

# *Faith United Church of Christ*

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

November 4, 2018

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!*

*All Saints / Remembrance Sunday*

## **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**

"To God on high alone be glory"

J. G. Walther

### **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!”

**\*Hymn of Gratitude** “God, We Thank You for Our People”

**#376**

vss. 1, 2, 4

**\*Centering Our Souls**

O God who has been the source of strength, encouragement, and resolve of the saints of the church who have gone before us, inspire in us the commitment to be the saints of the present age.

**Let us not forget the examples and sacrifices of those who have preceded us, but may we draw from their faithfulness the courage to be the lights of love and peace in a world where too much darkness abides.**

We honor the memory of the saints and of the faithful on this day, not as a means of indulging our sorrow but as an impetus to carry on what they have begun.

**May your Holy Spirit come and fill us so that where they failed, we may succeed; and where they succeeded, we may bring their successes to their proper fulfillment.**

Let us be witnesses not only by our memories of the past, but witnesses by the deeds we carry out in the present age.

**Connect our spirits to the future, even as we feel our souls connected to the past. May your mission march on through our actions and practices so that we will be participants in that eternal legacy of the faithful who have striven to create a more just, peaceful, compassionate, and harmonious world. May it be so, now and always.**

**Remembrance of Church Members and Those Recently Passed**

*(In remembrance of the lives of members of Faith UCC who have passed on in the last year, we ask a family member/relative/friend of each of the following persons to come forward and light a candle on the altar table as their name is called and a bell is rung.)*

**Thomas Boone Brown**  
**Cyndi Engle**

March 3, 1926  
February 27, 1964

November 21, 2017  
October 2, 2018

*(Others who have lost loved ones in the past year are now welcome to come forward to announce their name and light a candle in their remembrance.)*

*Let us pray:*

O Sacred One from whom we all come, and to whom we all return: You have been a blessing to those of every time and culture, to those of every religious tradition that has inspired the saints of the world, and to those we have loved who have passed on into life eternal.

**Bless the memory of these persons who have gone to be with you in this past year. May we claim their virtues as our own, and may we by learning from their mistakes improve upon their example as we carry on the prayer of peace...the flame of faithfulness...the candle of compassion...the light of love from one generation to the next. May it be so.**

**\*Hymn of the Saints**

“For All the Saints”

**#299**

vss. 1, 2, 4

**A Stewardship Moment**

*Margaret Hammond*

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

**WE LISTEN FOR THE SACRED IN THE MIDST OF OUR LIVES**

**Choral Anthem**

"Communion Prayer" by Allen Pote

**A Time for All God's Children**

“Remembering with Our Hearts”

**Prayers**

***Sharing Our Joys and Concerns***

***Silent Meditation: The Prayers of the People***

***Pastoral Prayer***

***Unison Prayer: “Poetic Prayer in the Spirit of Christ”***

Loving Spirit, who is here and there,  
we're grateful for your tender care.

Your virtues rise, your values prized;  
near and far, and everywhere.

Feed our bodies, and feed our souls.

And by forgiveness make us whole.

And may we all evils deplore,

as we search and sail for mercy's shore.

May peace and love within us rule,  
and justice be your Spirit's tool;

Now and always, for us and others,  
and for all creation.

May we make it so, all as one,  
by your inspiration.

**\*Hymn of Aspiration**

“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

**#295**

**Scripture Lesson**

Ruth 1.1-18

**Message**

“Those to Whom We Cling”

**\*Hymn for Living as Saints**

“Live Life in Peace”

**see insert**

## **WE AFFIRM & CELEBRATE OUR UNITY AS GOD’S CREATION**

### **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

*(As God calls all people to the table of forgiveness, peace, and loving fellowship, Faith UCC affirms an inclusive and open Communion Table. All persons (all ages, ethnicities, sexual orientations/identities, dis/abilities, religious affiliations, and other distinguishing features) are welcome to partake of this sacrament which affirms that we are all part of God’s family and are to commune together in sacred relationship. Love and peace are the uniting virtues of this spiritual meeting place. Therefore, all who wish to join in this ritual of unity are invited to do so providing that you do so in the spirit of peace and mutual love for one another.)*

