

**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
TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
CHILDREN'S SABBATH
OCTOBER 17, 2021**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING GOD'S HOUSE

God, help our children to learn what is real. Help them not to defer to people because they are powerful or rich but because they are good or wise or helpful or loving. Help them not to defer to people because they are attractive or famous but because they share a mission, a life view, a commitment to something bigger than themselves. Help them not to defer to people because of race or gender but because they are principled and honest. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

SENTENCES OF ADORATION

* **OPENING HYMN: *LITTLE CHILDREN, WELCOME* 323**

* **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Pastor: When the disciples tried to keep children from Jesus, Jesus said "Let the children come to me!"

People: **When the disciples wanted to send hungry people away, saying there were too many to feed, Jesus said we can feed them!**

Pastor: When a parent whose child was in terrible trouble came to Jesus, Jesus said he would help.

People: **When a woman in poverty gave what she could, Jesus honored her generosity.**

Pastor: We gather in the name of that Jesus who welcomed the children, fed hungry people, helped children in trouble, and recognized the gifts of those in poverty. On this Children's Sabbath day, let us follow him in word and in deed.

REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

* CALL TO AND CONFESSION OF SIN:

God of great and small, old and young, near and far, oh God of *all*, we confess that our love is not like yours. In the face of injustice, we often feel helpless or hopeless. We give in to despair about ending poverty, stopping gun violence, or uniting families torn apart by forces more powerful than them. Help us to work for justice, especially to end poverty. Help us to love kindness, working especially to end violence. Help us to walk humbly with you, opening our arms to all children as did the one we follow and in whose name we pray, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

* THE KYRIE

750

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Leader: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Congregation: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Congregation: 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

759

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

* 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,

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of our creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For the Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, our Conference Minister and all Conference Ministers and other ministers; For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

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

Pastor: Gracious God, as you have promised, may it come to pass. We pray in Christ's name and offer the prayer He offered;

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: *Beauty and the Beast* – Alan Menken

Connor Licairac, Harp

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

God our Mother and Father, we come to you as children. Be with us as we learn to see one another with new eyes, hear one another with new hearts, and treat one another in a new way. Amen.

GO IN GOD’S NAME

* CLOSING HYMN: *NOW THE DAY IS OVER*

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* BENEDECTION 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 Twenty-first 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 Heather Maginn for sharing today's message.

Special thanks to Connor Licairic for sharing special music with us this morning.

Following worship we will have a social time in fellowship hall where you can **enjoy each other's company and register for or donate to the Bike & Hike** taking place **next Sunday.**

Bike & Hike for Pitt Hopkins - October 24th at Upper Saucon Community Park; 1 pm start time, registration opens @ 12:30 pm Join us to BIKE or HIKE 12 miles on the Saucon Valley Rail Trail – one mile for each year of **Rylie's** life!! Registration costs \$25. **The Caring Place** will have a **FOOD TRUCK** at the Park and there will be lots of fun and prizes! **If you can't participate but wish to donate** please stop by Fellowship Hall following church or go to www.rally4rylie.myevent.com to donate online.

October is **Neighbors In Need Month!** In 2021, Neighbors in Need **"Unfailing Love"** offering is focused on supporting organizations and projects that are serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities. **Please prayerfully consider how you may be able to help.** *Special offering envelopes are in the narthex.*

HOLIDAY HOPE CHESTS

Wrapping help needed!

The Kickoff date for the **Holiday Hope Chest mission** is **October 31.** This year Faith Church will be packing and donating 75 shoe

boxes filled with surprises for children of all ages. If you would like to help wrap shoe boxes please pick up the boxes and gift wrap in the Narthex. Please bring wrapped boxes back to church by **Sunday, October 24.**

CALENDAR

TODAY	-9:00 Sunday School -10:15 Worship/Children's Sabbath -Fellowship Time following worship
MONDAY	-Sandy works from home
TUESDAY	-6:30 – 8 Faith in Stitches
WEDNESDAY	-5:30 Budget & Finance
THURSDAY	-
FRIDAY	-Office Closed
SUNDAY	-9:00 Sunday School -10:15 Worship/Baptism -11:30 Hall Rental -1:00 BIKE & HIKE

Those Who Will Serve:

	October 17	October 24
Head Usher:	Jerry Trexler	Becky Hite
Ushers:	Bob & Patti Shelly	Ruth Smith Linda Torrence
Lay Reader:	Joan Hassler	John Barone
Fin. Sec.	Bob Shelly	Bob Shelly

Contact Information:

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