

*If this is to be a Happy New Year, a year of usefulness, a year in which we shall live to make this earth better, it is because God will direct our pathway. How important then, to feel our dependence upon Him!* — Matthew Simpson

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### *EPIPHANY SUNDAY*

*Covenant Renewal Service and  
The Sacrament of Holy Communion*

Rev. John Lutz, Senior Pastor

Lyn Wallace (8:00) and Jeannette Hesser (9:30), Worship Assistants

January 2, 2011

8:00 & 9:30 a.m.

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Prelude

\*Opening Hymn and Entrance of the Light

“O God Our Help in Ages Past” 117

Welcome & Greeting

*(Please sign the attendance pad and pass it down the aisle. Stand and greet the people around you and welcome them into our circle of faith today.)*

Life of the Church

\*Gloria Patri “Glory Be To the Father” 70

\*The Opening Prayer [unison] (David Tripp, England, 20th Cent.)

***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.***

Litany Of Thanksgiving

(People's Response at **R**: “Let us give thanks for all of God's mercies.”)

O God, our Covenant Friend, You have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives. We thank You for Your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place. We praise Your holy name, O God. You have given us life and reason, and set us in a world filled with Your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends, and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers. **R**

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after You, and have given us Your peace. You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of Your Spirit and the witness of Your Church. **R**

You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors. **R**

You remembered us when we forgot You. You followed us even when we tried to flee from You. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to You. For all Your patience and overflowing grace, **R**

\*Hymn “Come Let Us Use the Grace Divine” 606  
*(Charles Wesley wrote this hymn specifically for this service.)*

Scripture Lessons Jeremiah 31: 31-34; I Peter 1: 13-23

Special Music

Opening Remarks about the Covenant Service

Pastor: From time to time we renew our covenant with God, especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant and gather at the Lord's table. Today, however, we meet, as the generations before us have met, to renew the covenant that binds us to God.

Proclamation [unison]

***As brothers and sisters in Christ, we understand the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God. Through baptism, we have entered this life and have been admitted into the new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator.***

***He sealed it with His own blood, so that it might last forever. On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ, the Source and Perfector of our faith. On the other side, we are pledged to no more live for ourselves but only for Jesus, who loved us and gave Himself for us.***

***Let us make this covenant of God our own...***

**WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE**

[Please see insert]

Sharing Our Offerings

Offertory

\*Offertory Response “Doxology” 95

\*Offertory Prayer [unison]

***God in human flesh, we come to pay You homage by offering You our lives. We bring these gifts to You as the first and the best of everything that You have given to us. May all self-serving motivations die within us as we bow before Your loving presence. Guide us by the radiance of Your light, no matter where***

*You may lead us. In this moment, we let go of everything that would pledge our higher allegiance to something other than You. Like the wise ones, we choose to return home by another way. Amen.*

Sharing the Loaf and Cup and Receiving Anointing\*

*(The congregation will proceed to the altar by the center aisle at the ushers' direction. Partaking of the communion elements will be by intinction—the breaking off and then dipping of the bread into the cup. Return down the center aisle to your seat.)*

\*Closing Hymn and Going Forth of the Light into the World

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

203

\*Benediction

Organ Postlude

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*\*If able, please stand to worship God*

**\*Sharing Our Gifts:** *The Communion Offering for this month will be dedicated to **The Pastor’s Discretionary Fund.***

**We welcome YOU** to our worship service this morning. *If you are visiting our church for the first time, we extend you a special greeting. (Please inform us of your complete name and address on the Fellowship Pad or in the Guest Book.) We invite you to enter into our worship wholeheartedly. Sing out! Listen intently to God’s Word! Be open to promptings of the Holy Spirit! And after the service, give us a chance to talk with you and invite you back! We look forward to your worshipping with us again.*

## LANGHORNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*A Fellowship of  
Believers Reaching Out  
That All Might Know  
Christ as Lord.*

301 E. Maple Ave.  
Langhorne PA 19047  
(215) 757-4984  
[lumc-online.org](http://lumc-online.org)

### Worship Services

#### **Traditional**

8:00 & 9:30 a.m.

#### **Contemporary**

11:30 a.m.

### **John Lutz,**

Senior Pastor

[revjlutz@comcast.net](mailto:revjlutz@comcast.net)

### **Bill Bryan,**

Minister of

Congregational Care

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### **Kerry Fenton,**

Organist

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### **Judy Hardie,**

Church Secretary

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