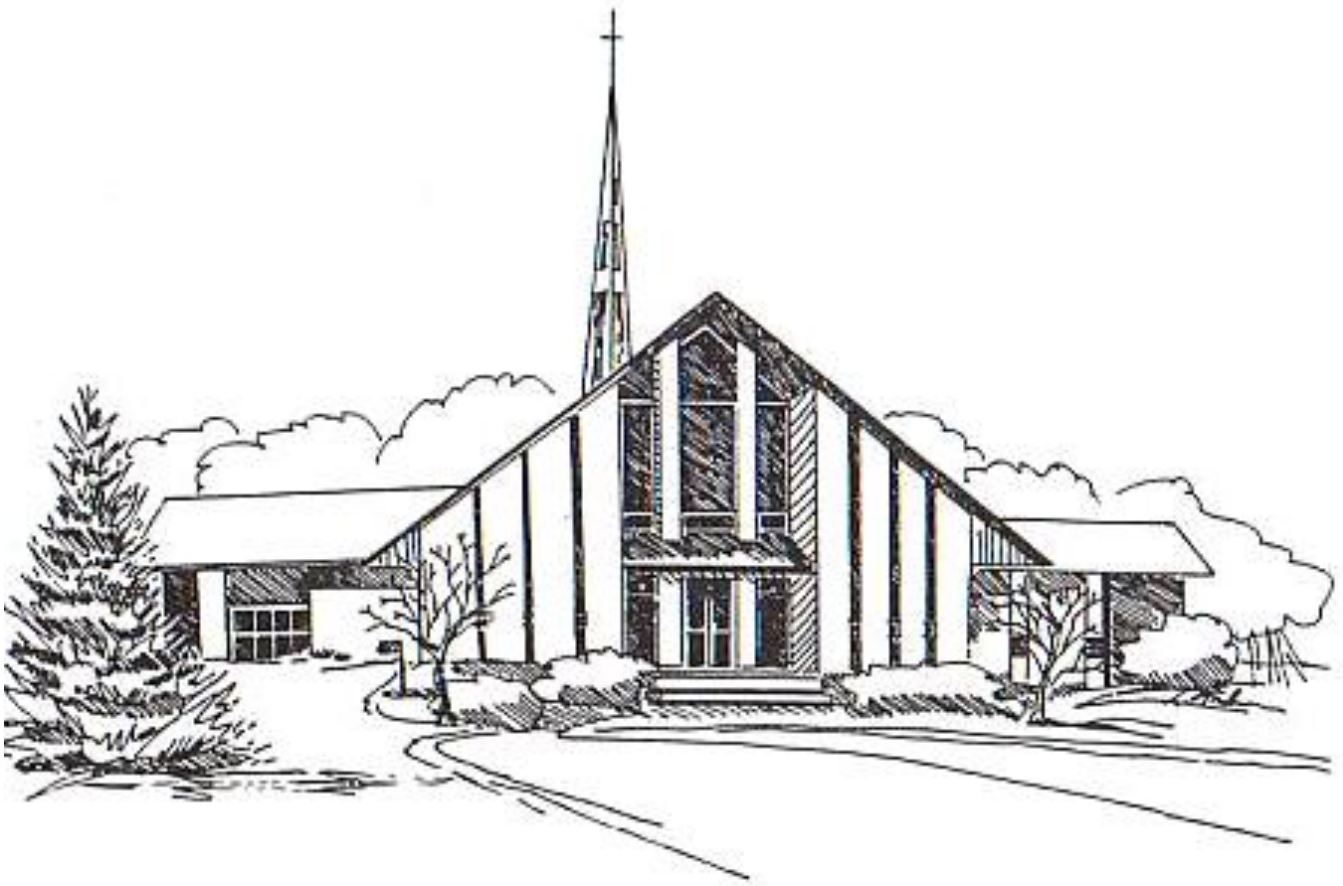


FAITH

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
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
MARCH 2, 2025**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING GOD'S HOUSE

God of mountaintops and valleys and everywhere in between, we thank you for meeting us where we are. We thank you also for leading us to this place of prayer and renewal. Enlighten our minds, radiate our hearts, and ready us for Your alive Word of Love. Let it shine in and through us, lighting a path of grace, hope, and joy. May the same transfiguring power, shown forth in Jesus Christ, also shine in us for the good of the world. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

* **OPENING HYMN: FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH** 28

* **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Pastor: The call of the Holy One has brought us together.

People: We have been called to pray and to praise.

Pastor: We are called to worship and to holy wonder.

People: May the light of Love burn brightly in us.

Pastor: May it transfigure and transform our hearts and minds.

People: May it become a beacon of hope for others.

REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

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

Holy God, it has been easy to live with our eyes veiled. Too often, we have hidden from the hard realities within us and around us. We have shielded Your light of Love, instead of sharing it. Something deep within has often hardened our

hearts, leading to inertia and unfreedom. But there is a deeper longing within. We hunger for the forgiveness and renewal You revealed in Jesus Christ. Forgive us, Holy One, and unveil our eyes and our hearts. With Your shining love, light a path of forgiveness for us that we may share it with others. By this, we may know the freedom of new life you revealed in Jesus Christ. Amen and 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.

