

Faith United Church of Christ

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

January 28, 2018

The 4th Sunday after Epiphany

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 “???” by ???

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**

Jesus started his ministry with the intentions of transforming individuals and society.

Many listened to his call and followed his words and ways; others would not be convinced.

He called us to repent of past ways, and join him in pursuing a better way.

Some left immediately, seeing grace in committing themselves to a new life. Some would be convinced later on. Others were tied to their past habits.

He told fishermen that he would teach them to fish for people.

They sought to inspire the souls and capture the hearts of the people.

Jesus taught as one with authority, calling people to commitment.

It was no easy call! Many left their occupations and their families to follow him.

Even for those who were outcast and thought to be possessed, Jesus spoke and acted in healing ways – transforming the lives not only of regular people, but those who were sick of body, soul, or mind.

We, too, can be healers of our world. Our kindness, gentleness, and faithfulness to God's ways can be the example that transforms the lives of those we touch.

We seek transformation of our spirits and our lives.

In changing ourselves, we inspire others of their ability to change too! Bless us in these endeavors. May it be so now and forever.

***Hymn of Calling**

“Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult”

#377

Our Stories of Random Acts of Kindness & Intentional Deeds of Compassion

WE LISTEN FOR THE SACRED IN THE MIDST OF OUR LIVES

Choral Anthem

"Consecration" by John Ness Beck

A Time for All God's Children

Prayers

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Silent Meditation: The Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer "Prayer from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer"

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of

Postlude

“”

by

***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.

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 —

Liturgist —

Acolyte —

Fellowship — Sue Doran

Interim Pastor — Rev. Bret Myers

Ushers —

Children's Message —

Nursery —

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier

Organist—Mark Ferraguto

Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman

Choir Director — Mike Dolan

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:



Bob Ritzman, the family of June Brown, the family of Jean Weller, Lisa B. (JoAnn's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Bunnie Hartswick, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee's Dad), the Piggot family, Robert Zupp (Eileen Pfaff's nephew), the Snook family.



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 smart phone to be directed to our online donation page.



January Special Offering

Centre County Women's Resource Center Services ([www.http://ccwrc.org](http://ccwrc.org)) for women, men, and children who have experienced dating & domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Inclusive of all gender identities and sexual orientations. Make checks payable to Faith UCC with "Women's Resource Center" noted in the memo line.



- February 2
 - February 4
 - February 11
 - February 14
 - February 18
- First Friday**
5th Sunday After Epiphany
6th Sunday After Epiphany
Ash Wednesday
1st Sunday in Lent

Get In Touch with Us!

Faith United Church of Christ, 300 E. College Avenue, State College, PA 16801
Tel: (814) 237-3904 Websites: www.faithucc.info, www.facebook.com/SCFaithUCC
Church Office Email: faithucc@comcast.net Pastor's Email: revbmyers@yahoo.com
Church Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & 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.