

The
CONGREGATIONAL



CHURCH of EASTON

The church on the hill

Second Sunday after Christmas

January 5, 2025

Lay Leaders, Elizabeth and Don Boyce

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 147:12-20

One: Praise God, O Jerusalem! For God strengthens the bars of your gates and He blesses your children within.

All: God grants peace within your borders and fills you with the finest of wheat.

One: God sends out his command to the earth and His word runs swiftly.

All: God gives snow like wool and scatters frost like ashes.

One: God declares his word to Jacob and declares His statutes and ordinances to Israel.

All: May all praise be to God.

**UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Ever Present and Ever Knowing God, we come before you as a humble people seeking to know more of your great mystery. We look towards you this day searching for meaning in life. We look towards you for the strength, guidance, hope, and comfort that only you can provide for us in this ever changing world. We look towards you this morning, O Lord, as a people in need of the Christ Child to lead us into your grace and light. We call upon you, O Lord, to enter into our lives leading us with your great message of love and salvation. Amen.

#283 NCH

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**** Those who are able may stand.**

PH-Red Pilgrim Hymnal NCH-Black New Century Hymnal BH-Little Blue Hymnal

****HYMN #8 PH**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

verses 1-3

****UNISON CALL TO CONFESSION**

When we do not accept as our sisters and brothers in Christ those who are different from us, forgive us, O God. When we oppose you by opposing those who disrupt our routines and challenge our assumptions, forgive us, O God. When we willfully disobey you and lose faith in your future, forgive us, O God. God, in your mercy, restore us to newness of life. Bind together your church universal through the coming of your Holy Spirit. Empower us to witness with courage to the presence of Jesus Christ among us. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

****Response of Praise #513 PH *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.***

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYERS

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (debts)

Choral Response: #769 NCH *Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God. Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible pg. 639

Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible pg. 835

MEDITATION

Elizabeth Boyce

HYMN #547 NCH

“Amazing Grace”

verses 1, 2 & 4

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

God asks us for an accounting of what we have done with the wealth entrusted to us. All that we have and all that we are belongs to God. May we give with thankfulness.

Gathering of the gifts with Offertory

Presentation of the gifts with praise

****Doxology:** #515 PH *Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

****UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Almighty and eternal God, we thank you that in your mercy you have fed us at this table with spiritual food and assured us of your goodness and love. Keep us, we pray, in the faith and fellowship of your Church; enable us to continue to live for your glory; and bring us at last to your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

****HYMN** #319 PH *“Just as I Am, Without One Plea”* verses 1 - 4

****BENEDICTION** *(Threefold Amen)*

****PASSING OF THE PEACE**

POSTLUDE

Please join us for Coffee Hour across the street.

Confirming Deacon for January - Jon Stock
Offering - Leon March and Jon Stock
Collectors - Nathalie Taranto and Daisy Colonnese
Coffee Hour - Jon Stock

Church Office Hours will be on Thursday from
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Welcome to worship in this new year of our Lord 2025. Please greet one another in the spirit of Christ. If you are visiting, we hope you will sign our guest book.

