

Faith United Church of Christ

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

August 5, 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!

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

Lauda Sion (Ecce Panis)

Marcel Dupré

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 for Building Character & Community** “We Would Be Building” **#607**

***Centering Our Souls**

We come to be renewed and refreshed in your ways, O God.

We are called here to be strengthened to go forth into the world to lead a life worthy of our calling.

You call us not to be successful, but to be virtuous...not to be important, but significant.

Remind us the greater importance of “how” we are to live rather than “what” we are to accomplish, for you will accomplish all things through us if we are willing to be your people.

You have given each of us individual gifts to use for the building up of the whole Body of Christ...the whole of humanity and creation.

Let us nurture and use our gifts to make our world a better place, not thinking about bettering our place within it.

For we are one creation, made to live together in harmony – working together humbly, gently, and patiently.

Let us act and respond only in love. Let the Spirit fill us that we may promote and sustain both unity and peace for all of us your children. In the name of the one who calls us and shows us the way, may it be so.

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

WE LISTEN FOR THE SACRED IN THE MIDST OF OUR LIVES

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 peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. May it be so.

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.

Time of Personal Reflection/Confession/Commitment

Invitation

Partaking of the Bread and Juice

(Please come forward by rows down the center aisle, taking a piece of bread, dipping it in the cup, eating, and returning to your seats by the side aisles. You may take additional elements with you to bring to those in your row unable to come forward, or we will have a server to bring the elements to any who cannot come forward. 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

The light of love does shine most bright when all are siblings in our sight;

We are one fam'ly on this earth; we are God's children from our birth.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

We are called to be a generous people, always building up the Body of Christ. Let us not forget our calling, but to humbly, patiently, and gently live it day by day. Let us help bear with love the burdens of the weak, the poor, and the oppressed – coming to their aid in word, in action, and by sharing what we have with them. Let us all make every effort to build unity between ourselves and our brothers and sisters throughout the world, letting your Spirit lead and strengthen us so that we may create the bond of peace with justice that makes us all one. Let these gifts we offer today aid this calling we have from you, and so also aid those most in need. May it be so.

***Encouragement for the Journey**

Go to be a blessing! This is your calling.
Do not worry whether your task is difficult,
or your efforts are successful.
Life is serendipitous; so what you may think will
or has failed may actually renew a life.
Advocate for justice for those unlike you.
Work for peace with those opposed to you.
Kindness offered and love delivered can transform relationships.
Trust in this! Live by this!
Rev. Bret S. Myers, 3/9/2017

Postlude

Tu es Petrus

Jeanne Demessieux

***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 — Larry Bair

Nursery — Lois Bair

Fellowship — Jim and Sally Welsh

Communion Servers —

Ernie Hawk, Clovis Morrison, Marilyn Morrison, Mary Jane Wild

Interim Pastor — Rev. Bret Myers

Ushers — Larry Bair

Liturgist — Jim Welsh

Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier

Organist—Mark Ferraguto

Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman

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:

June Irvin, Ben and Louise Harris, Jane Sheckells, Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Susie Keck, Joann Edwards, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Lisa B. (JoAnn's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee Dad), the Piggot's family, Robert Zupp (Eileen Pfaff's nephew), the Snook family.

*God Answers
Knee Mail*



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.



August Special Offering **Bethany Children's Home**

(<http://www.bethanyhome.org>) is Pennsylvania's first DPW Sanctuary® Certified agency, having earned the certification in 2010. Thanks to their Sanctuary® accreditation, youth who have been abused and neglected have the opportunity to live the lives they deserve. Unique and specialized programs give youth access to a variety of therapeutic, spiritual, and cultural services in addition to recreational activities.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and financial support!



- **Aug 5** Church Picnic @ Sunset Park, 4-7
- **Aug 12** 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- **Aug 14** Trustees Meeting, 7
- **Aug 19** 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- **Aug 20** Consistory Meeting, 5:30

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

[facebook.com/SCFaithUCC](https://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, 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.