

**Morning Worship**  
**Installation of Church Officers**  
**January 23, 2022**  
**10:30 a.m.**

Welcome

Westminster Chimes

Greeting

Pastor Dennis W. Molnar

Prelude Music

Robert Neumeyer, *organ*

Scripture Focus

Luke 4: 14-21

Call to Worship

Elder Pam Frost

Leader: Let us gather for worship, for this day is holy to the Lord.

**People: *The joy of the Lord is our strength and salvation, and we gather to offer our praise.***

In singing and in silence, in Word and in prayer, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

***Let us come and worship God.***

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart, enlightening the eyes.

***The ordinances of the Lord are to be more desired than gold.***

They are sweeter than honey, the drippings of the honeycomb.

***Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of all of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.***

Opening Hymn

Glory to God #31

*Let Us With a Gladsome Mind*

Young Disciples Time

Nancy Schultz

*The Race You Can't Win Alone*

Scripture Reflection

1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a

Call to Confession

In this season of Epiphany, we are reminded that our God is constantly revealing God's self to us, that we may see and know our Creator. Let us honor and accept this gift by opening our whole hearts through confession.

***Turning to God and following the light of Christ, let us in faith confess our sin and the sins of the world.***

Prayer of Confession

***Holy God, we confess that we have wandered from your light. We follow paths of self-indulgence, instead of focusing on our need of you. We passively accept the suffering of the world, expecting others to stand up and work for the change we would like to see.***

***Christ, you came to share good news with the poor and oppressed. You came to release the captives and grant sight to the blind. We, like the crowds that surrounded you at the beginning of your ministry, are fickle. We praise you when your words comfort us and deny your good news when that means we need to sacrifice something. Forgive us, God, for our wayward and fleeting love. We are blind to the true implications of your gospel. Help us to see that we may join in your proclamation of good news.***

***Lord, in your strength, renew us and compel us by your invitation that we may work to pursue your justice and mercy for all people, sharing your light in ways great and small.***

## Silent Confession

### Assurance of Forgiveness

Who is in a position to condemn?

***Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, and Christ prays for us.***

May the God of mercy, the Lord of strength, forgive you all your sins; and may the Holy Spirit keep you in new life.

***In Christ, we are forgiven; we are beloved; we are seen. We embrace this truth.***

### Sharing the Peace of Christ

#### Special Music

*Ya Never Know (see insert for Lyrics)*

Jan Timmerman

Jan Timmerman, soloist

### Scripture Lesson

Nehemiah 8: 1-4a, 5-6, 8-10

### Prayer of Illumination

#### Morning Message

*"The Heart of the Matter"*

#### Hymn

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

GTG #69

### Installation of Church Officers

The Invitation

Scripture Reading

The Introductions

Affirmation of Service

Prayer of Installation & Blessing

### Prayers of the People

#### Stewardship of Life Offerings

*"Realm Time"*

Pam Frost

#### Prayer of Dedication

***Dear Lord, I give You my hands to do Your work; I give You my feet to go Your way; I give You my eyes to see as You see; I give You my tongue to speak Your words; I give You my mind that You may think in me; I give You my spirit that You may pray in me. Above all, I give You my heart that You may love in me – love the Father and love all humankind. I give You my whole self, Lord, that You may grow in me, so that it is You who lives, works and prays in me. Amen.***

#### Closing Hymn

*The Lord Sends Us Forth*

GTG #747

### Sending & Benediction

#### Postlude

Robert Neumeyer, *organ*

**The Peace Lilies enhancing the chancel today are given to the Glory of God.** These lilies will be on display during the winter months, except for the Sundays when people have ordered chancel flowers.

**We invite everyone to fill out the Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor to mark attendance in worship.** We are no longer asking for preregistration or sign in at the entrances of worship.

