



Wentz's United Church of Christ

3246 Skippack Pike Lansdale, PA 19446 610.584.4855

*We are an Inclusive Faith Community.
All Are Welcomed and All Really Means ALL!*

*Sunday, January 28th, 2024, 10am
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*



*"If we always helped one another, no one would need luck."—
Sophocles*



Worship Notes:

PRELUDE

Greeting and Reply

Opening Hymn: **O God, Our Help in Ages Past (AAHH- 170) Verses 1, 2, 3, & 5**

O God, our Help in ages past,
our Hope for years to come,
our Shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal Home.


Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.

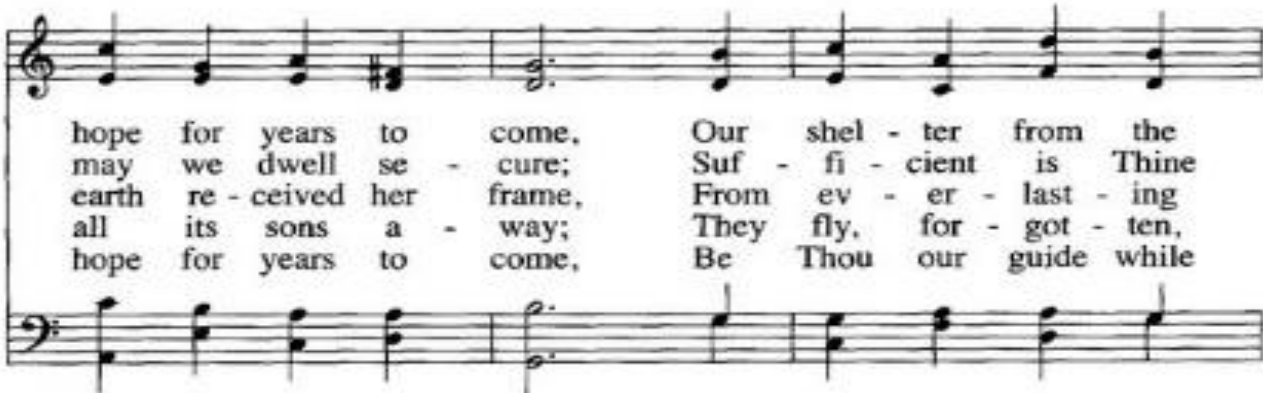
O God, our Help in ages past,
our Hope for years to come,
be Thou our Guard while life shall last,
and our eternal Home!

O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST 170

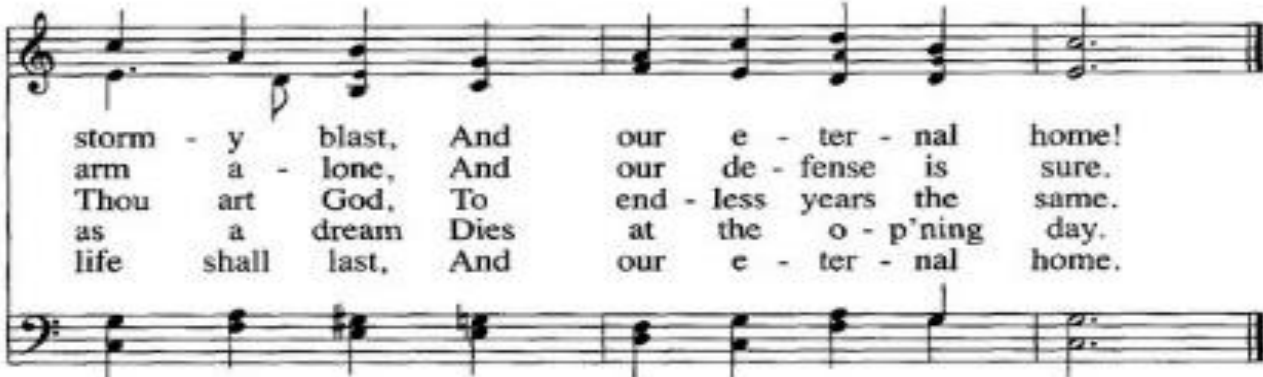
*Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations... from everlasting to everlasting You are God.
Psalm 90:1-2.*



1. O God, our help in a - ges past, Our
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Still
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or
 4. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Bears
 5. O God, our help in a - ges past, Our



hope for years to come, Our shel - ter from the
 may we dwell se - cure; Suf - fi - cient is Thine
 earth re - ceived her frame, From ev - er - last - ing
 all its sons a - way; They fly, for - got - ten,
 hope for years to come, Be Thou our guide while



storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home!
 arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
 Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
 as a dream Dies at the o - p'ning day.
 life shall last, And our e - ter - nal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1694-1748

Tune: ST. ANNE, CM; William Croft, 1678-1721

Our Church's Mission:

Welcome all into a loving, inclusive faith community,
Seeking to live out the teachings of Jesus,
Building on our own rich history, actively exploring beliefs and assumptions, and
Promoting justice, peace and spiritual growth.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: O give thanks to the LORD,

Many: For his steadfast love endures forever.

