

**and gather multitudes
into the brightness of your dawn:
the powerful and the wretched,
the penniless and the rich,
the children of faraway places
and the children of this land.
Yet, we do not delight in the diversity of your realm
and fail to welcome strangers into our midst.
When we claim there is no room for others in your sacred courts,
when we deny grace because of status or circumstance,
when we guard your blessing as if it were ours alone, forgive us.
Expand our constricting hearts,
and help us draw the welcome circle wider,
until our communities radiate your glory and grace.**
(Time of silent reflection)

...in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father

Hymnal, No. 581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Larry Upton

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Page No. 602

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

Ushers for today's service are Tony & Reina Babila.

Communion servers for today's service are **John Beck, Trudy Beard, Lucy Lanning and Nicholas Lindley.**

SUNDAY **January 5**

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

TUESDAY **January 7**

7:00 P.M. – Special Session Meeting

WEDNESDAY **January 8**

6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

SUNDAY **January 12**

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

KNOWN JOYS & CONCERNS

Those who seek healing

Lola Carroll
Sandy Clarke
Jan Cunningham
Laura Eckel
Doug Forsyth
Blair Lanning
Judd Lanning
Jayelle Martin
Emily Ryther
Gary Thrailkill
Jona Thiessen
Devyn Upton
Karen Upton
Janann Yeager
Melinda Clements
Darrell Hinson (Karen Upton's father)
Paul Gallagher (Karen Upton's biological father)
Carole Jo Evans (Tracy Evans' mother)
Jim Leseney (Vince Leseney's father)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Samuel McCann whose grandmother died December 11.
Linda Eckel and family whose husband Jim Eckel died October 31.
Lisa Upton whose father Nolan Spaugy died on October 30.

Joys

Julian Warren Beck, born December 26, son of Jenny and Warren Beck, proud grandparents are Susan and John Beck

Seminary Graduate

Samuel McCann, Pittsburgh Theo. Seminary

We lift up in prayer the country of Cameroon and pray for the unrest our brothers and sisters are experiencing there.

Birthdays

January 9– Karen Girdner

January 10– Judy Burns

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week: **Iran, Iraq, Syria**

We are **thankful** for:

- the resilience of the people who remain in Syria, Iraq and Iran, despite constant threats and ongoing violence
- the relief and assistance that has been provided to so many
- those who have made a new home for refugees fleeing from these countries
- those who have worked continually for peace, justice and reconciliation.

We **pray** for:

- an end to the violence racking these battlefields of global powers
- political leaders emerging in these countries who will pursue peace, the common good, and human rights of all groups
- the international community to pursue policies that will result in acceptable, just peace for all involved
- greater openness to welcoming those displaced or fleeing from these lands, desperately seeking safety and wellbeing.