

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!

July 28, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



*stand as you are able

Prelude

“Our Father in Heaven”

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: With these people, in this space,
we come to learn from God.

**People: To discover how to share love and grace
with the same abandon as God.**

L: In this space, in these moments,
we come to follow Jesus.

**P: We welcome each other with joy and hope
even as he received everyone who came to him.**

In these moments, with these people,
we come to bear the Spirit's bounty.

**To be patient with those who aggravate us,
even as the Spirit is kind in looking past our lives.**

***Opening Hymn** This is the Day

#84

Text & Tune: Les Garrett, 1967

1 This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our God has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.

2 This is the day Jesus rose again

3 This is the day when the Spirit came

***Prayer of Confession**

**Like children, we fear that if we tell you what we have done, God of Justice,
you might not love us anymore. We can kill the dreams of those around us
with a word, spoken or withheld. We can make the lives of our friends
miserable, instead of sharing a miracle. We are filled with that legion of
temptations which only leave us empty and wanting more.**

**Forgive us, Gracious God. Remind us that we are no longer sinners, but
your children. Baptized, we are clothed in the graciousness and
faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who came that we might
be set free of all that imprisons us.**

Moment of Silence for Personal Reflection

***Promise of New Life**

L: Come and hear what God does! Our God sings peace to us.

Come and see what God does! Our God forgives us!.

Come and do what God does! Our God sends us forth to serve others.

**P: We will not grow weary in doing what is right, in working for justice.
We will not grow weary in doing what is good, in caring for others.
We will not grow weary in doing what God does, in sharing mercy with all.
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

***Sung Response**

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. No one stands alone; we'll stand side by side. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. (x2)
Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still! Let this be our song no one stands alone.
Standing side-by-side, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

***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

OT: Genesis 19: 1-29

NT: Hebrews 13:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 25:34-46

L: A word from the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Entertaining Angels: A Call to Just Hospitality

Text:

1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

2 Have we trials and tribulations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to our God in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows bear?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to our God in prayer.

3 Are we weak and heavy laden, burdened with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge, take it to our God in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to our God in prayer!
Jesus' arms will take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

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

They'll Know We Are Christians

see insert

*Blessing

Postlude

"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"

W. Held

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.



July Special Offering



OOTC³ is a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that was established in February 2011 by the Community Safety Net (CSN) which serves residents of Centre County, Pennsylvania.

The mission of Out of the Cold: Centre County (OOTC³) is to provide the homeless in our community with a warm and safe overnight accommodation and nourishment within a welcoming atmosphere as a supplemental option to locally established shelters. <http://www.ootc3.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.

Some of the liturgy is inspired by www.lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com.

Our Ministry

Ministers — All the Congregation
Trustee — Neil Christy
Liturgist — Craig Young

Guest Preacher — Ammon Francis Young
Usher —
Fellowship —

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier
Organist—Mark Ferraguto
Pastor - Jes Kast

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

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Ilene Maharg, Edna Bicehouse, 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.