**A few words about today's special music:** This song, *Ya Never Know*, was written for one of my "special friends", who at the age of 15, woke up one morning with the worst headache of his life. He was diagnosed with a brain tumor and subsequently endured several courses of chemotherapy and radiation. Today, 10 years after his initial diagnosis and treatment, he is healthy and tumor free. I continue to be amazed by his faith, trust, and resilience.

These are trying times for us all. Today, I am singing this song for anyone who has had something happen that was sudden, unthinkable, unimaginable, unbelievable, and unbearable, because *Ya Never Know!*

Jan Timmerman

**A Service of Installation will be part of today's worship service as we install the new Elders; Linda Aspinall, Jim Cummins, Robert Faust, and Lynn Wren to serve on Council, along with Deacons; Annali Criswell, Jane Criswell, and Deborah Cunningham to serve on the Board of Deacons.**

**There will be a Congregational Meeting following the morning worship service today.** The purpose of this meeting is to elect church officers presented by the Council, introduce By-Law changes, present the Budget for 2022, receive a financial report for 2021, and present information about the Achievements and Accomplishments of our congregation in 2021. There will be a time for a Q&A. A Zoom link has been sent out in case there are individuals who wish to "zoom in."

**A Service of Life and Witness to the Resurrection Service for Pauline "Polly" Walter will be held this Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. here at Unity. A luncheon will follow.** The service will be livestreamed via our Face Book page for those who can't make it in person.

**Please keep in your Prayers:**

**Sue Keefer, who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and will undergo chemotherapy in the weeks ahead. Betty YaSenka, as she continues her recovery from a mild stroke.**

**A Celebration of Life and Witness to the Resurrection Service is being planned for Bob Sullivan to be held on Saturday, March 12 at 11:00 a.m.** A luncheon will follow. The service will be livestreamed via our Face Book page for those who can't make it in person.

**The next Food & Fellowship Outing is TODAY at the Willow Station in Castle Shannon. We will meet around 12:30 p.m. at the restaurant.** The address is 3841 Willow Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15234. Please RSVP via Realm or contact Linda Aspinall at 412-276-6803 or [laspinal27@gmail.com](mailto:laspinal27@gmail.com).

**The High Nooners Group will meet this Wednesday, January 26 at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall.** Please bring your brown bag lunch and beverage. Dessert will be provided; a tasty treat is promised! After lunch, we will be playing BINGO with Harriette as our caller!

**We received the following thank you from Sojourner House for all the Angel Tree Gifts:**

To our friends at Unity, Thank you for your wonderful kindness to our children here at Sojourner House. You had a lot of moms and children smiling on Christmas Day. Sincerely, Liz Wasel, Volunteer Coordinator.  
P.S. June Rush is smiling too!

**Help Our Teens** fight hunger by making your favorite soup for the Souper Bowl of Caring! Just sign up your soup then bring it cold to the lounge on Saturday February 12 or early Sunday morning February 13. The soup is then packed into containers for purchase. This year's Souper Bowl will be a take-out event only. Register your soup by emailing Nancy Schultz at [nschultz@unitypresbyterianchurch.org](mailto:nschultz@unitypresbyterianchurch.org)

**Please join us for a Coffee hour Connection Time following worship this morning.** At the conclusion of worship please proceed to the lounge and pickup your goodies and beverage.

**Childcare is now available during worship.** We are currently using a team of volunteers. Parents can drop off their children in the Child Care Room #101.

**A new Adult Faith Exploration Class is being held on Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.** Roy Humphrey is leading a conversation around “Questions We Would Like to Ask God”. Please join Roy in the chapel each Sunday in January.

**Thank you to everyone who donated to the Ugly Sweater Sunday Mission Collection for Operation Safety Net.** The total collected was \$284 and will go to the Operation Safety Net ongoing efforts to aid the homeless in the Greater Pittsburgh area.

