

Frostburg United Methodist Church
Sunday, January 1, 2012 New Year's Sunday
Greeters: Paula and Phil Beeman
Lay Reader: Jay Stevens

Words of Welcome and Announcements

A TIME OF PREPARATION

Prelude *"For Unto Us a Child is Born"* G. F. Handel

*Call to Worship and Prayer:

One: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.

All In him was life, and the life was light for humanity.

One: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

All: Let us come to the light!

*Praise Hymn *"Joy to the World"* UMH 246

Ritual of Friendship (Please greet others at this time)

Prayer of Confession

God of grace and power, you come to us in surprising ways with startling messages. You call us to live in renewed ways, performing unexpected tasks. We confess that we do not always welcome your surprises or greet with your unexpected intercession. We prefer the familiar, the comfortable, the usual. For our resistance to your birth, for attempts to ignore your truth because we prefer the lies of the world, for our desire to create you in our image rather than to give ourselves to your new creation, forgive us. Bring to birth in us new openness to your unexpected presence and your surprising direction. Let us, with Joseph and Mary, give ourselves to your purpose for Christ's sake. Amen.

Prayers of Joy and Concern

The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem *"Fit For a King"* Joseph M. Martin

Scripture Readings Psalms 39:4-12; Ephesians 5:15-17; Colossians 3:1-17

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Sermon "Priorities and Commitments for the New Year" Brian Griffin

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Response *"Love Came Down at Christmas"* UMH 242

Offering *"A New Year Prayer"* S. Scott

*Doxology UMH 95

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Anna Crowe

Lord Jesus, you were born a tender babe and have remained unchanged throughout time, still as tender today as the day Mary bore you. You have become the bringer of blessings, you who are a blessing. You are the Bright Star, you who was born beneath a bright star. You are the Savior of the world, you who created the world. Jesus, oh holy child of Bethlehem, accept these meager gifts we lay before you. You, who came to give to us, let us give to you. Bless these gifts as we bless your birth. Amen.

SENT FORTH TO DO THE WORK OF GOD'S KINGDOM

*Challenge Hymn *"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"* UMH 251

*Benediction

One: Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you. Amen.**

Postlude *"O Thou That Tellest"* G.F. Handel

*Please stand with your posture or your heart.

*UMH - United Methodist Hymnal *FWS - Faith We Sing Hymnal

WELCOME!

We welcome all visitors this morning and ask you to fill out a yellow card and place it in the offering plate. For all attendees - please sign the Ritual of Friendship sheets located in the red folders in the pews. Please give signed sheets to the ushers during the offering.

THANK YOU!

Special thanks to Brian Griffin for speaking at today's worship service.

"UNDECORATING THE CHURCH"

We will "undecorate" the church on Sunday, January 15th, after worship service. If you can help, it will be appreciated!

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2012

Parish nurses are taking blood pressure readings after Worship in the Office Meeting Room
10:30 Worship

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2012

Church office and BRIDGE Closed

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2011

6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir