

# **FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**5992 Route 378  
Center Valley, Pennsylvania 18034  
610.282.3939**

**Rev. Dr. Bruce C. Stevenson, Lead Pastor  
Mr. Dennis J. Duda, Organist-Director of Music**



**SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JUNE 13, 2021**

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

**PRELUDE**

**A PRAYER UPON ENTERING GOD'S HOUSE**

*Spirit of God, settle in among us; look past our external features and peer inside our hearts. See us for who we really are: yours. Stubborn, doubting, self-centered and yet, ever yours. Grant us insight to see as you see and the confidence to allow your unpredictable choices to lead us closer to you. Amen.*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**SENTENCES OF ADORATION**

**\*OPENING HYMN: HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED**

**104**

1. We hail you God's Anointed, the long awaited one!  
Hail in the time appointed, your reign on earth begun!  
You come to break oppression, to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.
2. You shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
and joy and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.  
Before you on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,  
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.
3. The wise shall bow before you and gold and incense bring;  
all nations shall adore you, and praise all peoples sing;  
To you shall prayer unceasing and daily vows be said,  
your realm is still increasing, with you, O Christ, as head.
4. O'er every foe victorious, you on your throne shall rest;  
from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blessed:  
The tide of time shall never your covenant remove;  
your name shall stand forever, your changeless name of Love.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

**Pastor:** We walk by faith, and not by sight,

**People:** **seeking your company,**

**Pastor:** desiring your presence.

**People:** **As the Spirit moves, let us welcome the unexpected:**

**Pastor:** you and your unfathomable love, O God,

**People:** **you and your astounding grace.**

**Unison:** **Surprise us again as we raise our voices in praise.**

## REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

### \*CALL TO AND CONFESSION OF SIN:

Holy One, surprised when you call us to lead, we doubt our God-given abilities and your wisdom. Instead, we seek leaders who assure us they will do those things that further our well-being, rather than your will. We surround ourselves with comfort and with like-minded friends, while insulating ourselves from those who seem "different." We judge others based on their capabilities, their degrees, their rank and status. Forgive us.

Open our eyes to our narrow-mindedness and our hearts to trust you to provide the way forward. Help us see the good – in your unexpected ways, and extraordinary leadership. Amen.

### \*THE KYRIE

*Congregation or choir*

*Leader*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: O Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouths shall show forth your praise.

## \*THE GLORIA PATRI

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, the Christ, the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
Three - in - One; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is  
now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a final cadence marked with a fermata and the number 8.

## \*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE - *Based on St. Patrick, facing each other:*

**Unison:** Christ's peace be with you,  
Christ's peace within you,  
Christ's peace behind you,  
Christ's peace before you,  
Christ's peace beside you,  
Christ's peace to win you,  
Christ's peace to comfort you and restore you.  
Christ's peace be with you.

### LEARNING ABOUT GOD

#### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

#### THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: I Samuel 15:34 – 16:13

New Testament: Mark 4:26 – 34

#### THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### HYMN: *LOVE DIVINE ALL LOVES EXCELLING*

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, on earth be found,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all your faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, you are all compassion, pure, unbounded love impart.  
Visit us with your salvation; enter ev'ry trembling heart.

*Barbara Maursky*

2 Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast.  
Let us all in you inherit, let us find your promised rest.  
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive.  
Suddenly return, and never, never-more your temples leave.  
You we would be always blessing, love you as your angels love,  
pray, and praise for your unfailing, wounded arms outstretched above.

4 Finish, then, your new creation; pure and spotless may we prove;  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in you.  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
crowned as saints, we ever shall be lost in wonder, love and praise.

**SERMON: *Time For a Do-Over***

### **DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD'S WILL**

#### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

**I believe in an innovative God,  
who does not wait for us to find ourselves  
but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.**

**I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,  
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power  
to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.**

**I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,  
calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty  
and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.**

**I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,  
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations as we  
travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.**

**Because Christ has called me in this I truly believe.  
Amen.**

#### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Pastor:** Like the psalmist, we ask many things of you, Listening God – send help, give support, remember our offerings, grant our heart's desire.  
There is not one prayer we lift that you refuse to hear.

