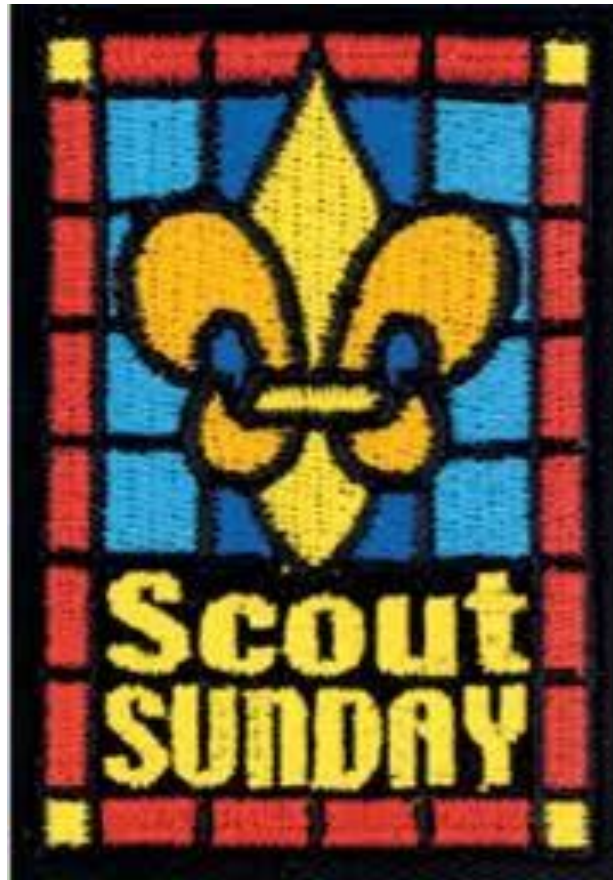


FAITH

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
FIFTH SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY
SCOUT SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING GOD'S HOUSE

O Great Spirit! Watch over us as we begin this day. Protect us as we live in your care. Give us bounty and hold us from harm. We are your children and wish only to please you. We hold our Mother Earth close to our hearts and wish her goodness. We thank you for your love.

WORDS OF WELCOME

CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

* **OPENING HYMN: A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD** 440

* **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Let us worship God. Jesus said: I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Unison: This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: God of Wisdom, grant us your Holy spirit, that we may hear your word and obediently do your will through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Unison: Amen.

REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

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

Almighty and most merciful God; We have erred and strayed from the ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended

against the holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But you, O Holy One, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those that are penitent; According to your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of your holy Name. 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.

*** WE SHARE PEACE: I'VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER**

478

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.

LEARNING ABOUT GOD

MISSION MOMENT: BLANKET MONTH

Rose Mirth

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

Karen Talboo

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:21 – 31

New Testament: Mark 1:29 – 39

HYMN: *HOW BEAUTIFUL, OUR SPACIOUS SKIES*

594

SERMON: Scouting and the Community

Ellie Kane

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD'S WILL

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – *THE INDIAN CREED***

There is one Great Spirit, the creator and ruler of all things, to whom we are responsible. He is eternal, invisible, omniscient, omnipotent, unportrayable. In and through Him all beings live and move; to Him all worship and allegiance are due; from Him all good things come. Him we must approach with reverence; His favor may be won by prayer, by sacrifice, and a kindly life; knowledge of Him, by discipline, by fasting, and by lonely vigil; and with that knowledge will come His guidance. He is impersonal; yet at times inspiring or entering personally into animals, birds, clouds, rain, mountains, men or things. Under Him are many lesser spirits.

Having arrived on this earth, the first duty of man is the attainment of perfect manhood, which is the just development of every part and power that go to make a man, and the fullest reasonable enjoyment of the same. He must achieve manhood in the Body Way, the Mind Way, the Spirit Way, and the Service Way.

