

# *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!

April 7, 2019

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM



*Soichi Wantanabe, Mary Washes Jesus' Feet*

\*stand as you are able

**Prelude**

"Communion"

A. Guilmant

**Pastoral Welcome**

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

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Spirit of Love, Spirit of Truth,  
**Guide us as we pray,**

To think and wish and praise the best,  
**And mean the words we say.**  
Safe in our sanctuary of souls,  
**This place of prayer;**  
Silent, we bow our heads and feel  
**Your presence everywhere.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

Lord of the Dance

see insert **#163**

**\*Call to Confession**

**Lord, we confess that we love our lives as they are.  
We struggle with even the *idea* of change.  
We wrestle with the thought of doing things differently.  
But we know that the life we cling to is only a half-life.  
Only you, O Lord, can give us true life in full.  
Forgive us for holding onto the wrong things.**

**Teach us by your Spirit to *let go* of our assumptions.  
Help us to let go of our self-righteousness and false notions of power.  
Give us the strength and courage to try new things.  
Encourage us – and even push us –  
to let go of ourselves so we can fully embrace you, Holy God.  
We pray these things in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.**

*Moment of silence*

**\*Assurance of God's Grace**

The prophet Isaiah says:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
you will not be burned;  
the flames will not set you ablaze.  
For I am the Lord your God.  
Behold, I am doing a bold new thing!

## \*Sung Response

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call

an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me. O

## \*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 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor). Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service.

## Reading of Scripture

Isaiah 43:16-21

## Anthem

"And No Bird Sang" by Douglas E. Wagner

John 12:1-8

L: A word from the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon: Overflowing with Love**

## 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

I Come with Joy

# 349

Text: Brian Wren, 1968; Tune: DOVE OF PEACE (American Folk Tune)

vs. 1, 2, 5

I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved, and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall,  
in love laid down for me.

The spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known:  
alive and among us here.

I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.

Together met, together bound,  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world,  
the love that makes us one.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us  
share,  
each proud division ends.  
The love that made us makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.

## 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!

## COMMUNION PRAYER

May the God of all new things be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer our hearts to the One who restores us to new life.

**May we empty them of all that holds us back, so God may fill the emptiness with grace.**

May our hearts overflow with praise to God.

**May joy and laughter resound in our words and lives.**

This is the Feast of grace...

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: The ushers will serve communion to you in your seats. Please hold onto the elements until all are served so that we may feast together.)

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.

## 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**                      I've Got Peace Like a River  
Text/Tune: African-American Spiritual

**#478**

1 I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river, in my soul.  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river, in my soul.

3 I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.

2 I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

4 I've got faith like an anchor,  
I've got faith like an anchor,  
I've got faith like an anchor, in my soul.  
I've got faith like an anchor,  
I've got faith like an anchor,  
I've got faith like an anchor, in my soul.

## \*Benediction

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

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.



### **April Special Offering**

Hoffman Homes for Youth serves boys and girls ages 6 to 18 with mental health diagnoses by providing behavioral and cognitive therapy, physical health care services, education, spiritual nurturing and a safe and comfortable home for up to 141 children. Make checks payable to Faith UCC with "Hoffman Homes" noted in the memo line. More at:



<http://hoffmanhomes.com/>

**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](http://www.faithucc.info)  
[facebook.com/SCFaithUCC](https://facebook.com/SCFaithUCC)  
Church Office Email: [faithuccsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithuccsc@gmail.com)  
Pastor email: [PastorJesFaithUCC@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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 — Matthew Haines      Usher — Mary Jane Wild  
Communion Servers — Edna & Wayne Bicehouse, June Irvin, Cyndi Vincenti

### 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 Jane Sheckells, the family of Allen Killpatrick, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Cyndi V.'s Family (loss of brother Steve, and Steve's grandson 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*