

# **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  
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 24, 2022**

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

**PRELUDE**

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

*We gather in your realm of love, O God ... May we find ways and words to proclaim your name. May we be sustained and nurtured by your word. May we be surrounded in prayer. May your reign grow in us and in the world.*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP**

**\* OPENING HYMN: PRAISE TO THE LIVING GOD**

**8**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Pastor: Come, people of God. Here is the door to life.  
Bring all you are. God is waiting.

**People: We stand at the door and knock.**

Pastor: Come, people of God. Here is the door to justice.  
Leave behind all you do not need. God is waiting.

**People: We stand at the door and knock.**

Pastor: Come, people of God. Here is the door to truth. Behind it  
is a new way of living. God is waiting.

**People: We stand at the door and knock.**

Pastor: Come, people of God. The door is opened for all. Come  
in and worship. God is waiting.

**REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE**

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

**We ask – but we are so sure of what the answer should be, we don't always catch what the answer is. We search – but we lose track of what it is we are searching for. We knock – but at too many doors, and we miss when one opens. Forgive us,**

**God, when we ask, search, or knock more for our own reasons than in support of your vision for us. We are your community builders, dear God. Help us to trust a blueprint that we cannot see. 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: In our searching, God is with us. In our seeking, God is with us. Even in our mistakes, God is still with us.

**People: Let us begin again. Let us give thanks for God's gracious, loving presence.**

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.*

**\* WE SHARE PEACE: LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH**

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me**

**Let There Be Peace on Earth the peace that was meant to be**

**With God as our Father Brothers all are we**

**Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me let this be the moment now.**

**With ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow**

**To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally**

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

## LEARNING ABOUT GOD

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

#### THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: Hosea 1:2 – 10

New Testament: Luke 11:1 – 13

#### THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

**HYMN: *O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO***

485

**SERMON: *Disciples Pray***

### DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD'S WILL

#### \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

Pastor: Our Father...

**People: Our Father, our Mother, our Creator, the one who holds our household together ...**

Pastor: hallowed be your name.

**People: You are sacred, holy – your very name is sacred to me.**

Pastor: Give us each day our daily bread;

**People: please send us each day what we need – and give us the ability to perceive it.**

Pastor: And forgive us our sins,

**People: forgive us our mistakes**

Pastor: for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us;

**People: for we forgive most of the people who mess up around us.**

Pastor: Excuse me?

**People: How am I supposed to forgive everybody? Some people owe me.**

Pastor: Like what?

**People: Like a favor. Or money. Or they owe me a chance to do what they've done. Or they owe me back that book they borrowed or that debt I covered for them. They owe me a phone call. They owe me.**

People: We all owe somebody something. There isn't one of us who isn't in debt to someone. And in God's love for us, we owe the biggest debt of all and the one we can never pay back. So, it's just easier to forgive them all. Write off all those debts, the ones you owe and the ones owed you.

**People: Just write them off?**

Pastor: Yes.

**People: No keeping track?**

Pastor: No keeping track.

**People: Not even a little bit?**

Pastor: You know the next line?

**People: About temptations?**

Pastor: Yes.

**People: Okay.**

Pastor: Well, there's your answer. Don't be tempted to keep track of debts or successes or anything else. Keep your mind on God's realm.

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND INTERCESSION**

Pastor: We remember, O God, that we are surrounded by prayer: in every deed done, every word spoken, every grace felt, every act forgiven by others.

**People: These are the persistent prayers of the people.**

Pastor: We open the door, and we share a neighbor's need.

**People: These are the persistent prayers of the people.**

Pastor: A path stretches, and we share the journey with a friend.

**People: These are the persistent prayers of the people.**

Pastor: A story is told, and we listen to the needs of a companion.

**People: These are the persistent prayers of the people.**

Pastor: A letter is written for a cause, and justice is done.

**People: These are the persistent prayers of the people.**

Pastor: A tree is planted, and a world breathes a little easier.

**People:** These are the persistent prayers of the people.

Pastor: A meal is shared, and hunger is appeased.

**People:** These are the persistent prayers of the people.

Pastor: We remember, O God, that we are surrounded by prayer:  
in every deed done,  
every word spoken,  
every grace felt,  
every act forgiven by others.

**People:** These are the persistent prayers of the people.

*(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: *BLESSED QUIETNESS* by W.S. Marshall

*Performed by Bryan Jones*

### \* OFFERTORY RESPONSE – THE DOXOLOGY 780

*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 THANKSGIVING:

Pastor: When our living prayers have done all they can to protest for peace and seek justice for all,

**People: we shall continue to pray with words.**

Pastor: When our living prayers have done all they can to feed the hungry and provide shelter for the homeless,

**People: we shall continue to pray with words.**

Pastor: As we have received Christ, we will continue to live our lives in Christ. We will surround your people in prayer, O God, of words and actions, so that when we can act no longer,

**People: we shall continue to pray with words.**

### GO IN GOD'S NAME

\* **CLOSING HYMN: O SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD** 263

\* **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 Seventh 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.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Pads provided for you in the pews.

**The altar flowers this morning are presented by a Friend.**

**Pastor Bruce will be on vacation beginning tomorrow through Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. If you find yourself in need of pastoral care during this time please contact **Rev. Teresa Martin at 717-654-4044.****

## CALENDAR

*Regular Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm; Closed on Fridays*

TODAY	-10:15 Worship/Communion
MONDAY	-Sandy works from home
TUESDAY	-1:30 Faith in Stitches (Memorial Rm)
FRIDAY	-Office Closed
SUNDAY	-10:15 Worship

### *Those Who Will Serve:*

	July 24	July 31
Head Usher:	Jerry Trexler	Jerry Trexler
Usher(s):	Faye Tirpak	Michele Keeler
Lay Reader:	Patience Stevenson	Chuck Talboo
Flowers:	A Friend	Kandt
Fin. Sec.:	Jerry Trexler	Jerry Trexler
Lawn Crew:	Volunteers Needed	Brett Dill/Jack Maginn

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm - Closed Fridays

Office: 610-282-3939; [faithchurchcv@gmail.com](mailto:faithchurchcv@gmail.com)

Sandy on Mondays: Leave a message on the office phone or if you need immediate help call 610-967-6232

Pastor: 484-893-0698; [pastorbruce@faithchurchucc.org](mailto:pastorbruce@faithchurchucc.org)

Director of Music: 215-361-8641; [ddduda@verizon.net](mailto:ddduda@verizon.net)