

# *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!

May 19, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

## **Eastertide**



Domenico Fetti, Saint Peter's Vision of the Unclean Animals, c. 1619

\*stand as you are able

### **Prelude**

“Christ Lay in Death's Bonds”

J. S. 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**

Leader: This new day is fresh with possibility to encounter the Living Christ.

**People: With bright eyes, let us search.**

L: This new day is fresh with possibility to understand the Living Christ.

**P: With engaged minds, let us ponder.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to be moved by the Living Christ.

**With compassionate hearts, let us feel.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to respond to the Living Christ.

**With solid devotion, let us follow.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to serve the Living Christ.

**With humble intention, let us act.**

This new day is fresh with possibility to praise the Living Christ.

**With strong voices, let us sing.**

-written by Rev. Christine Sobania Johnson on her blog, Freshly Squeezed Liturgy

**\*Opening Hymn** For the Beauty of the Earth **#28**

Text: Follet S. Pierpoint, 1864, alt. Tune: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838; adapt. Wm. H. Monk, 1861

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.

**Rf**

**Rf**

Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,

**Rf**

3 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,

**Rf**

4 For yourself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given,  
agent of God's grand design: peace on earth and joy in heaven.

**Rf**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**God of the clean and the unclean,  
we too easily think we can see from your point of view.**

**We exclude, hold grudges and nurse contempt,  
all the while hiding ourselves  
for fear we too would be found wanting.**

**We think we are justified  
because we are made holy by your love,  
and we assume holiness means more like us.**

**We forget, or never really knew,  
that all you touch is holy,  
and that you created all that is.**

**So when we exclude, we exclude you.  
When we hold grudges, we hate you.  
When we show contempt,  
we are contemptuous of those you love.**

**May we be made holy in truth,  
loving as you love, clean and unclean alike.**

-Rev. Doug Hagler

Moment of silent reflection

**\*Promise of New Life**

Life is stronger than death, love is greater than fear, and grace is more wonderful than division. We are promised new life and God's mercy is new to us this joyous day.

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Sung Response**      De colores (Sing of Colors)

**#402 (vs 2)**

**Sing, rejoicing!**

**Every creature that breathes raise a song to the God of creation.**

**Sing, rejoicing!**

**Sing to God Who so earnestly care, Who has offered salvation.**

**Sing the good news!**

**Sing the love of the Savior reflecting the colors of all.**

**Many colors that shine from God's face,  
many colors that tell us God's love to recall.**

**Many colors that shine from God's face,  
many colors that tell us God's love to recall.**

## **\*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 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor). Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service.

## **Reading of Scripture**

Acts 11: 1- 18

Revelation 21:1-6

A word from the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Special Music**

A Simple Song from Bernstein's Mass  
Jacki Hunt, Soloist

## **Sermon:**

A New Vision

## **\*Hymn**

Peter Dreamt A World That Had Never Been

see insert

## **Litany of Blessing Penguin Packs**

We are called as partners with Christ to care for the brokenhearted, the hungry, and the lonely.

**Jesus said that when we welcome the little children, we are welcoming him.**

Men, women, children, and people actively serve as your disciples here at Faith UCC to ensure that hungry children in Centre County are fed.

**We bless each person who packs bags, deliver food, and prays for the care of children.**

We bless those who order the food behind the scenes.

**We bless people who organize the food here at church.**

We bless the children whose hunger is quenched through the Penguin Packs.

**We pray for an end to hunger both here and around the world.**

L: We bless those who financially support Penguin Packs and bless their generosity of giving.

**P: We bless teachers and school administrators who love and support kids.**

We bless parents who are trying very hard to raise their kids. We pray for the support for parents.

**We bless the ministry of Penguin Packs that serves and supports children of God whom Christ loves so dearly.**

Bless this ministry so that we may be of service to you, Oh God, in caring for the most vulnerable here in our community.

**Thank you for each person who has given to Penguin Packs and has served. We ask for your blessings upon them through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **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**

\*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

**As for us, Holy God, we offer our gifts to bring healing to the broken, hope to those in despair, light to those in shadows, and grace for all your people. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn**            Called as as Partners in Christ's Service

**#495**

Text: Jane Parker Huber, 1981; Tune: BEECHER, John Zundel, 1855

1 Called as partner in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

2 Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,  
Blending human skill together gracious gifts from God unfold.

3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a smaller or global sense,  
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,  
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

4 So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

**\*Blessing**

**Postlude**

Tu es Petrus

Jeanne Demessieux

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.



### May Special Offering



**Hartman Center**  
Camp, Conference and Retreat Center

**Hartman Center** 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 donations! <https://www.hartmancenter.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  
Trustee — Tom Daubert  
Nursery — Lois Bair, Jean Frank  
Fellowship — Reed Family

Pastor — Rev. Jes Kast  
Ushers — Tom Daubert, Larry Bair  
Liturgist — Andrea Miles

## 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 Lynn Christy (Neil's brother), Don Asendorf, the family of Jane Sheckells, the family of Allen Killpatrick, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), the family of Bunnie Hartswick, 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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16801

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Pastor email: [PastorJesFaithUCC@gmail.com](mailto: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.