

Faith United Church of Christ

*“An inclusive spiritual family shaping a better you for creating a better world.
A place to make a difference.”*

May 13, 2018

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

We are delighted that you are here today! We hope you will find us an affirming, uplifting, and committed family of faith. Here we work to make everyone, without any exceptions, to feel accepted, inspired, and encouraged in their spiritual journey. In dialogue, we seek to understand. In encouragement, we seek to heal. In all things we yearn to live by love, for peace, with joy. This is a place where your intellect will be challenged, your heart will be nurtured, and your spirit refreshed. Varying beliefs are expressed openly and freely, and your doubts will not be suppressed. We trust that we are all, every person and part of creation, continuing to be blessed by God’s grace; and that in community we can help each other to see this grace alive in our lives and relationships. We hope to share our gifts with you, even as we pray that you will want to share your gifts with us. Whoever you are and wherever you may be in your life’s journey, we invite you to be a part of our lives and our spiritual home. Welcome!

CALLED TOGETHER AS SPIRITUAL FAMILY

Welcome and Announcements

*Please sign the registration pads at the ends of the pews on the center aisle.
We ask that you please shut off cell phones and practice quietness during the service.
Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the worship
in Romig Hall (lower level of elevator or stairs).*

** = You are invited to stand as you are able*

Prelude

Prelude in D Minor

J. S. Bach

Welcoming the Light of Love in Our Midst *(acolytes light altar candles)*

We prepare ourselves for communing with the sacred as love’s light is brought into our awareness. The light of love burns within and among each of us, and we carry that light into our sanctuary; visually reminding us of the image of the divine that lives in our hearts, minds, and souls – and that we nourish through our faith-filled fellowship.

Affirming God’s Presence in Us All

“You Matter!”

Sharing Christ’s Peace

As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, greet and welcome those around you and share “the peace of Christ.”

***Centering Our Souls**

Spirit of Mystery, Lover of our Souls: We are grateful for your wisdom in our lives, and for your presence which offers us peace.

We are honored that you have called us to be witnesses to Christ's resurrection: as it was in Jesus, his disciples, and now us.

When we see ourselves as equals in your Beloved Community, and value this above our own sense of superiority or inferiority in our earthly societies, we come to live as your children.

Lead us to speak your speech, practice your ways, and live by your values: at home, at church, in our workplaces and places of learning, in our systems of justice, at play, and with all whom we meet along our life's path.

Teach us to live in trust of you and the virtues by which you are known.

For it is by living in trust that we discover grace.

Inspire us to be persevering in tough times, and joyful in glad times.

For blessings that are too often hidden from our view, remind us to be grateful.

For hope that turns into the joy of achievement, help us to be thankful.

In all things, grant us peace – peace of spirit, and peace of mind, in following in your ways.

Empower us in being more loving and compassionate, just and equitable.

For in doing these things, we are your witnesses to resurrection. May it be so, now and always.

Our Stories of Random Acts of Kindness & Intentional Deeds of Compassion

WE LISTEN FOR THE SACRED IN THE MIDST OF OUR LIVES

Choral Anthem There Is Much in the World by Carson P. Cooman

A Time for All God's Children

Prayers

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Silent Meditation: The Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer "Prayer from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer"

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. May it be so.

***Hymn for Trust in God**

“God of Our Life”

#366

Scripture Lesson

Acts 1.12-17, 21-26

II Timothy 1.8-14

Message

“Witnesses to Resurrection, and the Importance of Trust”

***Hymn for Trust in Love**

“God Our Author and Creator”

#530

**WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD’S SERVICE
THROUGH FAITHFULNESS**

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Organ Improvisation

****Song of Dedication***

Tune: Old Hundredth

Our Easter joy triumphant rings! Our resurrection hope does spring!

Christ’s love and peace will ever rise, when we see through forgiving eyes!

