

Faith United Church of Christ

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

October 14, 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

Gavotte

S. Wesley

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**

Creator God, you have created us to be loving, but too often we see those who are unloving.

You made us to be people of peace, but we continue to do violence to one another with both words and wars.

You created us to live in harmony, but we often forget that harmony does not exist within justice for all rather than justice only for our own.

Remind us of truths we need to hear to protect your peoples who we see unlike ourselves.

Grant us courage to be the advocates for the oppressed when we'd rather be complacent.

Invite us into relationship with “the least of these” that we might hear their stories and have our hearts opened by their experiences.

When we feel dejected, powerless, and depressed, turn our attentions to what we can do for good, and let us leave the outcomes up to you.

Teach us to live with conviction in times of mystery, and with faith in times of peril. 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

A Time for All God's Children

Prayers

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Silent Meditation: The Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer: “Poetic Prayer in the Spirit of Christ”

Loving Spirit, who is here and there,
we're grateful for your tender care.

Your virtues rise, your values prized;
near and far, and everywhere.

Feed our bodies, and feed our souls.

And by forgiveness make us whole.

And may we all evils deplore,

as we search and sail for mercy's shore.
May peace and love within us rule,
and justice be your Spirit's tool;
Now and always, for us and others,
and for all creation.
May we make it so, all as one,
by your inspiration.

***Hymn of Suffering and Struggle** "O God, My God" **#515**

Scripture Lesson Psalm 22.1-2, 7-11, 14-15

Message "Unanswered Prayers: When Hearts Are Melted"

***Hymn for Life amidst Death** "Lead Us from Death to Life" **#581**

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

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

"Generosity arises from gratitude like heat arises from fire.

Like fire, gratitude is lovely to see;

*but when it warms others with generosity,
that is when it becomes a true blessing."*

Offertory Organ Improvisation

***Song of Dedication**

Tune: Old Hundredth; p. 7

The light of love does shine most bright when all are siblings in our sight;

We are one fam'ly on this earth; we are God's children from our birth.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Spirit of Boldness and Generosity: You entice us to expand our minds, open our hearts, and wrap within our arms those whom it is easier to exclude from our compassion. You provoke us to not ignore those whose circumstances have left them desperate, impoverished, unhealthy, and weak. Recognizing our own abundance, we give of what has been given to us. We seek to share out of our soul's desire to be a blessing to those who would be stunned to receive. Let these gifts nourish the hope and faith of those who need to feel loved and appreciated. And may our own act of giving feed our satisfaction in living as you have called us to do. May it be so.

***Encouragement for the Journey**

When life brings you loss, sadness, or suffering, may the hope within you rise like a cool, refreshing stream. When circumstances are disillusioning, painful, or despairing, may the faith by which you sail be persevering and bring you back safely to the harbor of peace. In all your life, remember that you are born to give wings to love. Be thankful for the love you have received, and be generous in the love that you give. May your life be laced with grace.

-- Rev. Bret S. Myers, 11/2/2017

Postlude

Fantasia in C Major

G. P. Telemann

***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.



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.



October Special Offering

Neighbors in Need (UCC) (<http://www.ucc.org/nin/>)

is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM).

Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries(JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.



- **Oct 14 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
- **Oct 15 Consistory 5:30**
- **Oct 17 Trustees 7**
- **Oct 21 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
CROP Walk**

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: faihucc@comcast.net

Pastor: 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.

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

Trustee — Tom Daubert

Fellowship — June Irvin

Interim Pastor — Rev. Bret Myers

Ushers — Tom Daubert

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier

Organist—Mark Ferraguto

Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman

Choir Director — Marinda Jenkins

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:

The family of Cyndy Engle (Marilyn's daughter-in-law), Jo Ann Edwards, K. Thompson, Ben and Louise Harris, Jane Sheckells, Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Susie Keck, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee's Dad), the Piggot's family. Please help us keep this list up to date. Notify the office of additions or removals.

Flowers courtesy of
Tom Daubert

