

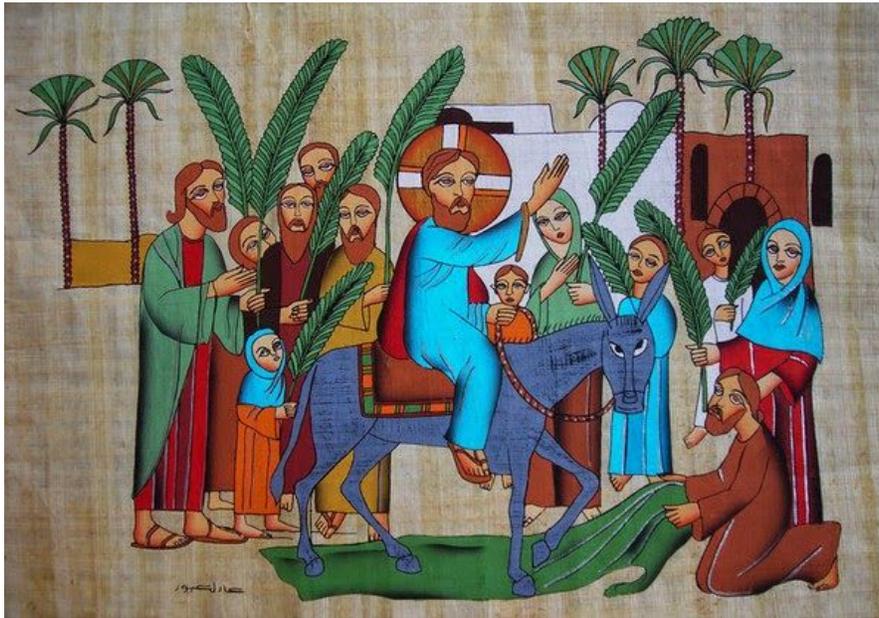
Faith United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

No Matter who you are, or where you are in life's journey,
You are welcome here!

April 14, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM



The Triumphal Entry, Unknown Egyptian Artist.
Gouache on papyrus. 25 x 34 cm.

*stand as you are able

Prelude

Toccata in C Major

J. Pachelbel

Pastoral Welcome

Come to me, all of you who are weary, and I will give you rest. - Jesus

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Give thanks!

God's love is constant and devoted to us.

People: Let us say over and over:

God's hope is unfailing in caring for us.

L: Give thanks, O give thanks!
Justice is the gate God opens to all.

P: Let us say over and over:

God hears the cries of those who are forgotten.

Give thanks, O give thanks, people of God!
God comes to bring us new life.

Let us say this over and over:

**God takes the stone tossed aside by us
to build the foundation of salvation.**

***Opening Hymn**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

213

Text: Jeanette Threlfall, 1873 Tune: ELLACOME

1 "Hosanna, loud hosanna,"
the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the lovely anthem rang;
To Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed
amid a cheering crowd,
the victor palm branch waving,
and chanting clear and loud.

The one whom angels worship
rode on in lowly state,
and glad to see the children,
slowed down the donkey's gait.

3 "Hosanna in the highest!"
That ancient song is ours,
We hail our great Redeemer
and sing with all our powers;
"Hosanna, Christ, we praise you
with heart and life and voice.
Hosanna! In your presence
forever we'll rejoice!"

***Call to Confession**

God of all times and places, we confess that we would rather join the crowds than stand alone. We prefer the popular point of view to a solitary witness for justice and truth. We like safety and security while shrinking from the risk of involvement. We'll sing "hosanna" when everyone else is doing so—but not when the hostile "Good Friday" forces may hear us. We do not like to admit our lukewarm response to you, but neither do we want to be considered fanatics.

We believe Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. We know that means us, not just other folk involved in obvious evils everyone knows about. We ask you to be patient with us, to help us understand our own guilt. Then pour

out your forgiveness in such a way that we are forever transformed. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Moment of silence

***Assurance of God's Grace**

Thanks be to God!

***Sung Response**

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call

an-swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me. O

***Sharing Christ's Peace**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

(As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another greet and welcome those around you and share "the peace of Christ." If you feel more comfortable you are welcome to place your hands on your heart as you greet those around you. This may be a good option for you if you have social anxiety or are more introverted, this is a symbol of goodwill that you may be more comfortable with. Sharing God's peace can be done in many ways!)