One: O give thanks to the Lord of lords,

Many: For his steadfast love endures forever.

One: It is he who remembered us in our low estate,

Many: For his steadfast love endures forever.

One: O give thanks to the God of heaven,

Many: For his steadfast love endures forever.

Hebrew Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

18:15 The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.

18:16 This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die."

18:17 Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said.

18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command.

18:19 Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

18:20 But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak--that prophet shall die."

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28

1:21 They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.

1:22 They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

1:23 Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit,

1:24 and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."

1:25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"

1:26 And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

1:27 They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

1:28 At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Reader: The word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

INVOCATION

Worship & Praise through Music

Passing the Peace of Christ

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (Singing) **(Green Hymnal-740)**

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 trespasses **(Debts)**, as we forgive those who trespass against us **(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

Announcements

Offering

Doxology (Praise God from whom all blessings flow)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above the heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!**
(Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost)

Sermonic Hymn: **O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (Red Hymnal-349)**

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread thro' all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

MESSAGE: Triumphantly Happy – Psalm 28: 6-9

⁶ Blessed be the LORD,
for he has heard the sound of my pleadings.

⁷ The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts;

so I am helped, and my heart exults,
and with my song I give thanks to him.

⁸ The LORD is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

⁹ O save your people and bless your heritage;
be their shepherd and carry them forever.



RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (Worship & Rejoice-501)

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty--
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:

Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
bear me through the swelling current,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Three-Minute Suggestion:

Please spend the first three minutes with someone who is relatively new to our church family, or new to you. Get to know them like a friend might! THEN take some time with longtime friends. Thanks!

WORSHIP CONTINUES IN FELLOWSHIP:

Coffee and Connections is hosted by Pam Ruch and Alexis Suder

Monthly Budget: \$10,000.00

Weekly Giving:

1/14/24: \$1620.00

Remaining in January: \$5180.00

MONDAY: 01/29

AA Group- 6:30pm

TUESDAY: 01/30

Journey Singers and Musicians—5:45pm

Handbell Practice—7pm

AA Living Sober – 7:30pm

Woodwinds Rehearsal- 8pm

WEDNESDAY: 01/31

AA - 8pm

THURSDAY: 02/01

First Day of Black History Month

AA Meeting – 7:30pm

FRIDAY: 02/02

AA Meeting (Men's) – 7:30pm

SATURDAY: 02/03

February:

02/08/24—1pm (TimeOut Skippack) and 6:30pm (Wentz's UCC): Book and a Beverage; Part 2 of "Weird Church"

02/13/24—Fastnacht Dinner

02/14/24—Ash Wednesday: 6pm Supper; 7pm Worship—Olivet Schwenkfelder UCC

02/21/24—7pm Lenten Service—Methacton Mennonite

02/22/24—1pm (TimeOut Skippack) and 6:30pm (Wentz's UCC): Book and a Beverage; Part 2 of "Weird Church"

02/28/24—7pm Lenten Service—Bethel Hill United Methodist

Ongoing:

If you would like to schedule time with Rev either in-person or zoom, please contact Mike via email to be placed on his calendar. office@wentzsucc.org Evenings appointments are available.

Bring a friend with you next Sunday!

Take them out to lunch! Have a better day!

Wentz's UCC

Open & Affirming Statement:

We are Wentz's United Church of Christ, an open and affirming congregation, where your identity and being are cherished. We respectfully welcome all without exception, including those of all races, ethnicities, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, and family structures. Together we create an open and active community. Everyone is invited to walk with us in our journey. You are welcome here. Whomever, wherever, at all times.
You. Are. Simply. Welcomed.





Wentz's United Church of Christ
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Rev. Dr. James L. Mills, Sr. – Senior Pastor
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Mike Todd- Deacon/Pastoral Assistant
Corey Taragna- Lead Trustee
Donna Mower – Guild President
June Wright- Organist
Laura McLennan and Jim O'Donnell- Music Dept
Matt MacDonald- Technology