**People:** **Help us be honest with you.**

**Pastor:** Like Samuel, we grieve over endings. There is not one sorrow we bear that you do not bear with us.

**People: Help us find comfort in your presence.**

Pastor: Like Jesse, we overlook people whom you deem valuable. There is not one person you've created who is not worthy of your love and our respect.

**People: Help us see others the way you see them.**

Pastor: Like David, help us be the people you've created us to be. There is not one moment when you doubt our abilities.

**People: Help us live into our gifts, the ones that come naturally and those needing nurture. Surprise us with your grace.**

Pastor: Help, support, grant, remember. Hear the prayers we bring before you – spoken and unspoken: for your incredibly beautiful and fragile world; for our nation and all nations; for leaders, both bold and weak; for your church – changing, evolving, seeking to do your work; for families of every size and kind, and for ourselves. Spirit of God, come mightily among us and receive our prayers.

*(The names of specific people, places, and circumstances may be lifted up at this time)*

Pastor: Spirit of God, come mightily among us and receive our prayers. We lift them to you with the one Jesus taught us, saying ...

**Unison: Our Father, 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### **GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

**THE FELLOWSHIP OF SHARING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC: *WHAT FAITH CAN DO* – Kutless**

***Darin Jellison***

\* **OFFERTORY RESPONSE – THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;

Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

\* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**

**For the gift of those in leadership – whether anticipated or unforeseen – may we offer our support, and in so doing, respect and honor you, Holy One, and your role in their choosing. For the gift of talents you provide to each of us – those that come easily, or those that need cultivating – may we be thankful. Help us commit to exercising them to do your work. While our offering today may seem small compared to your generosity, may it be the seed you use to grow our community into a place where everyone finds rest and welcome. Amen.**

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* **CLOSING HYMN: *IMMORTAL INVISIBLE GOD ONLY WISE***

1

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of days, Almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might; Your justice, like mountains, high soaring above your clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 Your life is life-giving, to both great and small; In all life your living, the true life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers, then wither and perish-but naught dims your powers.

4 So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light, your angels adore you, all veiling their sight; All praise we now render as your angels do; in awe at the splendor of

light hiding you.

\* **BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

\* **MEDITATION**

*Almighty God, grant that the words we have heard this day with our ears may be grafted into our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruits of a good life, to the praise and honor of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

\* **POSTLUDE**

\*Would those who are able please stand.

**Welcome to Faith Church this Third Sunday after Pentecost.** We are glad to have you worshiping with us. May our time together serve as an inspiration for the days and weeks ahead.

**Special thanks to Darin Jellison for sharing his musical offerings** with us this morning.

**Today would normally be our day to collect loose change for Joyful Noise.** Because we are not yet passing the offering plate you will find a designated collection bucket in the Narthex to drop your change into and make a *Joyful Noise!*

**Today is the last day to order PIEROGIES!**

Potato and Cheese - \$8/doz

Bacon, Potato, Cheese - \$9/doz

Sauerkraut, Potato, Cheese - \$9/doz

Apple - \$9/doz

**A link is included in the weekly email to order online or you can call Louise Christman at 610-216-0547.**

**Don't forget to vote for our 2022-24 Elders, Deacons, and Consistory Officers.** Paper ballots are available in the Narthex. You can fill one out after worship and drop it in the offering plate or go to the weekly email and vote online.

**If you possess a magical musical talent you are invited and encouraged to be part of special music** in the coming weeks. For more details look in the June Focus on Faith or the weekly email.

## CALENDAR

TODAY	-10:15 Worship -Last day to order Pierogies
TUESDAY	-Sandy will be in the office
WEDNESDAY	-Budget & Finance Meeting
THURSDAY	-Sandy will be in the office
FRIDAY	-Pastor's Day Off -Church Office Closed
SUNDAY	-10:15 Worship -Happy Father's Day

**Parish Administrator Sandy David will be on vacation the week of the 21<sup>st</sup>.**

### *Those Who Will Serve:*

	<b>June 13</b>	<b>June 20</b>
Head Usher:	Jerry Trexler	Jerry Trexler
Ushers:	Elaine Trexler, Joan Hassler	Cindy Talaber, Joan Hassler
Lay Reader:	Barbara Maursky	Jerry Trexler
Fin. Sec.	Bruce Torrence	Bruce Torrence

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