****Unison Prayer of Dedication***

We are a resurrection people! By rising with hope, we overcome apathy. By rising with courage, we overcome fear. By rising with joy, we overcome dejection. By rising with faith, we overcome powerlessness. By rising with perseverance, we overcome pain. By rising with forgiveness, we overcome anger. By rising with kindness, we overcome cruelty. By rising with generosity, we overcome poverty. By rising with Christ, we overcome death. May the tithes, gifts, and offerings we share empty the crosses and open the tombs of our own and others’ lives. May we be beautiful like blossoming lilies, and graceful like fluttering butterflies, that we may rise with love for all and proclaim peace forever. Blessings be.

***Encouragement for the Journey**

Postlude

Voluntary in D Major

W. Selby

***The Light of Love Goes into the World**

Love's light is not extinguished from our worship, but is transferred from the flame of the candles to the passion in our hearts that we may go forth to let the light of love shine through us as we go to serve in the world!

**WE GO FORTH AS PEACEMAKERS
TO CREATE JUSTICE FOR ALL**

*Our worship is fulfilled, and our purpose is confirmed,
through our service as God's stewards to the world and all creation.*

*Use the blessings God has given you as you share
the joy in your heart, the wisdom in your mind,
the love in your spirit, and the peace in your soul.*

Thank you for sharing sacred fellowship with us.

Faith UCC is an open and affirming church, embracing diversity in our congregation and community, and affirming the dignity and worth of every person. We are an inclusive community of faith that celebrates God's presence through worship and the sharing of God's word. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of the church, regardless of race, ethnic background, gender identity, sexual orientation, capability, or circumstance of life.

Our Ministry

Ministers — All the Congregation	Interim Pastor — Rev. Bret Myers
Trustee — Tom Daubert	Ushers — Tom Daubert
Acolyte —	Nursery —
Liturgist —	Fellowship — Jean Cole

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier	Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman
Organist—Mark Ferraguto	Choir Director — Mike Dolan
	Administrative Assistant — Jeff Stormer

The liturgies for this morning's worship, along with the Song of Dedication, were written by Rev. Bret S. Myers except where otherwise noted.

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

Susie Keck, Joann Edwards, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Carlton Miller, Bob Ritzman, Lisa B. (JoAnn's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Bunnie Hartswick, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee's Dad), the Piggot family, Robert Zupp (Eileen Pfaff's nephew), the Snook family.



Welcome to all first-time (and returning) guests to Faith UCC! We would like to get to know you and for you to get to know us. Join us after worship for coffee and **conversation**.

There is free parking on Sundays at the meters and at the McAllister & Pugh Street parking garages – so, we hope you'll worship with us again next Sunday!

Electronic Giving Options: During the offering time in the service, you may place your offerings on the plates the ushers will bring around. If you prefer to give electronically simply **scan the QR code** with your smartphone to be directed to our online donation page.



May Special Offering

Hartman Center (<https://www.hartmancenter.com/>) is the Outdoor Ministries facility owned by Penn Central Conference of the United Church of Christ since 1964. Programming includes retreats, conferences, workshops, dinner meetings, summer camps, and other events. Hartman Center is located about 20 miles southeast of State College on old Rte. 322 in Milroy PA.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and financial donation.



- **May 15** **Ramadan begins**
- **May 20** **Pentecost**
- **May 24** **Consistory Meeting**
- **May 27** **Trinity Sunday**

Get In Touch with Us!

Faith United Church of Christ 300 E. College Avenue State College, PA 16801
Tel: (814) 237-3904 Websites: www.faihucc.info [facebook.com/SCFaithUCC](https://www.facebook.com/SCFaithUCC)
Church Office Email: faihucc@comcast.net Pastor's Email: revbmyers@yahoo.com

Church Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays
Pastor Bret's Office Hours: Tuesday 5-8 p.m., Wednesday 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday 2-4 p.m.
or other hours by appointment.

Appointments are recommended so as to give you the time you need without interruptions. You may call the church office, or his cell at 608-370-9472, or email him at revbmyers@yahoo.com.