### ***The Purpose of Holy Communion***

**God seeks to be in communion with us, and wills that we be in communion with one another. Through the Christ in Jesus, God drew closer to us by living among us with all the desires and temptations of being human, and showed us that we each have the power to overcome wrongdoing by the inspiration of our spiritual lives and the discipline of our physical lives; thereby effecting the Christ in us. Jesus represented the individual model of how we each can do this; and in calling to his side the disciples and followers in his way of love and peace, many of whom were ostracized by the wider society, he revealed how to model this in our community here on Earth.**

Reminding us symbolically of this union of body and spirit, Jesus took a loaf of bread, broke it like we are often broken in our relationships with one another, and showed us the way to reconciliation by asking us to share our bread with one another in remembrance of his own example. Through the broken bread, we participate in and become the body of Christ in the world.

In like manner, Jesus took the cup filled with the fruit of the vine, the vine that sustains us and links us to one another, and the fruit that nourishes the spirit of virtue that abides within and between each of us, and asked us to drink of that same spirit of loving-kindness and uniting harmony that was in him. Through the cup of blessing, we participate in and become the new life of Christ in the world.

**The bread and fruit we partake nourishes us that we may nourish others. Through this sacrament of Holy Communion, we affirm that we are committed to Christ’s way of love and peace by our motives, thoughts, actions, and practices in this world. We acknowledge that we are one community made by God, and that we must consciously choose, day by day, to be in right relationship with God, each other, and our sacred values. We therefore dedicate ourselves, individually and collectively, to make the Body and Spirit of Christ real in this world, here and now, and throughout our life as a community of the faithful. What we symbolize here in this holy space, we make real by our service when we go forth from this place.**

## ***Invitation***

### ***Partaking of the Bread and Juice***

*(Please remain in your seats as you are served, waiting till instructed to partake. Grape juice is used, and gluten free bread is available upon request.)*

## ***Commissioning***

### **WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD'S SERVICE THROUGH FAITHFULNESS**

#### **Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

*"Generosity arises from gratitude like heat arises from fire.*

*Like fire, gratitude is lovely to see;*

*but when it warms others with generosity,  
that is when it becomes a true blessing."*

**Offertory** "Organ Improvisation"

**\*Song of Dedication**

*Tune: Old Hundredth; p. 7*

When we give thanks, then go to sow; Our blessings are assured to grow.

We are not known by what we keep; We're known by deeds that others reap.

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication**

O God who prods us to be earnest in caring, dutiful in sharing, joyful in giving, and abundant in gratitude: We pray that these tithes of our income, and offerings of our spirit, will be blessed for your purposes near and far. We are doubly blessed in our giving – being able to, and doing so freely from our hearts. Remind us not to be prideful in giving, nor ashamed in receiving; for we are here for each other – sowing seeds of compassion that will feed the world, and together reaping a harvest of peace. May it be so.

#### **\*Encouragement for the Journey**

**Postlude** "They'll Know We are Christians"

W. Held

#### **\*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                      Interim Pastor — Rev. Bret Myers  
Communion Servers — Lois Bair, David Cassaday, June Irvin, Don Welker

#### Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier                      Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman  
Organist—Mark Ferraguto                      Choir Director — Marinda Jenkins  
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:**

Allen Killpatrick, Bunnie Hartswick (hospice), the family of Cyndy Engle (Marilyn's daughter-in-law), Jo Ann Edwards, K. Thompson, June Irvin, Ben and Louise Harris, Jane Sheckells, Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Susie Keck, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee's Dad), the Piggot's family, Robert Zupp (Eileen Pfaff's nephew).

*God Answers  
Knee Mail*

Please help us keep this list up to date. Notify the office of additions or removals.



**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.



### November Special Offering

**Lancaster Seminary (UCC)** (<http://www.ucc.org/nin/>) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.



- **Nov 6 Election Day**
- **Nov 10 Wisconsin, Time TBA**
- **Nov 11 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**
- **Nov 12 Consistory, 5:30 PM**

### 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](http://www.faithucc.info)

[facebook.com/SCFaithUCC](https://www.facebook.com/SCFaithUCC)

Church Office Email: [faithucc@comcast.net](mailto:faithucc@comcast.net) Pastor's Email:  
[revbmyers@yahoo.com](mailto:revbmyers@yahoo.com)

Church Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, & 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](mailto:revbmyers@yahoo.com).