

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

6th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 12, 2023

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude on *Cwn Rhondda*

Wilbur Held

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: We look to You, O God in the midst of many pressures.

People: You are the God who loves and supports us.

Liturgist: Answers are hard to find.

People: You are the God who leads us and guides us.

All: Let us worship the Lord who helps us to find answers to our questions.

*HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

No. 127

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: **Dear Lord, we don't expect to be free of troubles in our lives, but sometimes pressures mount and we cannot find solutions on our own. Help us see that there is no better place for guidance and answers than You. We lift our prayer to you. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Daniel 6:25-28

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

No. 881

CHOIR ANTHEM

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Temple/arr. Holstein

MESSAGE

"When the Pressure is On"

Pastor Cody Young

*HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

No. 526

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response *Open My Eyes, That I May See* No. 454 (refrain only - vs 3)

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God thy will to see.

Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Robert Powell

*Congregational Response Tune: "DUKE STREET"

All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to offer thee:

And hence with grateful hearts today, Thine own before thy feet we lay.

*HYMN

Give the Winds Thy Fears

No. 129

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go into this new week remembering that prayer is your main line of defense, not your last resort. "Speak oft with the Lord." In the name of Christ.

All: Amen.

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Voluntary in D

William Croft

*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

The Altar flowers this morning are presented by Ron and Sue Brewer to the Honor and Glory of God.

We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.

Liturgist: Rowena Fink

Sermon Outline:

"When the Pressure is On"
Daniel 6
Pastor Cody Young

Anxiety is becoming a normal part of our everyday lives. We do our best to deal with it, but we're often left paralyzed in the face of great challenges. We often turn inward and try to meet the demands of life using our own strength, but we're left angry, confused, worried. These emotions tend to leave us paralyzed. We're left no better than how we started as we try to figure out which step to take next. The pressure is on, and we have no idea where to begin.

Like many of us, Daniel's life was marked by moments of tremendous pressure. As a young man, his home was conquered. He was taken as a slave into a foreign nation, forced to become a eunuch, and was then subjected to pagan education. Talk about pressure! He lost his home, his freedom, his identity, and his way of life. The plans he made for his life - his dreams, aspirations, and ambitions - were all stripped away from him. I'm sure he asked many times, "What should I do now? What's my next step?"

What makes Daniel's story so unique is that when the pressure is on, he maintains his faith. As a result, he finds favor with both God and man. By the time we reach Chapter 6, Daniel is now in his eighties and serving in high positions of influence under King Darius. But, that doesn't mean the pressures of life are gone. In fact, Daniel had many enemies that conspired against him and sought to destroy him if it was the last thing they would do.

What we see in Daniel 6 is a man who knows that the best next step to take when the pressure is on is to pray. He gets away from the noise and distractions of life, humbles himself before God, makes his requests known, gives thanks, and repeats the process. It's that simple.

We also get to see an example of a man who contrasts Daniel - one who learns the hard way that what we can do in our own strength is nothing compared to the wonder-working power of God. We watch as he comes to the realization that pressure is best dealt with in the hands of our Almighty God.

As we recall Daniel being taken to the lions' den, let us learn that prayer is our first line of defense, not a last resort.



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor
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Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor
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TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Celebration of Faith



When the Pressure Is On

February 12, 2023

6th Sunday after the Epiphany

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042
church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

11:00 - COGS Kids choir [Hall]

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Grades 6-12 please see Youth Page in the Announcements

MONDAY

10-12 - Staff Meeting

6:00 CR Praise Team Rehearsal [WC]

6-8 - Private [Sanctuary]

7:00 - SS Teachers Meeting [Hall]

TUESDAY

6:30 - Book Study [Forge rm]

WEDNESDAY

8:30-11:30 - MLLC [rms 200/202]

7:00 - Celebrate Recovery

7:00 - Traditional Choir Rehearsal [Sanctuary]

THURSDAY

5:00 - Contemporary Design Team

5:30 - Traditional Design Team

6:30 - Book Study [Forge Rm]

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

1-3 - Cricut Class [Hall]

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

4:00 - CR Step Study [Lounge/Choir rm]

Youth Group -

see Youth Page in the Announcements

Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd

We are committed to:

- ▶ Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶ Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶ Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶ Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry

2023 Mission Support

International

Heifer Int., Congo Partners in Mission, Africa University

Lebanon County

COGS in Motion, Gretna Glen Support, Habitat for Humanity, Celebrate Recovery, Iglesia Nuevo Nacimiento, Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM), Jubilee Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Mission, COGS Care and Compassion Fund.