

# *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 21, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

## **Easter Sunday**



*Resurrection* is a 1457-1459 tempera on panel painting by [Andrea Mantegna](#), now in the [Musée des Beaux-Arts](#) in [Tours](#). (selection cropped)

\*stand as you are able

**Prelude**

"In Thee is Joy"

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 is the day when everything changed.

**People: Angels bring light into our shadows,  
and gardeners harvest good news.**

L: This is the day the Lord

**P: awakens us with unexpected grace,  
and the sun breaks out in song.**

This is the day the Lord has made!

**The day when life triumphs over death,  
when love pushes aside fear,  
when hope walks with us in every moment.**

Christ has risen!

**He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

## \*Opening Hymn

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

#233

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739 Tune: ST GEORGE'S WINDSOR, George Job Elvey (1816-1893)

1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

3 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

## **\*Opening Prayer**

**Jesus Christ, Creation's Gardener: you went into the grave to drive out the power of the world; you shut the doors of pain and death and open the gates of glory to those who trust in you and follow as your faithful servants. Open our eyes to faith, touch our lips with songs of praise, roll away our fears so we too can see the Risen Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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.

## **\*Spoken Response**

from De colores (Sing of Colors)

**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.**

## **\*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**

John 20:1-18

L: A word from the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** "Praise the Lord" from Judas Maccabaeus by G. F. Handel

**Sermon:** From Heartbreak to Hope

**\*Hymn** Now the Green Blade Rises  
John M. C. Crum 1872-1958

**#238**

1 Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

2 In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,  
Thinking that He never would awake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

3 Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;  
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

### **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**

**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**

The Day of Resurrection

**#245**

TEXT: John of Damascus (c. 696 – c. 754), transl John Mason Neale

TUNE: Henry Thomas Smart (1836)

1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ has brought is over with hymns of victory.

2 Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright  
the Christ who reigns eternal in resurrection light;  
We listen for the teachings heard so calm and plain,  
for we, too, want to follow and raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,  
the world world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;  
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,  
for Christ again has risen, our joy that has no end.

## \*Blessing

If you are looking for a blessing, do not linger here.  
Here is only emptiness, a hollow, a husk where a blessing used to be.

This blessing was **not** content in its confinement.  
It could not abide its isolation, the unrelenting silence, the pressing stench of death.

So if it is a blessing you seek, open your own mouth.  
Fill your lungs with the air this new morning brings and then release it with a cry.

Hear how the blessing breaks forth in your own voice, how your own lips form every word you never dreamed to say.  
See how the blessing circles back again, wanting you to repeat it, but louder, how it draws you, pulls you, sends you to proclaim its only word:

Risen.  
Risen.  
Risen.

## Postlude

Toccata on "O fili et filiae"

L. Farnam

<p>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.</p>
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*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    Pastor — Rev. Jes Kast  
Liturgist — Emily Kathlena

## 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 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.

*O Lord  
Hear our prayers*

### **Get In Touch with Us!**

Faith United Church of Christ      300 E. College Avenue State College, PA 16801  
Tel: (814) 237-3904

On the Web: [www.faithucc.info](http://www.faithucc.info)      [facebook.com/SCFaithUCC](https://facebook.com/SCFaithUCC)

Church Office Email: [faithuccsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithuccsc@gmail.com)

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.



***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 earphones for hearing assistance, please speak with an usher.**