

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!

October 6, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

17th Sunday After Pentecost
World Communion Sunday



The Best Supper © Jan L. Richardson

*stand as you are able

Prelude

Récit de cromorne from Messe pour les Couvents

F. Couperin

Pastoral Welcome

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

Announcements

A Global Welcome

Today is World Communion Sunday. We join with our siblings around the world at the table of God's plentiful feast. We represent one congregation out of the millions of people around the world joining together today to worship and pray. We honor our global connection and we are grateful for our siblings in Christ on each continent.

Welcome, for today is the day God has made.

God of love, enter into our lives, hearts and worlds, so that:

Peace may prevail on earth.

Spanish (Lois), French (Robin), German (John), and an open invitation to all languages as we honor the many languages spoken in our congregation...

People: God of love, enter into our lives, hearts and worlds, so that:

Peace may prevail on earth. Amen.

Call to Worship

On this day, we are not a single congregation,

but part of the community of the people of God everywhere and in every place.

On this day, we share not just a sacrament,

but a feast from every time and every place of faith.

On this day, God's people gather in house churches and cathedrals,

and on sandy beaches and under towering trees.

***Opening Hymn**

De Colores

#402

Mexican Folk song

1 Sing of colors, sing of colors that over the hills in profusion are springing,
Sing of colors of the birds that fly outside my window their canticles singing;
Sing of colors, in the rainbow's bright colors God's promise of hope we recall;
Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all.
Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all.

2 Sing, rejoicing! Every creature that breathes raise a song to the God of creation.
Sing, rejoicing! Sing to God who so earnestly cares, who has offered salvation.
Sing the good news! Sing the love of the Savior reflecting the colors of all.
Many colors that shine from God's face, many colors that tell us God's love to recall.
Many colors that shine from God's face, many colors that tell us God's love to recall.

***Prayer of Confession**

We confess, God of every person, how easy it is to think that our way of being your church is the one, true way. And so, we believe we have no reason to hear your name spoken in another language. We are sure we don't need to learn songs that have tunes which sound dissonant to us. We believe that our baptism, our communion, our beliefs are the ones closest to your heart, and so we close our hearts, eyes, and hands to those around us.

Forgive us, Gracious God, and have mercy. Remind us that while there may be many types of bread, there is that one Love which has been broken for us. Remind us that while there might be wine or juice offered, there is one Life which has been poured out for us. Remind us that while some remain seated, some come forward, and others dance, there is one Table, offered to us by your grace, through Jesus Christ, our Brother, our Savior.

Moment of Silence for Personal Reflection

***Promise of New Life**

One fact remains that does not change: God has loved you, loves you now, and will always love you. This is the good news that brings us new life, restores our souls, and reinvigorate our dreams. You are whole and you are holy. Thanks be to God.

***Sung Response**

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

***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

John 17:20-26

L: A word from the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Anthem We Are Singing, for the Lord Is Our Light arr Hal H. Hopson

Sermon That They All May Be One

***Hymn** In the Midst of New Dimensions

Text & Tune: Julian Rush, 1965

#391

(vs. 1, 2, 3, 5)

1 In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
Who will the pilgrim people wandering in the separate ways?

Rf

Rf

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.

2 Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?

Rf

3 As we stand a world divided by our own self seeking schemes,
Grant that we, our global village, might envision wider dreams.

Rf

4 We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young,
Each a gift in your creatin, each a love song to be sung.

Rf

5 Should the treats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.

Rf

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.*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN Jesus is Here Right Now
Text & Tune: Leon C. Roberts, 1965

#348

Jesus is here right now. Jesus is here, With this bread and wine true peace you'll find;
Christ Jesus is here right now (right now)

PASTORAL INVITATION

No matter who you are or where you are in your journey, Christ invites you to this table of the feast of grace and love. There is room for all at Christ's table.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Beloved Children, God is with you

And also with you.

Let us join our siblings across the globe as we lift up our hearts

We lift them as one to the God whose first language is Love.

Let us give thanks to the Faithful One, our God.

We offer our thanks and praise

And the table will be wide: A Blessing for World Communion Sunday by Jan Richardson...

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.

All: 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. Gluten free options are available.)

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

We pray that Christ will guide us so that we may live with each other in unity, honesty, and love. May we grow in faithful assurance that you are with us until the end of the age.

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.

Offertory

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**

We offer our time, talent, and treasures to be part of the movement of God's love. No matter how small or large, these gifts matter. Bless them to bring justice and to offer mercy as a light of guidance in a world in need of hope. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** Know We are Christians by our love **(see insert)**

***Blessing**

Postlude

Fantasie

G. P. Telemann

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 you may place your offerings on the plates the ushers around. If you prefer to give electronically simply **scan** with your smartphone to be directed to our online page.



in the service, will bring **the QR code** donation

October Special Offering



Neighbors In Need (UCC)

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

You can learn more about them on their website: <https://www.ucc.org/nin>

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.

Our Ministry

Ministers — All the Congregation Pastor - Jes Kast
Liturgist — Sue Cromwell
Communion Servers — Sue Cromwell, Matthiew Haines, Jaye Herrick, 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 Richard H. McCormack (Jane Lee Child's brother), the family of Beckie Romig (Manager for OOTC), the family of Don Asendorf, 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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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 prior to visiting.

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And the Table Will Be Wide

A Blessing for World Communion Sunday

And the table
will be wide.
And the welcome
will be wide.
And the arms
will open wide
to gather us in.
And our hearts
will open wide
to receive.
And we will come
as children who trust
there is enough.
And we will come
unhindered and free.
And our aching
will be met
with bread.
And our sorrow
will be met
with wine.
And we will open our hands

to the feast
without shame.
And we will turn
toward each other
without fear.
And we will give up
our appetite
for despair.
And we will taste
and know
of delight.
And we will become bread
for a hungry world.
And we will become drink
for those who thirst.
And the blessed
will become the blessing.
And everywhere
will be the feast.

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