

**Epiphany Sunday  
January 7, 2018**

**SILENT MEDITATION**

“The face is the mirror of the mind, and eyes without speaking confess the secrets of the heart.” St. Jerome

**GREETINGS AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

(Please sign Attendance Pad)

**PRELUDE** *Te Deum* M.A. Charpentier

**INTROIT** *Our Song Shall Rise to Thee* L. Larson

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Mary Walker

Leader: Arise, people of God! The light has come; it shines around us, within us, and without us.

**People: In the gloom of winter we seek out the light of Christ; we yearn for God’s radiance and warmth.**

Leader: Gather, people of God! Come to encounter the Holy Mystery of God-with-us.

**People: As the wise men journeyed from afar, so have we come to pay homage to the Christ child.**

Leader: Give thanks, people of God! Let us be servants of the gospel, sharers in the promise of Christ.

**People: Through Christ, we have access to God; let us be bold in our worship!**

+\*HYMN #151 *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

+\*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Source of salvation and Bringer of light, we fail to sense the mystery of your love. We bear grudges against our neighbors, while it is your nature to forgive. We hold tightly to our possessions, while Christ blesses the poor. In him you have spoken peace, yet we live in turmoil. We care little for this planet, which you in goodness created for our habitation. In mercy forgive us, and help us to amend our ways. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

The mystery of God's love is illumined by the light of Jesus Christ. Forgiveness abounds! Glory be to God!

**CHILDREN’S CHAT**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**2018 Pledge Envelopes:** The 2018 contribution envelopes have been placed on a table in the Library and are available for pick up. If you would like envelopes and do not see a box with your name on it, please contact Jan Fritzsche at 440-885-2652 between the hours of 1:00-5:00 any weekday except Thursday. She will be glad to prepare one for you.

**Cub Scout Pack 263 presents "A Night in Italy"** Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – Saturday January 13, 2018 5-8pm, Parma South Gym. Tickets will be available in the office for any parishioners who would like to attend the dinner. Adults \$12.00, Kids \$6.00, children 3 and under free.

**Homeless Stand Down:** Saturday, January 20th is the 2018 Homeless Stand Down. For the past two years Parma-South has sent volunteers to welcome and register the guests. We are putting a team together once again. If you are interested please see Susan Rhee for the details. Our Mission Committee also gives \$1,000 for boots, a large need during the winter months.

**Youth Pasta Luncheon:** Please join us in the Dining Room for an all-church Rigatoni Lunch on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, right after Worship. Cost is \$7, which includes pasta, salad, bread and dessert. Proceeds will help to pay for our Youth attending NWMC this summer.

**Coffee with “The Word”**

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, January 20 to attend Coffee with “The Word” from 11AM – 1PM. Fran Marvel will give a testimony referring to Philippians 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again. Rejoice.”

**2018 Annual Meeting:** After January 1st the push will begin for compiling the Annual Report to be presented at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 25th. Please don’t wait until the last minute to get reports written and into the office. Reports are due January 29th.

**Vacation:** Jan Fritzsche will be on vacation until Monday, January 8th.

**Poverty Workshop:** Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00AM – 2:30PM. This training session provides insight and deeper understanding of the challenges that come with living in poverty.

**Welcome:** Please welcome our new Office Administrator, Karen Hildreth. Karen will be in the office Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Her email address is: officeadmin@parma-south.org. Please stop in and introduce yourself to her!

**CALENDAR OF THE WEEK**

**Sunday, January 7 Communion Sunday**

10:00 AM – Worship Service  
11:00 AM – JuBELLation Choir – Bell Room  
11:15 AM – Life Group – Parlor

**Monday, January 8**

9:30 AM – Senior Exercise Class – Library  
10:30 AM – Deborah Circle – Parlor  
7:00 PM – Life Group – Parlor  
7:00 PM – Mission Committee

**Tuesday, January 9**

8:30 AM – Men’s Bowling – Rollhouse Parma Bowling  
10:00 AM – Historical Society Archiving – Multi-Purpose Room

**Wednesday, January 10**

9:30 AM – Senior Exercise Class – Library  
10:30 AM – Al-Anon – Multi-Purpose Room

**Thursday, January 11**

8:30 AM – Men’s Bowling – Rollhouse Parma Bowling  
6:00 PM – Carillon Choir – Bell Room  
7:00 PM – Chancel Choir – Sanctuary

**Sunday, January 14**

10:00 AM - Worship Service  
11:00 AM – JuBELLation Choir – Bell Room  
11:00 AM – Youth Pasta Luncheon – Dining Room  
11:15 AM – Life Group – Parlor  
1:30 PM – Renewal Retreat

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Memorial Carillon is played this week in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Earl C. Gibbs Marilyn Weiss**

**Chancel Flowers are placed in Loving Memory of John Stone by Lois Stone**

*Grant & Elda Tresise by Don & Linda Tresise*

*Our deceased Parma-South Senior Bowlers by Tuesday/Thursday Bowlers*

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Offering Sentence

Offertory *Star-Led and Wonder Bound* M.K. Beall

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

**SCRIPTURE READING** Ephesians 3:1-13 N.T. page 193

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** "And the Secret is..."