* **WORDS OF GRACE**

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: I HAVE CHRIST AS MY SAVIOR** **478**

I have Christ as my Savior

I have Christ as my Savior

I have Christ as my Savior everyday.

He gives Peace to my Soul

He gives Peace to my Soul

He gives Peace to my Soul all day long.

LEARNING ABOUT GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: Exodus 34:29 – 35

New Testament: Luke 9:28 - 36

LESSON FOR YOUTH

HYMN: *I NEED YOU EVERY HOUR*

517

SERMON: *Just Listen*

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD’S WILL

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

Our hope is God, our holy Parent, who makes all things and from whom all blessings flow.

God’s faithfulness is the anchor of our hope.

Our trust is in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. More than a teacher, His life, death, and resurrection giving meaning to our existence. Christ’s faithfulness tethers us to holy mystery.

Our trust is in the Holy Spirit. Blowing over and through creation, unexpected and untamed, the Spirit stirs forgiveness, fruitfulness, and creates families. The Spirit’s faithfulness ties together past, present, and future.

**Holy Trinity, One God, we believe you transfigure our faith.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND INTERCESSION

**Pastor: Lord of the Mountaintop, God of dazzling clothes,
be with us when we come down from the height of
worship to face a world that didn’t see what we just saw
in you. Show us what to do.**

**When demons rage through elementary schools, let it not
be said that your disciples could not cast the devil out.**

**When violence threatens to engulf our communities,
Let it not be said that your disciples cowered in fear
Or walked on the other side of the road.**

When there is peril or fire or flood, let it not be said that

your disciples cleared the unwanted junk from their garages and called it charity.

Lord of the Mountaintop, God of dazzling clothes show us how to be. Change us; transfigure us so that this world might see what we have just seen, and worship you.

(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

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

CHOIR ANTHEM: *O WORSHIP THE LORD*

* 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:

O Spirit of Life, shine on us again and again that we may become the blessing you intend. Keep awakening us to Your holy mystery and Your sacred call. Bless these gifts we bring so that Your energy of love may be shared with others and

offer the light of a new beginning. By this, and more than we can name, continue to transfigure us and the world. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*** CLOSING HYMN: *CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION***

400

*** 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.*

CHOIR ANTHEM: *O WORSHIP THE LORD* – L. Larson

Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. Worship the Lord in spirit and truth. Lift your voice in praise; come and kneel in devotion. Worship the Lord; come and worship the Lord. Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. Worship the Lord in Spirit and truth. Lift your voice in praise; come and kneel in devotion. Worship the Lord. O worship the King, all glorious above; O gratefully sing His power and His love; our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise! Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. Worship the Lord in spirit and truth. Lift your voice in praise; come and kneel in devotion. Worship the Lord; come and worship the Lord. Worship the Lord; come and worship the Lord.

Welcome to Faith Church this Transfiguration Sunday. 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 to the Glory of God by Joan Hassler.

As in past years, our Lenten Program lets you take part at your convenience and includes a Lenten Devotional Book and Daily Devotional Cards (by a Sanctified Art) that you can find in the Narthex. The program begins on Ash Wednesday. For those who want to take part digitally the Devotional Book and Cards are included on the weekly email and can be bookmarked to your computer/phone.

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday, March 5th at 7:30 pm.

Next Sunday is the 1st Sunday in Lent. We will celebrate Communion during worship.

March is One Great Hour of Sharing Month. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.

Get out your pie plates and find your favorite pie recipe. It's time for PIE Sunday! After worship on March 16th we will sample the most delicious pies Faith bakers can make. All are invited even if you don't bake pies. A Free Will Offering will be collected for One Great of Hour Sharing. See you then! *(There will be a Make Your Own Salad lunch before the pie desserts.)*

CALENDAR

- Today - 9:00 am Sunday School
 - 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
 - 10:15 am Worship
 - 11:30 am Choir Rehearsal
- Monday - Sandy Works Remotely
- Tuesday - 2:00 pm Faith in Stitches
 - 7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
- Wednesday - 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service
- Friday - Office Closed; Pastor's Day Off
- Sunday - Joyful Noise Collection
 - 9:00 am Sunday School
 - 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
 - 10:15 am Worship/Communion
 - 11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

Thanks to our volunteers:

| | March 2 | March 5th Ash Wed. | March 9th |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Head Usher: | Cindy Talaber | Cindy Talaber | Cindy Talaber |
| Ushers: | Rose Mirth | George Rau | Kim Ritter Rose Mirth |
| Lay Reader: | Rose Mirth | Joan Hassler | Barb Maursky |
| Fin. Sec: | Wes Koser | n/a | Tony DiSanto |
| Altar Flowers: | Joan Hassler | n/a | Cindy Talaber |

Office: 610-282-3939; faithchurchcv@gmail.com

Sandy when working remotely – 610-967-6232

Pastor: 610-248-5586; pastorbruce.faithucc@outlook.com

Organist/Music Director: 215-361-8641; ddduda@verizon.net