

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!

March 3, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM



JESUS MAFA. Transfiguration, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

*stand as you are able

Prelude

Voluntary, Op. 5, no. 5

J. Stanley

Pastoral Welcome

Come all you who are weary and I will give you rest. - Jesus

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Listen to God, whose voice speaks from top of the tallest mountain to the depths of humanity.

People: May the peace of God's words resonate within us!

L: Marvel at the light of the Holy Spirit, which inspires all goodness and shines forth brilliantly against the darkness of evil.

P: May the light of the Holy Spirit be the lamp to our path!

L: Follow Jesus wherever he leads you – for Jesus' way is love.

P: May the love of Jesus lead us to change ourselves and the world! Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Christ is the World's True Light

See insert

***Call to Confession**

**God of Mercy and Grace,
you came to break down the dividing walls of hostility between us:
Yet we maintain walls that separate and isolate.
Sometimes our fear is louder than our faith.**

**You invite us to join with Peter, James, and John
on the mountain of Transfiguration:
Yet sometimes we deny the wonders you have worked in our own lives.**

**Forgive our selfishness, we pray.
Transform us by your Spirit and your Word
into that which makes us seasoned by the Spirit.**

Moment of silence

***Assurance of God's Grace**

***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 our 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

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

L: A word from the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: **From Glory to the Daily Grind**

***Hymn** You are Salt of the Earth, O People **#181**

Prayers of the People

Believing that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer. After each expression, the people may respond: *God, hear our prayer.*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Communion Hymn: Let us Talents and Tongues Employ **#347**

PASTORAL INVITATION

Welcome, siblings of God, to the feast! This is the feast of our God, where all are fed. No one goes away hungry. No one is turned away. At this table, there is room for everyone. This is not our table, of course, but Christ's. It is He who has set the table and prepared a meal with enough for all. Just as the early followers of Jesus, who would come together to share a meal, share stories, and share community, we too gather at this table, hungry and eager to be fed. Here, we can eat to our fill.

At this table lies the mystery of our faith; for Communion doesn't work without a broken body. To share bread, we must break it. To share of ourselves, we must be willing to share our own wounds, worries, and fears. Out of brokenness emerges wholeness and holiness.

Come to the table. All - all, no exceptions! - are welcome.

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give our thanks and praise

It is good to give God our thanks and praise.

Holy and right it is to give you thanks and praise

This is the paradox of life abundant: love shared not out of perfection, but out of messiness, frailty, confusion, and self-absorption. The stories of our lives shared at this table are honest. Perfect love casts out fear. This is Communion, learning to love one another as we gather around a common meal, fully as we are in our different ages, genders, classes, races, sexual identities, ethnicities, political affiliations, disabilities, or names. This is the Feast of Justice, where compassion starts. This is where we are fed and likewise commit to feeding a hungry world, empowered by the divine nourishment of this, the Lord's Supper. At this abundant feast, we partake and participate in creating a fair balance for all.

Together we sing our praise to the God who knits us together in the feast of love and grace:

All: (singing) (#277, stanza 1)

Holy, holy holy, God the Almighty!

All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Words of Institution

L: On the night he was betrayed...

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

P: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Holy Spirit, bless these gifts. Take these grapes and take this wheat, may they nourish us in body and soul for the days to come. These are the gifts of God, for the people of God. Come now, for all things are ready.

(Instructions: We will receive communion by intinction. Please come forward down the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup and partake. You may return to your seats by the side aisle. You are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing at this time if you choose not partake in the elements. We will serve communion to you in the pew if you are unable to come forward.)

L: God of grace and abundance, we have received your word and tasted your truth: Jesus Christ, your very presence is among us.

P: We pray that Christ will guide us so that we may live with each other in unity, equity, and love. May we grow in faithful assurance that our future-the future that all of your children share-is in you today, every day, and always.

In the strength of our faith we pray together the prayer Jesus, who loves us and calls us by name, taught us to pray....

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.

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

**Open our ears to the struggles around us;
open our voices to speak out for justice;
open our hearts to welcome the forgotten;
open our treasures so they may be used to care for all your children.
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn** This Little Light of Mine

#524

*Benediction

**Go in peace and serve God and each other!
Thanks be to God!**

Postlude Toccata in D Major

J. Krieger

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.



March Special Offering



[One Great Hour of Sharing](http://onegreathourofsharing.org/)

<http://onegreathourofsharing.org/> or <http://www.ucc.org/oghs>)

One Great Hour is a Christian effort to empower, provide water, supply food, and give relief from disasters. Learn more at: <http://onegreathourofsharing.org> Make checks payable to Faith UCC with "OGHS" noted in the memo line, or use the special envelope on Sunday, March 31st.

Calendar items are listed in the Announcements.

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
facebook.com/SCFaithUCC
Church Office Email: faithuccsc@gmail.com
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.

March's Listening Café is March 13th from 6-8PM at Foxdale Village, [500 E Marylyn Ave, State College, PA 16801](https://www.google.com/maps/place/500+E+Marylyn+Ave,+State+College,+PA+16801).

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 — Mary Jane Wild

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman
Organist—Mark Ferraguto Choir Director — Marinda Jenkins
Administrative Assistant — Jeff Stormer

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Allen Killpatrick, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Cyndi V.'s Family (loss of brother Steve, and Steve's son Christopher Barger), the family of Bunnie Hartswick, Jane Sheckells, 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*