

**First United Methodist Church**

**Pastor Chris Hardy**

**NEW YEAR  
NEW ME**

**STARTING THE YEAR OFF RIGHT**

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**

**January 6, 2019**  
**Communion Sunday**  
**Sermon Series: A New Me**  
**Worship 11:00**

**Greeting & Announcements**

**Gathering Meditation**

"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

– 2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT

**Prelude & Lighting of the Candles**

*God of life, come to us now. Still our minds and our hearts that we may hear your Word. Amen.*

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;

**People: I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.**

Leader: I will be glad and exult in you;

**People: I will sing praise to your name, O Most High!**

**\*Hymn**

"Spirit of the Living God"

#393

**\*Opening Prayer**

**O God, whose love like rolling ocean waves is never ceasing, yet ever refreshing, wash us in the clear, calm waters of your mercy and grace so that we may be made new, clean, and bathed in the tides of your forgiveness. Through Christ in whom we are refreshed. Amen.**

**Children's Message**

Pastor Chris

**† Coins for Kids**

**A Time of Prayer – Sharing our Joys & Concerns**

**\*Hymn**

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

#402

**Reading of Holy Scripture**

Proverbs 15:1-4 (NLT)

**Message**

"Speak Life"

Pastor Chris

## **Invitation**

We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves about who we are, about the mistakes we make, and about how well or how poorly we care for others. In this spirit, let us offer our prayers to God.

## **Confession and Pardon**

**Renewing God, trusting in your infinite grace, we confess that we need your healing and your forgiveness. For all that is broken in our minds and bodies, we ask for healing. For all that is amiss in our choices and our relationships, we ask for forgiveness. For all that works against life and blessing in our hearts, and in the world, we open ourselves to your transforming grace. Heal us, forgive us, and make us new. Amen.**

(all pray in silence)

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

## **\*Passing of the Peace**

## **Giving of our Tithes and Offerings**

### **Offertory**

**\*Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #95

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Jesus gave himself for us, God. We'll never equal that with our gifts. Our gifts will never pay you back, but they can say, "Thank you, God." And as we give our lives for others, we let you know that we understand. So, accept our gifts, God of grace, and use our lives however you choose. In His name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Communion Hymn** "Freely, Freely" #389

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### **†Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Hymn	"Amazing Grace"	#378
Hymn	"Blessed Assurance"	#369

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Fill us with your Spirit so we may live according to your love. Grant that we may go into the world and share your grace with others as we speak life to others. In the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*Hymn** "God Be with You till We Meet Again" #672

### **\*Postlude**

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\*Please stand if you are able

†Each Sunday our children will be accepting coin donations that will benefit a ministry or project of their choosing.

✠A second offering will be received benefiting the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

†Communion will be served by intinction. The United Methodist Church celebrates an open table and all are welcome to receive God's gift of grace.

**Gentle words are a  
tree of life;  
a deceitful tongue  
crushes the spirit.**



Today's bulletins are sponsored by Dale & Mary Jo Edén  
in honor of Dorothy S. Hocking's 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday

## **Backpack Buddies**

Partnering with Slater Family Network

“Backpack Buddies” is a weekend feeding program for children. On Fridays, needy children in the Bangor School District will receive food donations to take home for themselves and their families for the weekend.

Currently, Second Harvest Food Bank (Allentown) provides the food “staples” for the program. However, there is a lack of donations in the area of snacks and treats. The children are basically provided with the “same old, same old” on a weekly basis. That is where we come in.

We’ll be collecting snacks and treats that do not require preparation, or only require minimal preparation, and are not perishable or require refrigeration.

Some examples of these items are as follows:

- Microwavable, single-serve macaroni and cheese
- Snack packs – pudding, Jell-O, fruit cups, applesauce
- Cereal
- SpaghettiOs
- Chicken noodle soup
- Fruit Roll-Ups
- Granola, Cereal or Fruit bars
- Lance Sandwich Crackers
- Ritz Crackers ‘n’ Cheese Dip
- Pringles chips

Just because it isn’t on this list doesn’t mean that you can’t donate it – so long as it fits the criteria.

Thank you for supporting this ministry as we share the love of Christ with the children in Bangor. God bless you.

Welcome! Thank you for worshipping with us today.

It is our pleasure that you have shared this experience with us. If you are without a church home, we would be delighted to have you as a part of our Church family. Pastor Chris would be happy to speak with you. God bless you and please come again.

Additional parking is available at Merchants Bank, 303 Penn. Ave., on Sundays and non-banking hours.

### **First United Methodist Church**

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### **Pastor Chris Hardy**

Cell Phone: 570-239-3898

Email: [pastorchrishardy@gmail.com](mailto:pastorchrishardy@gmail.com)

### **Church Office Hours**

Nancy Plowman, Secretary

Tuesday - 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### **First United Methodist Church Thrift Store**

38 Broadway, Bangor, PA 18013

Telephone: (610) 599-6924

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### **Today's Worship Leaders**

**Liturgist:** Carolyn Shaplin

**Organist:** Karen Skorochod

#### **Next Week's Worship Leaders**

**Liturgist:** Kelly Rak

**Lay Leader:** Cheryl Hower