

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
November 4, 2018 – 8:15 A.M.

**Indicates those able may stand*

When the prelude begins please quiet your hearts in preparation for worship.

ORGAN PRELUDE

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Dr. Timothy Witmer

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalms 103:1-4*)

ONE: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

ALL: And all that is within me, bless his holy name!

ONE: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

ALL: And forget not all his benefits,

ONE: Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

ALL: Who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

*OPENING HYMN

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Hymn #302

*INVOCATION

Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

CALL TO CONFESSION

In spite of God’s love for us, we often act and speak in destructive and hateful ways. We close our hearts to God and disobey God’s law. Together, let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we groan at our weaknesses, and we ask forgiveness. Your Word is so clear, and your grace is so good. But we close our ears to your call. We mistreat those we love, and we dishonor you, the One who made us. Yet you provide streams of mercy; you invite us again and again to live renewed lives. So we turn once again to the cross, to the empty cross, to the stone rolled away, to our interceding Lord Jesus Christ seated at your right hand. We seek your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. With your Holy Spirit, sanctify us. Hear our prayer, O Lord, for we ask it in Christ’s name. Amen.

PRAYER FOR MERCY (Kyrie) “Lord Have Mercy upon Us”

ONE: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ONE: Christ, have mercy upon us.

ALL: Christ, have mercy upon us.

ONE: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“The Gloria Patri”

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.

*APOSTLES CREED

I 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, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic¹ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹ or universal

SCRIPTURE READING

"Selections from Proverbs"

SERMON

"What Your Words Say About You"

Dr. Timothy Witmer

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Turn back, O man; forswear thy foolish ways”

H. Willan

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE “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.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God of our salvation, we thank you for the opportunity to offer these gifts as expressions of our appreciation for your lovingkindness to us. You have told us that you love the cheerful giver. Please help us to give and to serve joyfully remembering all that you have done for us through our Savior, in whose Name we pray. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN “What Wondrous Love is This?” Hymn #261

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

RECEIVING AND SHARING THE ELEMENTS

*CLOSING HYMN “Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak” Hymn #561

*BENEDICTION (Pastor)

*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*POSTLUDE “O What Their Joy and their Glory Must Be” H.A. Matthews

(Should you be moved to respond to a special musical offering, a hearty "Amen" is recommended)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome Center: Jack & Marilyn Eby

Altar Guild: Mary Beth O'Donnell

Counting Team: Donna Burkholder & Dot Koble

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
November 4, 2018 – 10:30 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

PIANO PRELUDE – *Let us quiet our hearts as we silently prepare to worship*

GATHERING (Congregation seated)
“Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground”

Hymn #518

WELCOME

Dr. Timothy Witmer

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¹ or universal

CHILDREN’S SONG – see insert (Children ages 4-7 may leave for Kingdom Kids)

SCRIPTURE READING “Selections from Proverbs”

SERMON “What Your Words Say About You” Dr. Timothy Witmer

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome Center: Jack & Marilyn Eby

Greeters: Ted & Carol Whitby

Ushers: Tom Frankhouser, Stuart Bossler, Taylor Martin & Josiah Gensler

Altar Guild: Mary Beth O'Donnell

Counting Team: Donna Burkholder & Dot Koble

Church Activities

LADIES BREAKFAST on Saturday, November 10 - Please note the **time change** from 8:30 am to **8:00 am**.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY volunteers are needed for January through April. If you are interested in serving, please contact Faith at 717-408-5220 or ftitus@ststephenpca.org. We will especially have a need for nursery volunteers during the Sunday School and Second Service hours.

TEAM (Together Experiencing A Ministry) is coming on Wednesday, November 7. If you would like to be part of our visitation outreach to shut-ins and new friends, please join us on Wednesday, November 7. There will be two opportunities: 2:30-4:30 PM or 6:30-8:30 PM. In addition to the visitation teams there will also be a prayer team. Please contact the church office if you would like to take part in this new ministry. Ordinarily, this ministry will meet the first Wednesday of each month.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – “It's that time again, to start collecting goodies to fill your shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. You can stop by the church lobby to pick up your shoe boxes! The cost for shipping shoe boxes is \$9, which should either be affixed to the top of your box or placed in the Donation box. **DO NOT** put your shipping money in the shoebox. National Collection Week is **November 12**. No candy or toothpaste please! We filled over 100 shoe boxes last year, let's see if we can top that this year. Be sure to share with friends so they can pack shoe boxes, too!” For more information, you can email Joy Wimer at djwimer@aol.com or go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

OCTOBER CLOTHING BANK – There is still time to donate your clean, gently used coats and jackets, all sizes for the clothing bank here in New Holland. There is a box in the narthex for your convenience. Thank you for caring and sharing in this ministry for our community. The Outreach Committee

25th ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER. St. Stephen will again offer a FREE Community Thanksgiving Day meal for residents in the Eastern Lancaster County area. Monetary contributions are welcome which will be helpful in providing for this meal. Designated envelopes can be found on the table in the narthex and may be placed in the offering plate. If using your weekly church offering

envelope, please be sure to specify “Thanksgiving Dinner” on the envelope. Additional information will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cathy Eby at 717-354-7783.

TREE OF WARMTH will again be in the breezeway to accept your unwrapped gifts of new gloves, scarves, hats, sweaters and socks. These items will be taken to the New Holland Clothing Bank (*King's Closet*).

Thanks again for caring and sharing, The Outreach Committee

CHRISTMAS POINSETTAS - It's time to look ahead to decorating the sanctuary for Christmas and arranging our Poinsettia Tree. If you would like to help again, this year we are taking orders for 6½” pots at \$6.95. The two varieties this year are Red or White Glitter from Frysville Farms Nursery in Ephrata. Order forms (showing pictures of the poinsettias) are included in your bulletin and can also be found in the Gleanings.

There is a bag on the table in the narthex for your forms and money. The last day to order and submit your payment is **Sunday, November 25**. This is a special time to decorate and we would love for you to be part of that. You are encouraged to take your plant home after the Sunday service you attend on December 23th. If you have any questions please contact Viki Eberly (717-929-0212) or Jean Martin (717-354-2204).

SOUP - There are still quarts of chicken corn noodle soup available for \$5 per quart, in the freezer. Please put your money (cash or check) in the cash box.

JUNE 2019 BUS TRIP – for those who have not received the email, there are packets of information in the narthex regarding this trip to determine interest. Please pick-up one and review to determine if you'd like to visit the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. Questions should be directed to Cheryl Weaver (717.354.8704).