracey & Mark O'Neill

**Driver:** Gale Linderman

**Umbrella Ministry:** Joyce Huisenga

### **Chancel Flowers**

In memory of Michelle Leigh's January 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday from her Mum (Anne Haines)

In memory of Lorraine Badger's January 24<sup>th</sup> birthday from her daughter, Susan, and John Hendricks

In memory of Ethel Shellenberger's January 25<sup>th</sup> birthday from Lorene Ahrens

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2023	\$7,884.62
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2023	\$798.00
<b>A Look at the Week of January 6, 2024</b>	
Attendance: 10:15 am, January 6	87
Attendance: 5:30 pm, January 10	22
Offering For Current Income	\$6,224.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$759.00
<b>A Look at the Week of January 14, 2024</b>	
Attendance: 10:15 am, January 14	92
Attendance: 5:30 pm, January 17	24
Offering For Current Income	\$5,707.50
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$727.50

To give online through our secure platform, visit  
<https://app.easytithes.com/app/giving/stjohnsucc>

Scan here for online giving



### **St. John's United Church of Christ**

500 West Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446    Office: 215.855.5489    email: [office@st-johns-ucc.org](mailto:office@st-johns-ucc.org)

If you would like more information about St. John's please speak with one of the staff

or visit our website at <http://www.st-johns-ucc.org>

Rev. Dale Davis, M. Div., Interim Senior Pastor    Rev. Adelaide L. Stong, M. Div., Associate Pastor  
Andrew Paulson, M.M., M.A., Minister of Music    Abbie Lampe, Minister of Music for Children & Youth  
Lisa Delp, Church Admin.    Leroy Horst, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor    Bill Bergey, Custodian  
Liz Rivett, Council President

## This Week at St. John's

If you would like more information, please contact the church office 215.855.5489 or [office@st-johns-ucc.org](mailto:office@st-johns-ucc.org)

Jan	21	Sun	9:00 am 10:15 am	<b>Third Sunday after Epiphany</b> Connect 3, Activity Room Morning Worship, Sanctuary Spud Lunch, Assembly Hall
Jan	23	Tue	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Girl Scouts AA
Jan	24	Wed	5:00-7:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:45 pm	<b>Wednesday Night Live</b> Community Meal, Assembly Hall Evening Worship, Fireside Room Children's Music, Music Room Adult Education, Library United Ringers Handbell Ensemble, Sanctuary
Jan	25	Thu	9:30 am 7:30 pm	Enlightener Folding Chancel Choir Rehearsal at Trinity Lutheran Church
Jan	26	Fri	6:00 pm	Chess
Jan	28	Sun	9:00 am 10:15 am	<b>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</b> Connect 3, Activity Room Morning Worship, Sanctuary Combined Choir with Trinity Lutheran Church Elders Meeting, Library Fellowship, Assembly Hall
Jan	30	Tue	7:00 pm	AA
Jan	31	Wed	5:00-7:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:45 pm 7:30 pm	<b>Wednesday Night Live</b> Community Meal, Assembly Hall Evening Worship, Fireside Room Children's Music, Music Room Adult Education, Library United Ringers Handbell Ensemble, Sanctuary Chancel Choir & Friends, Sanctuary
Feb	2	Fri	6:00 pm	Chess
Feb	3	Sat	10:00 am-3:00 pm	Girl Scout Drive-Through Cookie Sale
Feb	4	Sun	9:00 am 10:15 am	<b>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</b> Praying Hands Stitchers, Library Connect 3, Activity Room Morning Worship, Sanctuary Congregational Meeting & Vote Congregational Dinner, Assembly Hall

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



#### Spud Lunch – Today!

The Elders are sponsoring a Winter Spud Lunch on today during Fellowship. Everyone is invited! All donations from the lunch will go toward our Current Expenses.

#### 2023 Contribution Statements

You may pick up your 2023 contribution statement on Sunday mornings in the Narthex and throughout the week in the Church Office.

#### **Save the Date: Ash Wednesday, February 14**

Community Meal from 6-6:45 pm  
Followed by Worship and Communion  
in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm

#### **Save the Date: Wednesday Lenten Book Study 6pm - Library & Zoom - Feb. 21 thru March 20**

Book: A Grace Disguised: How the Soul Grows  
Though Loss by Jerry Sittser  
Watch for more details in the February Enlightener



Presents

## **The Midwinter Gala**

A Celebration of the St. John's Artist Series

**6pm, Friday, February 9, 2024**

Come and support the St. John's Artist Series with dinner, drinks, entertainment, and a silent auction. All proceeds from the Midwinter Gala support the St. John's Artist Series! Tickets are \$100 per person and include an open beer/wine/soda bar, a delicious buffet dinner with dessert and appetizers, a special program featuring the North Penn High School Navy Jazz Combo, and access to the silent auction. Mark your calendars and register today by visiting: [www.stjohnsartistseries.org/midwinter-gala](http://www.stjohnsartistseries.org/midwinter-gala) or by scanning the QR code below.



The final day to register is January 31!

### **Silent Auction Information**

Our silent auction promises to showcase one-of-a-kind items and experiences. While we won't share all of the items with you today, we are excited to tell you about the following:

Tickets, merchandise, and memorabilia from the Philadelphia Eagles, Philadelphia Union, Philadelphia Flyers, Philadelphia 76ers and the Philadelphia Phillies, including an *autographed Dallas Goedert football and an autographed Travis Konecny jersey!*

Items and experiences from WIP-FM, Philadelphia Zoo, Ambler Theater, and other Philadelphia and North Penn Valley area businesses and individuals!

*The St. John's Artist Series would like to thank all of our donors, businesses, Philadelphia sports teams, and their affiliates for their participation.*