Having attained to high manhood, he must consecrate that manhood to the service of his people. He must, above all, be a good provider for his family, a brave protector, a kind and helpful neighbor, and every ready to defend his family, his camp, or his Tribe from a foreign foe.

THE DAKOTA PRAYER

Leader: O Almighty God, you have always been, and before you nothing has been.

There is no one to pray to but you. The stars of the heavens are yours, and yours are the grasses of the earth, and the depths of the seas.

You are older than all need, older than all pain and prayer.

Great God, fill us with light.

Give us strength to understand and eyes to see. Teach us to walk the soft earth as relatives to all that live.

Help us, for without you we are nothing.

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

Leader: 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

OFFERTORY

CHOIR ANTHEM: *I WAS TOUCHED AND I BELIEVE*

*** 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:**

Holy One, we bring our gifts and pray that they may be for the building up and lifting up of your people, for the binding of wounds and the healing of hearts, for shelter and for covering and clothing for those in need. With these gifts we offer our songs of praise as we hope in your steadfast love. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*** CLOSING HYMN: ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL 31**

*** 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: I WAS TOUCHED AND I BELIEVE - J. Purifoy

I believe the little Child born of Mary, meek and mild, came to touch my aching soul, and by His touch has made me whole. I believe He sent His Son, I believe the battle's won, I believe the pow'r of prayer, I believe that God is here. In awe, the shepherds spread His word, and told in wonder what they'd heard. "Let voices raise and praising sing! The little Child is Christ the King." And I believe He sent His Son, I believe the battle's won, I believe the pow'r of prayer. I believe that God is there. King's and shepherd's hearts were thrilled with joy and promises fulfilled No doubts

remained and they believed, the Word of God had been received. I believe He has the pow'r to give me courage hour by hour; I believe He's always near, I believe that God is here. I believe that God is here.

Welcome to Faith Church this Fifth Sunday after Epiphany. 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 alter flowers this morning are presented by a Friend of Faith.

Please welcome and thank Ellie Kane for sharing today's message. She's been involved in Scouting for several years and is the first young lady in our congregation to earn the Eagle Scout Badge of Honor.

Pastor Bruce will be on vacation through February 12th. If you find yourself in need of pastoral care during this time, please call Pastor Teresa Martin at 717-654-4044,

The "Cereal" Bowl of Sharing is going strong! To date we have collected 215 large boxes and 48 individual sized boxes of cereal! Let's see how many boxes of CEREAL we can get to help out our neighbors in need through February 18th.

Is your closet too full? Do you have clothing that no longer fits you? Are blankets sticking out of your linen closet? The Allen Clothing closet has a solution to help you. One day every month the William Allen High School clothing closet is opened to the public to come in and select clothing, toys, blankets, and household goods. All sizes of clothing – men's, women's, infants, and children's clothing are welcome. If you have anything that you

are looking to get rid of, please bring it in to Faith Church. Questions - Donna Schoenberger (610-390-1574). All donations are greatly appreciated. At this time of year warm sweaters, winter coats, hats, gloves, etc. are desperately needed. Thank YOU.

CALENDAR

Mon. – Thurs. 9 am to 4 pm; Friday Closed

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Today | - Scout Sunday |
| | - 10:15 am Worship |
| | - Sunday School |
| Monday | - Sandy works remotely |
| Tuesday | - 2:00 pm Faith in Stitches |
| Friday | - Office Closed |
| Sunday | - 10:15 am Worship/Sunday School |

Thanks to our volunteers:

| | February 4 | February 11 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Head Usher: | Donna Schudel-Barone | Donna Schudel-Barone |
| Ushers: | Faye Tirpak Doris Horwath | Bob & Patti Shelly |
| Lay Reader: | Barb Maursky | Brenda Hovis |
| Fin. Sec.: | Bob Shelly | Bob Shelly |
| Altar Flowers: | A Friend | Shelly |

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

Sandy on a Monday: 610-967-6232

Pastor: 610-248-5586; Pastor@faithchurchucc.org

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