A Time for All God's Children

Following the Children's message, the nursery is available for infants and toddlers under 4 years old. The nursery is located through the door at the right front of the sanctuary, and up the stairs. Church school is available for children and youth (4+ years) in Asendorf Hall (3rd floor). Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service.

Reading of Scripture

Psalm 118:22-26

Luke 19:28-40

L: A word from the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Anthem "Hosanna in the Highest" by David W. Music
Percussion: Joe Greeby

Sermon: Enormous Expectations

***Hymn** Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant? **#539**
Text: Richard Gillard, 1977 Tune: SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham

1 Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to god in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

6 Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

Reception of New Members

Pastor: As I call your name, new members and sponsors, will you please rise and come forward with a candle representing the light that is in you? We ask you leave this candle on the communion table as a symbol of your willingness to bring what lights you up into our community, so that you may share it generously with us. Stand, and enter into the heart of all things.

Church, we want to introduce you to your new siblings in Christ at Faith UCC.

Just like from our Sacred Stories, we have here: doubting and faithing people, raised UCC and Methodist and Lutheran and Pentecostal, and with varying connections to faith. Faith, like our lives, has had different meanings to each one of these people at different times in their life. We know that here in this place faith will take on different forms, too. That is what it means to have a living and active faith.

Today we make a covenant, one with another. New members, you make promises to us, before God, so that we know that we can count on you. And we make promises to you, before God, so that you know that you can depend on us through good times and hard times. You have a church and a people. So now we ask you:

Promises from the New Members

Pastor: Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ? If so, please say, "I do."

New Member: I do.

P: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in your faith, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's work in all the world? If so, please say, "I promise, with the help of God."

NM: I promise, with the help of God.

P: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of this local church as it serves this community and the world? If so, please say, "I promise, with the help of God."

NM: I promise, with the help of God.

Promise from The Church

Pastor: Will the members of Faith UCC please rise: Do you promise to help these gathered find their place in the body of Christ, to pray with and for them, to welcome them fully in holy friendship, to be angels for them in times of distress and servants to them in times of need? If so, please answer, "We promise, with the help of God."

Congregation: We promise, with the help of God.

Welcome

P: Let us, the members of Faith United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

C: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of the Christ who is alive and well and at work in the world.

P: You've brought your light to us, we don't leave you empty-handed. Your sponsors give you a small stone as a symbol of your belonging. You are encouraged to keep this stone with you through good times and hard times, and lots of everyday times. Feel your stone in your pocket, and know that you have siblings in the faith praying for you. You are not alone.

Blessing: Loving God, give to these your children strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the comfort of faith, love that cannot die, laughter in the company of friends, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

Let us welcome our new members with a joyous welcome!

Prayers of the People

We invite people to share their joys and/or concerns out loud so we can be praying for each other. We believe that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer.

After each expression, please end your prayer by saying *This is my prayer* and the people may respond: *God, hear our prayer.*

In the strength of the unity of our faith, we pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us....

Lord's Prayer

Ever-loving God, 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Organ Improvisation

*Doxology

P: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn

The Trees of the Field

see Insert HPP # 219

*Benediction

Closing Meditation

Sortie in F Major

C. Franck

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.



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.



April Special Offering



Hoffman Homes for Youth serves boys and girls ages 6 to 18 with mental health diagnoses by providing behavioral and cognitive therapy, physical health care services, education, spiritual nurturing and a safe and comfortable home for up to 141 children. Make checks payable to Faith UCC with "Hoffman Homes" noted in the memo line. More at: <http://hoffmanhomes.com/>

Calendar items are listed in the Announcements.

If you'd like a large print bulletin or earphones for hearing assistance, please speak with an usher.

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 Pastor — Rev. Jes Kast
Usher — Tom Daubert Trustee — Tom Daubert
Liturgist — Sue Cromwell Fellowship — June Irvin

Church Staff

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

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Jane Sheckells, the family of Allen Killpatrick, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Darlene Ripka, the Piggot family.

Please help us keep this list up to date. Notify the office of additions or removals.

*O Lord
Hear our prayers*

Get In Touch with Us!

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Church Office Email: faithuccsc@gmail.com

Pastor email: PastorJesFaithUCC@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: 9:30 AM– 1:30 PM Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Pastor Jes' office hours: 9-5 M-Th. Pastor also values community engagement. Please contact the office ahead of visits.