

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!

September 15, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

14th Sunday After Pentecost



*stand as you are able

Prelude Fugue in D Minor

C. P. E. Bach

Pastoral Welcome

This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We gather this day from a week filled with needs and demands.

We come to find rest and renewal of our spirits.

We open our hearts in love to hear the voice of God.

We want to quietly rest in God's presence, free from the clamor of the world.

We know there are many things that need our attention;

Grocery lists, bills, justices to correct, food to cook, and questions in our hearts.

But we pause from the demands to seek you, God, to be still.

Fill our lives with your presence and give our daily tasks meaning with your love.

***Opening Hymn**

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

Text: 77 77 77; Lyra Eucharistica, 1864; Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872; adapt. by William H. Monk, 1823–1899.

1. For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to you we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to you we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r,
Sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to you we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

4. For your Church, that evermore
Lifts its holy hands above,
Off'ring up on ev'ry shore
A pure sacrifice of love:
Lord of all, to you we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

3. For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above;

5. For Yourself, O Gift Divine
To our world so freely giv'n,
For that love from which will shine,
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:
Lord of all, to you we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

***Prayer of Confession**

We have been created for goodness by you, Artist of all things, but we continue to be filled with bitterness. Your Word would enable us to speak of joy to others, but we offer only judgment. The Spirit which breathes hope into us could be shared with everyone we meet, but we are tempted to hold our breath until we turn blue, rather than giving peace to those around us.

But you have said that everything created is good, God of wonder and grace. With the Spirit as our sister, we know we can bring healing and hope to those who need it most. With your Word, Jesus Christ, as our brother, we know we can tell others of your mercy and of our love for them in every moment.

Moment of Silence for Personal Reflection

***Promise of New Life**

By God's grace, our chaotic choices become creative grace for others; our busyness can be transformed by God's goodness; our lives can become new by the Spirit of our God.

P: The good news is as true as it was on creation's first morning: Creator God is the redeeming Word who is the Breath of life for all people, even us. Thanks be to God for forgiveness and grace in our lives. Amen.

***Sung Response**

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

***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

Genesis 1:27-2:2

Psalms 46:1-11

L: A word from the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Anthem Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord by Marty Hagen
Flautist: Maria Guglielmina

Sermon **Be Still**

1 Help us accept each other
As Christ accepted us;
Teach us as sister, brother,
Each person to embrace.
Be present, God, among us,
And bring us to believe
We are ourselves accepted
And meant to love land live.

3 Let your acceptance change us,
So that we may be moved
In living situations
To do the truth in love;
To practice your acceptance,
Until we know by heart
The table of forgiveness
And laughter's healing art.

2 Teach us, O God, your lessons,
As in our daily life
We struggle to be human
And search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people
For all, not just for some,
To love them as we find them,
Or as they may become.

4 God, for today's encounters
With all who are in need,
Who hunger for acceptance,
For righteousness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for seeing,
New hands for holding on;
Renew us with your Spirit;
God! Free us, make us one

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.*

The 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.

Offertory

Offering

***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**

We offer our time, talent, and treasures to be part of the movement of God's love. No matter how small or large, these gifts matter. Bless them to bring justice and to offer mercy as a light of guidance in a world in need of hope. Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

All Things Bright and Beautiful

#31

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; Tune: ROYAL OAK, English Melody, adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915

Rf

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
our dear God made them all.

2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky. **Rf**

1 Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
and made their tiny wings. **Rf**

3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them every one. **Rf**

***Blessing**

Postlude

Finale from Organ Sonata No. 2 in D Major

C. P. E. Bach

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.



September Special Offering Park Forest PreSchool



is dedicated to providing low income families with a comprehensive preschool program that includes education, social skills, and developmental motor skills taught by qualified teachers in a friendly, safe environment.

The preschool continues their mission of assisting at-risk children to grow and thrive while preparing them for a successful start in public school.

You can learn more about them on their website: <http://www.parkforestpreschool.org>

Calendar items are listed in the Announcements.

If you'd like 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
Liturgist — Stephanie Madden
Usher— Tom Daubert

Pastor - Jes Kast
Trustee — Tom Daubert

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier
Organist—Mark Ferraguto

Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman
Choir Director — Marinda Jenkins
Administrative Assistant — Jeff Stormer

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Joan Gaudinsky, the family of Don Asendorf, the family of Lynn Christy (Neil's brother), the family of Jane Sheckells, 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.

Get In Touch with Us!

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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.

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