\***HYMN** #531 *Seed, Scattered and Sown*

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Invitation to the Table

Communion Litany

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**The Words of Institution and Reception of Elements**

\***HYMN** #152 *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright*

\***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*God Be with You Till We Meet Again* GTG #542

God be with you till we meet again

Loving counsels guide, uphold you

With a shepherd's care enfold you;

God be with you till we meet again.

**POSTLUDE** *Concerto Pour Deux Voix* Saint-Preux

\*\*\*\*\*

**Today's Ushers:** Ann Kasner, Carol Werner, Kathy Zietlow,  
Glenn Hess

**"I'VE GOT A SECRET"**

January 7, 2018 Ephesians 3:1-13

**Life Group Study Guide**

**Notes from Worship Service**

1. The secret is God wants to gather all people into the fellowship of his love.
2. Through Jesus, it dawns on Paul that God's love and grace is not just for a small, select ethnic group living in the Middle East. God is creating a new colorful family.
3. The good news for us is this secret plan is God's work. It is his show and we have been invited to be part of it.
4. Through our fellowship with Jesus we have access to God and boldly, not arrogantly, but boldly with confident faith enter into God's presence through prayer.
5. As enter this New Year, some great resolutions for us would be; to know God deeper, to share the grace of God's love broader and to reflect the great fellowship of the household of God wider.

**Life Group Homework**

1. What insight, principle or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.
2. Is it good to keep secrets? Explain your answer.
3. How do you define inspiration? Where does it come from?
4. Why do you think God waited so long to make His plan known for grace to all?
5. How does the church embody or reflect the "rich variety" of Christ's fellowship? How might we do it better?

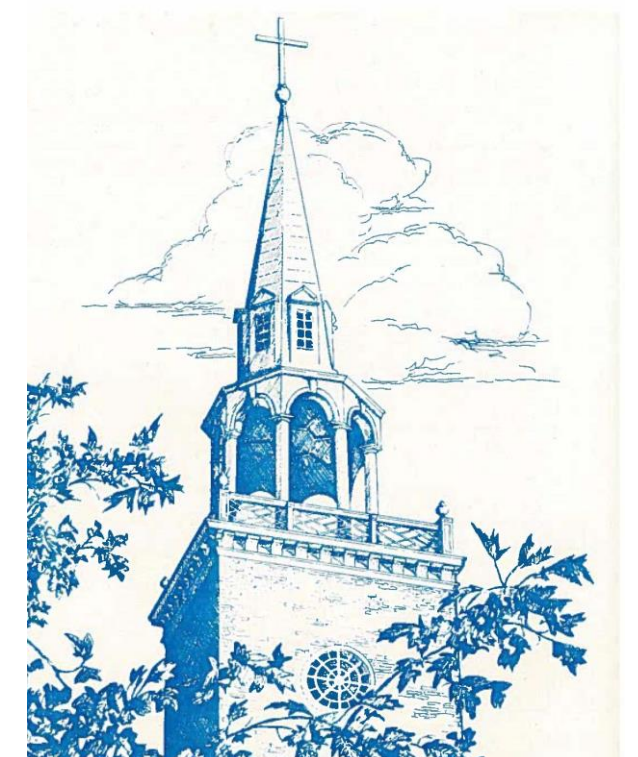
**Read Ephesians 3:1-13**

6. In what ways is Christ calling you to share the "secret"?

**Life Practice – Draw a picture this week of what the "good news" looks like to you. Share it with your Life Group.**

**Parma-South  
Presbyterian Church**

*Changing lives through Christ*



**January 7, 2018  
Epiphany Sunday**

\*Those who are able, please stand  
+Appropriate time for the Ushers to seat latecomers

**2018 Theme Verse**

“But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” – Isaiah 40:31

**Parma-South Presbyterian Church**

**6155 Pearl Road**

**Parma Heights, OH 44130**

**440-885-2652**

**[www.parma-south.org](http://www.parma-south.org)**