**Pet Donations.** Today is the last day to drop off your pet donations. The Christmas tree is gone, but please see the sign near the table on the right-hand side of the transept when you walk in from the hallway, indicating where the donations can be placed. The beneficiaries of your generous gifts are two advocate and adoption groups, *Animal Advocates* and *A Little Bit of Snuggles*. Please call Chris Brusceci at 412-571-0599 if you have questions.

**Food Pantry Sunday is now every Sunday at Unity!** To make it easier to donate food to the pantry, a grocery cart will be in the front of the sanctuary every Sunday morning. Non-perishable food items, toiletries, and paper products can be left in the cart on any Sunday morning.

**The Per Capita Apportionment for 2022 remains at \$35 per member.** Please offer this gift as an expression of your connection to the congregation and affiliation with the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

**Offering Envelopes for 2022 Are Now Available** If you wish to order envelopes, please sign the sheet in the transept, or email Pam at [pfrost@unitypresbyterianchurch.org](mailto:pfrost@unitypresbyterianchurch.org), or call the church office at 412-561-2431 to reserve a box. You will then be notified when you can pick up your box. Your “giving number” will never change again – it is the same number as last year and will remain your number from now on. **IMPORTANT: Boxed envelopes no longer have individual giving numbers imprinted on the envelopes, although the dates are imprinted and a Per Capita envelope is included. As you use your envelopes, please remember to write your full name on the outside of the envelope,** as you have done in the past. If you wish to include your giving number on the envelope or your check, you can find it on your Realm profile. Simply log in, and under Community, click Giving and you will see the giving number block. Or call the church office or email Pam Frost at [pfrost@unitypresbyterianchurch.org](mailto:pfrost@unitypresbyterianchurch.org) to request your number.

**We are taking Chancel Flower Orders for 2022.** The cost of two chancel bouquets will remain at \$50 for the coming year. Please visit our website and complete the **2022 Chancel Flower Order Form** which will allow you to order and pay for your flowers online. A link to the order form will also be available each week in *What's Up at Unity*. If you prefer, you can call the church office to place your order. Thank you for your generosity in keeping our Chancel beautifully decorated throughout the year! The Peace Lilies adorning the Chancel today will be displayed during the winter months, except for those Sundays when people have ordered flower arrangements.

### **Teacher Feature**

Laura Halley teaches the Joyful Noise Class (pre-k thru 1<sup>st</sup> grade) here at Unity. She is a long-time member of Unity who grew up in Greentree and currently lives in McKees Rocks. Laura’s daughter Kierra is going on 7 years and in the second grade. Laura is a deacon and serves on several committees here at Unity. She also was a dedicated volunteer in the nursery for many years. Laura is currently working on her 20<sup>th</sup> year at Tender Care Learning Centers. Laura has a Child Development Associate Certificate from Carlow College and is working on finishing her Associate in Science Degree in Early Education and Child Development from CCAC.

Laura was the recipient of the Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher award in 2017. This award has been commending teachers of dedication, expertise and to providing high quality early learning experience since 1994. The award recognizes child educators from all over the United States! Congratulations Laura and thank you for all you do for the education of our children!

**2021 Year-End Contribution Statements.** To prepare for the distribution of final, year-end contribution statements for the 2021, the pledge campaign for 2021 has been closed. No additional contributions can be added for 2021. Online donors will no longer see an option to donate to their 2021 pledge. As we have done since 2018, the YE statements for 2021 will be generated from Realm. Each Statement will include contributions, pledge data, and a fund summary. As a reminder, please check your Realm profile and ensure that your Contact Email is accurate. Statements will be sent via email, and mailed to those who do not have email. The target date for distribution to begin is January 26<sup>th</sup>. Mailed statements will take longer to be delivered by the Post Office.

**You can track and print your own Giving History.** As you give throughout the year, keep track of it within your Realm profile's giving history. This lists all of your contributions, whether they're manual, online, through text, or pledges to a campaign. The date range you select determines the gifts you see, and you can print a list of your current gifts or contributions you've given in the past. To print your giving history:

- Click **Giving** on the main menu.
- If necessary, filter your contributions to get a list of the ones you want.
- Click the printer icon. A PDF downloads that you can open in your browser. Pledge data will display at the bottom of your statement.

