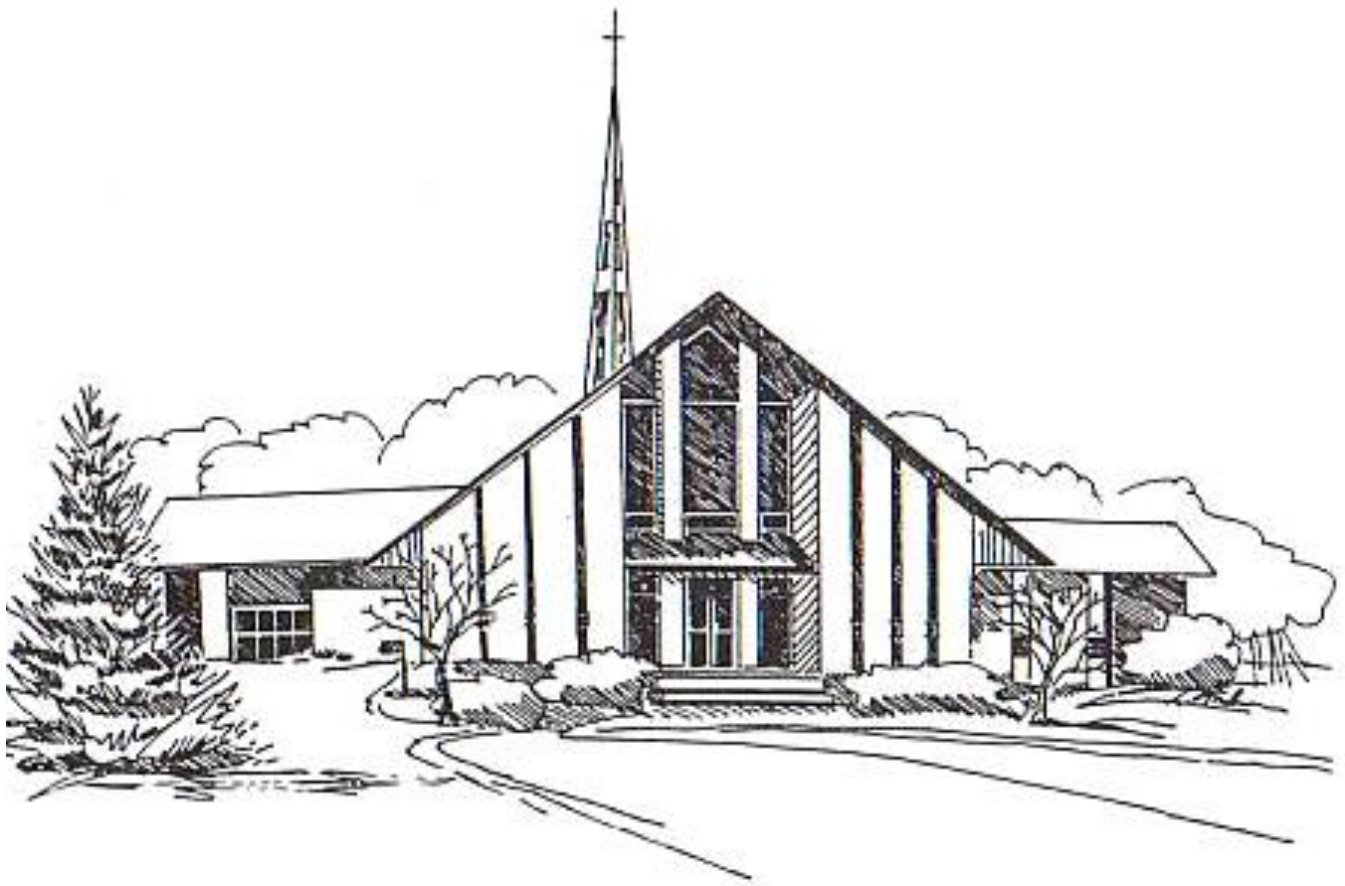


FAITH

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
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 28, 2024**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING GOD'S HOUSE

Great and Mighty God, we seek your presence among us. We strain to hear your voice as it so often gets drowned out by the noise of the world. We pause to consider your works, your word, and your way. Speak to us now in spirit and in truth. Open your hand and our hearts that we may join in this moment of holy encounter. Forge us as a community committed to follow the path Jesus has marked for us. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME: THIS IS THE DAY

84

(1st Verse Twice)

This is the day, this is the day that our God has made that our God has made; we will rejoice, we will rejoice, and be glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that our God has made, we will be glad in it; This is the day, this is day that our God has made.

CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*** OPENING HYMN: GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY 436**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Pastor: We call upon the Holy One, who is near to us. We testify to your power to make your kingdom known among creation.

People: All your works shall give thanks to you, Holy One, and all your faithful shall bless you.

Pastor: We speak of the glory of your miraculous acts, your abiding presence, and your abundant love.

People: All your works shall give thanks to you, Holy One, and all your faithful shall bless you.

Pastor: With justice and grace, with hope and mercy, with abundance and discernment, you sustain those in need, you uphold those who have been broken, and you satisfy those who seek a better way.

People: All your works shall give thanks to you, Holy One, and all your faithful shall bless you.

REJOICING IN GOD'S GRACE

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

Great and Mighty God, we seek your presence among us. We strain to hear your voice as it so often gets drowned out by the noise of the world. We pause to consider your works, your word, and your way. Speak to us now in spirit and in truth. Open your hand and our hearts that we may join in this moment of holy encounter. Forge us as a community committed to follow the path Jesus has marked for us. 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'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

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: II Samuel 11:1 – 15

New Testament: John 6:1 – 21

HYMN: *I NEED YOU EVERY HOUR*

517

SERMON: *More Than Moses*

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD'S WILL

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and
renewer of life.**

The Spirit:

Justifies us by grace through faith,

Sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

And binds us together with all believers in the one body of

Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules

our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us

through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of

baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of

salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the

church.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage:

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

**to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND INTERCESSION

Pastor: O God, who always listens to us, who breathes new life into us,

People: call us forward to resurrection.

Pastor: We are surrounded by a world of dry bones, a world of death and despair, a world where we lose hope in our structures, ourselves, and you. We pray for this world in need of your Word: for all the people in it; for those who lay down their lives; for those who lead.

Silence

Pastor: O God, who always listens to us, who breathes new life into us,

People: call us forward to resurrection.

Pastor: We are surrounded by people with dried up lives, people unable to see your life past their tears. We pray for this world in need of your healing presence: for those who are imprisoned or alone, those ill or infirm, or grieving.

Silence

Pastor: O God, who always listens to us, who breathes new life into us,

People: call us forward to resurrection.

Pastor: We are spellbound by those dry bones, terrified of the stink of death, and often too dumbfounded to call forth life in your name. We pray for your chosen people, your Church. We pray for the courage not just to follow you to death, but to follow you to the New Creation.

Silence

Pastor: O God, who always listens to us, who breathes new life into us,

People: call us forward to resurrection.

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

Pastor: Call us to follow in the footsteps of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us when we pray to say:

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:

*** 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:**

Sustaining God, receive our offerings and magnify them beyond our imagination for the benefit of your kindom, this ministry, and your creation. Cultivate a heart of generosity within us and enable us to witness the abundance that can be found in the fragments that remain as testimony to your power at work in us. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*** CLOSING HYMN: I SING THE PRAISE OF LOVE AMIGHTY**

*** 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 Tenth 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 Rose Mirth with love and thanks to Genevieve and Linda.

The Caring Place

Beginning in August there will be a collection box in the Narthex where you can drop off donations of School Supplies – markers, highlighters, pens, pencils, erasers, paper, construction paper, poster board, notebooks, backpacks, and any other school item you might find. We would like to drop off Faith’s donations in early September.

The Caring Place in the heart of Allentown is an after School program for students of all ages. It’s a safe environment to be in until their parents get home from work. While they are there receive nutritious snacks and help with their school work.

All donations are appreciated and used by the students. Please help out if you can.

CALENDAR

Sandy's Summer Office Hours:

Remotely - Mondays & Wednesdays 9 – 4

In Office - Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 – 3

Today - 10:15 am Worship

Tuesday - 2 pm Faith in Stitches

Friday - Office Closed; Pastor's Day Off

Sunday - 10:15 am Worship

Thanks to our volunteers:

	July 28	August 4
Head Usher:	Joan Hassler	Jean Hanville
Usher:	Cindy Talaber	Joan Hassler
Lay Reader:	Cindy Talaber	Rose Mirth
Financial Sec:	Jerry Trexler	Wes Koser
Altar Flowers:	Rose Mirth	A Friend
Lawn Crew:	Brett Dill	Tom Hovis & George Rau

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

Sandy works remotely on Mondays & Wednesdays.

You can text or call her at 610-967-6232.

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

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