

**Second Sunday of Christmas  
Covenant Renewal Service**

**January 2, 2022**

**10:00 a.m.**

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**Welcome**

**Prelude** - *Oh Holy Night; Still, Still, Still/Somewhere in My Memory*

**Call to Worship**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Opening Hymn No. 606** - *Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine*

Come, let us use the grace divine, and all with one accord,  
in a perpetual covenant join ourselves to Christ the Lord;  
Give up ourselves, thru Jesus' power, his name to glorify;  
and promise, in this sacred hour, for God to live and die.

The covenant we this moment make be ever kept in mind;  
we will no more our God forsake, or cast these words behind.  
We never will throw off the fear of God who hears our vow;  
and if thou art well pleased to hear, come down and meet us now.

Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, let all our hearts receive,  
present with thy celestial host the peaceful answer give;  
to each covenant the blood apply which takes our sins away,  
and register our names on high and keep us to that day!

**Invocation**

**O God, Searcher of all our hearts, you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own. As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace, and to enter anew into covenant with you, reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us. Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being, and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION**

*The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages*

**Scripture Reading**

Deuteronomy 29:9-15 (Old Testament page 184/178)

Therefore diligently observe the words of this covenant, in order that you may succeed in everything that you do. You stand assembled today, all of you, before the Lord your God—the leaders of your tribes, your elders, and your officials, all the men of Israel, your children, your women, and the aliens who are in your camp, both those who cut your wood and those who draw your water—to enter into the covenant of the Lord your God, sworn by an oath, which the Lord your God is making with you today; in order that he may establish you today

as his people, and that he may be your God, as he promised you and as he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I am making this covenant, sworn by an oath, not only with you who stand here with us today before the Lord our God, but also with those who are not here with us today.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### ***God's Word for Young Disciples***

***Anthem - God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman - Campbell***

***Sermon***

Rev. Jon Priebe

### ***Covenant Prayer***

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable, others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ. Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

**I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service. And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it also be made in heaven. Amen.**

### ***Discipleship Moment***

### ***Apostles' Creed***

**We believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### ***Doxology***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### ***Prayers of the People and The 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### ***Communion***

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

... Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING FORTH**

*The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith.*

**Closing Hymn No. 251** - *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

**Refrain:** Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light. **Refrain.**

The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth, rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth. **Refrain.**

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain.**

**Benediction and Choral Response** - (Hymn No. 666)

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

**Postlude** - *Joy to the World* - Page



**The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and are given:**

in honor of her father, Dean Woodcock, by Dana and Jay Bishop.

**Altar Guild:** Carol Lewis, Elizabeth Stroud

**Service Musician:** Mark Wade, hammered dulcimer

**Music:** One License A-731491

## Notes

**Heart4theCity Needs Your Help!** Our current project is to collect coats for children and youth. Heart4theCity wants to help these children who don't have proper winter clothing. Can you help? From now through January we will be collecting (in the bins by the offices) new or gently used coats for all age children and youth. Check your closets or go to the stores. Please help as you can.

**Altar Flowers:** We are now taking orders for altar flowers in 2022. The cost is \$38 and the church takes care of ordering and delivery. If you would like to reserve a date, contact Christy Meyers at [cmeyersfallsumc@gmail.com](mailto:cmeyersfallsumc@gmail.com) or Ext. 210.

**Pledge Cards:** If you have not yet turned in your 2022 pledge card, please do so by either dropping it in the drop box in the breezeway, or bring it to Sunday morning worship. The pledges allow us to continue to do kingdom work here on Earth by funding the upkeep of the physical building, mission projects and outreach, spiritual formation and growth, worship, along with our numerous choral and musical programs and much more. If you are unable to stop by church to drop your pledge card off, please call our Financial Officer, Nancy Yeager, Ext. 216, and she can take your pledge information over the phone!

**Children's Activities:** On Sunday, January 9 we will resume Sunday School, Children's Worship and ROCK. There will be some changes to ROCK when we return, as we are shortening the evening by 30 minutes - it will run from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. Also, the cost of the meal will be more - \$3.00 for children and \$4.00 for adults.

**Game Night:** Come for an evening of delight with our Game Night on Saturday, January 8, from 7 to 9 pm. Please note the date change from the first to the second Saturday night. This is a great opportunity to invite friends to church. You may bring your own games, or come planning to try out new games others have brought.

**Upcoming Adult Discipleship Opportunities:** We will be starting our next set of Adult discipleship classes after the first of the year. Our Ministry By Strength Class will take begin at 5:45 pm on Sunday, January 15. A "Disciple Like Jesus" class will also begin that week, time is still be determined. Anyone who is interested in joining the church in the near future will need to take both our Ministry by Strength, and "Disciple Like Jesus" classes as part of our membership pathway.

## Next Steps

### Restart Required

The Moabite covenant offers little new to the relationship between Israel and God

vs. 13 – Instead, it offers a chance to renew God’s longstanding promises

### A God of Second Chances...

The Sabbath, the Rainbow, and the Ark served as signs of the first covenants

Every second chance given and received confirms this renewed covenant!

**Questions for Reflection:** Is there a relationship in our life needs a reboot or second chance? Are there areas of your own life in which you may have given up on yourself? Do you perhaps need the do-over and second chance this year?

**Questions for Discussion:** When have you seen God at work through a second chance being given?

**Memory Verse:** *Lamentations 3:22-23* – “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”

**Readings for this Week:** Jonah 3:6-4:2, Luke 3:15-22, John 18:15-18, John 21:15-19

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**PRAYER BULLETIN**  
**January 2, 2022**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**2022!**

**MINISTERS & STAFF:**

Forrest Waller

**HOSPITALIZED:**

Rev. Ed Fashbaugh – Director of Connectional Ministries for the Conference

**MEMBERS TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER:**

Scott Adie  
Bob Ahonen  
Shirley Asher  
Alice Becher  
Jim Beebe  
Berhman family  
Donna Copeland  
Don Corbett  
Jean Finnegan

Rose Gregory  
Joyce Haberkost  
Paula Hannum  
Jim Henes  
Dr. Jim Lewis (Patsie)  
Isabel Lindsey  
Lavinia McIntyre  
Laura Molnar

David Potter  
Robby & Lou Robinson  
Kathi Sawyer  
Linda Sterling  
Kay Steiner  
Michael Taucher  
Jim Vogel  
Marty Winget

**DEEPEST SYMPATHY & PRAYERS:**

Ken and Dorothy Bates and family on the death of their daughter, member Brenda Pennino on 12/26.  
Tom, Jim and Mike Zrelak on the death of their mother, member Kathy Zrelak on 12/18.