This statement can include nondeductible gifts and is available to you all year, but should not be used for tax purposes. Although you will receive a Year-End Statement at the end of January, a button specifically for year-end taxes displays from February 1st to April 30<sup>th</sup>, in case you to print it from Realm. Please contact Pam at [pfrost@unitypresbyterianchurch.org](mailto:pfrost@unitypresbyterianchurch.org) if you have any questions.

### **Stewardship Snapshot**

We rely on you to send your donations to the church in the mail, arrange for your bank to send your check to the church, make use of online giving (go to [www.unitypresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.unitypresbyterianchurch.org), select the "Donate" button and follow the prompts).

More people have chosen to use the convenience of online giving. It can be linked to your bank account or credit card. **Online giving totaled \$10,708 in December.** There were 65 online donations.

**Per Capita**- 29 members have paid their per capita so far. As a church, Unity owes \$10,500 whether donated as per capita or not. It's \$35 per member and this has not been increased in a number of years. We only need 250 more to reach the goal.

**FOOD PANTRY** - \$500 was donated this week.

**COVENANT COMMITMENT CARDS**- thanks to the 48 families that have been returned. If you haven't done it yet, please fill out the cards and return them to the church. Our goal is \$205,000. We are currently \$36,000 short of that goal. People have already given over \$16,000 to fulfill their commitment of giving for 2022. It would be especially great if we could exceed the goal.

**PASTOR PETEY'S COMMENT** –We all know that canines and felines can have allergies to a wide range of things. It's hard for me to understand how humans can be allergic to dogs and cats. At Embark.com, they say that allergies are mostly caused by proteins in canine and feline saliva that ends up on the fur and dander of the animal through licking or grooming. Most allergies to felines are caused by the protein identified as Fel d 1. Allergies to canines are mostly caused by Can F 1 and Can F 2. I hope none of you humans are allergic to me. I enjoy seeing you on Sundays and at other events. Stay safe and keep healthy. Woof.

## **Ya Never Know By JLF**

**Ya never know what'll happen when you get out of bed each day.  
You say your prayers and hope for the best, and then you're on your way.  
You live your life the best you can, anticipating what's at hand.  
But don't you know the best laid plans are sure to go astray.**

**Ya never know predictably, convincingly, decisively;  
Ya never know with certainty what'll happen every day.**

**Ya never know what'll happen; why worry while you wait?  
You put your faith in a higher power. It's never too late.  
Cause worrying can make you stressed; it makes you tense; you lose your rest.  
It interferes with being your best. Why worry about your fate?**

**Ya never know assuredly, undoubtedly, exactly;  
Ya never know with certainty what'll happen every day.**

**Ya never know what'll happen; there are many ways to cope.  
Distraction works up to a point. There's fantasy and hope.  
You learn to count and stretch and squeeze. You take a breath; watch how you breathe.  
Be mindful of this moment please! Use your panorama-scope.**

**Ya never know conclusively, precisely, completely;  
Ya never know with certainty what'll happen every day.**

**Ya never know what'll happen when your brain is feeling blue.  
When you've lost your verve and zest for life in everything you do.  
You take a pill; you eat just right; you call a friend; you exercise.  
Changing your thinking through therapy tries to fix your unhappy mood.**

**Ya never know definitively, predictably, unquestionably;  
Ya never know with certainty what'll happen every day.**

**Ya never know what'll happen when your body's lost its groove.  
You focus all your healing thoughts on just what's ailing you.  
You live the present like the gift that it was meant to be.  
Treasure each minute of every day at peace with all you do.**

**Ya never know completely, absolutely, undoubtedly;  
Ya never know with certainty what'll happen every day.**