



January 7, 2024
Baptism of the Lord
How does a weary world rejoice?
We trust our belovedness . . .

Mantua Center Christian Church
Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Arms
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Pastor – Rev. Chad Delaney
Pastor's Contact: 330-569-4926
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Website: www.mantuacentercc.org
Wifi pw: mccc1827



If you decide to attend in person, please note the following:

- The upstairs nursery is available for your children. There are also coloring sheets at the entrance for the children.
- After the Children's Moment, all kids through 4th grade are welcome to attend Sunday School class which will run through the end of worship.
- We pass communion. If you prefer, we have sealed "personal" communion cups available at the entrance.
- Offering baskets will be passed around the sanctuary at the start of the "Invitation to Generosity." (You may also *Give Online* at: mantuacentercc.org).
- **Hearing Assistance is now available at MCCC!** Please see Carol Magyarics or Rick Painley (our video techs) for help in setting this up.

3 As they offered gifts most rare at that manger plain and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Invitation

Pam Baynes

Offertory

Music

“I Come to the Garden Alone”

[By C. A. Miles]

Sarah Park

***Response**

“Make Me a Blessing”

Make me a blessing, make me a blessing.
Out of my life may Jesus shine;
make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray.
Make me a blessing to someone today.

Offering Prayer

Pam Baynes

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Rev. Chad Delaney

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

[by Mark Hayes / Marvin Gaspard]

Jan Green

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Chad Delaney

HOLY COMMUNION

Meditation

Roger Cram

***Communion Hymn**

#387, vs. 1-2

“Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken”

1 Bread of the world in mercy broken,
wine of the soul in mercy shed,
by whom the words of life were spoken,
and in whose death our sins are dead:

2 Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
look on the tears by sinners shed;
and be thy feast to us the token
that by thy grace our souls are fed.

Prayer

Nora Brant

Words of Institution

Nora Brant

Music

“Would you be Free from your Burden of Sin?”

[by L. E. Jones]

Sarah Park

SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:21-22

SERMON

“We Trust our Belovedness”

Rev. Chad Delaney

***CLOSING HYMN “Go, My Children, With My Blessing”**

#431, vs. 1-3

1 Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing—you are my own.

2 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story;
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

3 Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you;
here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Chad Delaney

POSTLUDE

“Encamped Along the Hills of Light”

Sarah Park

[by I. D. Sankey]

*Thank you for joining us at
Mantua Center Christian Church!*

MCCC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- * **Hearing Assistance** is now available at MCCC! Ask Carol Magyarics or Rick Painley, our video technicians, for setup tips!
- * **MANY THANKS to all those who contributed to November's MITTEN TREE collection!** Though we do not have an official total number of items, we had plenty to include in all the Kids Weekend Meals bags for Christmas! We also had an *abundance* of hats this year. We had a combined total of 86 hats that were Donated by Nancy Whaley (Hilltop Church) and Jeannine Hausch from the Long Tail Knits store in Northfield! It was an amazing surprise, and we are so grateful to those individuals at Hilltop Church and Long Tail Knit store Macedonia) for adding so many items to our totals!! Remember, anyone is welcome to contribute, and homemade items can be worked on (or purchased) at any time of the year! (We collect mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, and winter headbands to those families in need at Christmas.) If you know anyone who might like to contribute to our items each November, contact Sandi Kossick (330) 607-7003 or Kathy Meier (330) 840-8944. We appreciate your generosity!
- * **FREE 2024 Calendars are available for the taking!** They are in the entryway of the church as well as the lower level entrance. Take one for a friend who needs one!
- * **CYF will meet this Sunday, Jan. 7th, from 6-7:30 in the Fellowship Hall.** We will be creating "vision boards" and ask if anyone has any extra magazines or old calendars that could be donated to the group, please bring them to church tomorrow. Questions? Contact Pam Auble at: 216-308-7930.
- * **"Story Time"** for preschoolers, accompanied by an adult, is every Tuesday from 10:30-11:30am. **EVERYONE IS INVITED!** What a fun way to share some one-on-one time with your child, grandchild, or niece/nephew!! Contact Pam Auble with any questions: 216-308-7930.
- * **WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS!!** Come join us every Wednesday from 1:15-2:30pm for our "Dwelling in the Word" (Daytime Fellowship) led by Pastor Chad, or from 6:30-8:00pm for our BOOK STUDY led by Jon Secaur. What wonderful mid-week events we have available in fellowship and Bible studies!
- * **December's FREE CLOTHING & DIAPER GIVEAWAY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!!** If you are able to help out this organization, they are in need of donations of new packages of diapers in ALL sizes & LARGE black trash bags. They also need clothing donations to replenish their supplies! Start your spring cleaning early and donate some clothes if you are able. Questions? Contact Lynn Kelley at (330) 990-8912 (or Nancy Tafel) This is a collaborative effort of area churches. Stay tuned for the next FREE GIVEAWAY! Clothes may be dropped off at the yellow shed at the south side of our church.
- * **LOAVES & FISHES IS RETURNING January 25, 2024 in the Fellowship Hall from 5-6:30pm!!** Please join us and *bring your friends*. This is a FREE Community Meal for anyone and everyone! Menu will be: Grilled Ham and Cheese sandwiches, Soup, Fruit, and various desserts. It's a FUN time for sure! Donations are gratefully accepted but not required. If you would like to volunteer your time, just once a month, contact Carolin Newell at (330) 606-7125.
- * **The 4C's** (Crestwood Coalition for Community Care) next food collection is Sunday, January 28, 2024. Items needed for January are: Dish Soap, Canned Pasta, & Canned Fruit. *Monetary Donations are also welcome.* Many thanks to all at MCCC for supporting the 4C's!
- * **CHANGED DATES for Knitters & Crocheters!** Meet us at the Hilltop Church from 1:30-3:00pm on Monday January 15th and 29th (We will resume our usual schedule in February. (1st & 3rd Monday of each month). All are welcome with their yarn projects or hand work creations for chit-chat and show and tell! Questions? Contact Kathy Meier at: 330-840-8944. Prayer Shawls are always in need!
- * **Don't forget we have a NEWISH "Card/Care Station"** (put together through the combined efforts of the Trustees and the Smile Team) outside the Fellowship Hall, near the restrooms. We have the most recently updated MCCC Congregational Lists, and Prayer Lists for the taking! Also provided is a nice selection of cards to choose from. There is a basket on the left-hand bulletin board to drop your card in - AND a Smile Team member will even mail it for you if you need! There's nothing better than knowing that someone is thinking of you! Write out a card today! **It's FREE!**
- * **REMEMBER!** Please check with one of the Trustees to see if we can accept any donated items before dropping them off at the church. The Trustees are: Paul Meeker, Pat Hoskin, Brian Summerlin, Randy Alger, & Dale Ausperk.