

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 13, 2024

21st Sunday after Pentecost

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ."

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Renee Keiper

JOYS AND CONCERNS – Please share!

FRIENDSHIP PAD – Please sign and include any contact info updates.

***CALL TO WORSHIP Amos 5:6, 14-15**

Seek good and not evil; seek the Lord and live! May the Lord our God be with us. Seek good and not evil, that justice may prevail. May the Lord our God show us grace.

***OPENING HYMN All My Boast Is In Jesus**

*What wonder of wonders, what love is this; That Christ would die for me!
His goodness, His merit, His righteousness, This sinner's only plea.
O foolish pride, be crucified; The work is finished!*

CHORUS *All my boast is in Jesus; All my hope is His love
And I will glory forever In what the cross has done.
Now fully forgiven, my life is filled With graces undeserved.
For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill, Let praises now return.
Rise up, my soul, and bless the Lord! Who else is worthy?*

*All my boast is in Jesus; All my hope is His love
And I will glory forever In what the cross has done.
O, praise the One, forever blessed! Him alone my heart adores.
And I will boast in nothing less Than the love of Christ my Lord.
O, praise the One, forever blessed! Him alone my heart adores.
And I will boast in nothing less Than the love of Christ my Lord.*

*I boast not in riches, in strength or might, But in the grace of God.
I glory in weakness, to live is Christ In plenty or in want.
That I may know, that all may see His pow'r within me!
All my boast is in Jesus; All my hope is His love
And I will glory forever In what the cross has done.
Now I stand in His freedom; Ransomed, clean in His sight,*

*And I cannot be ashamed for My boast is Jesus Christ.
My boast is Jesus Christ. Forever, my boast is Jesus Christ.*

CALL TO CONFESSION Psalm 22:11

God is not far from us. When trouble is near, God is our help and Our refuge. Let us confess our sins to God, that we might receive mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, be gracious to us in spite of our great sin. Teach us to love your justice and share in your mercy. Help us to seek the treasure of heavenly life with you; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Receive these words of comfort from God)

We have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens: Jesus, God's Son, our Savior. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Gabby Bentley

"THE PASSING OF THE PEACE"

OFFERING – Basket located on the table as you enter the sanctuary.

INVITATION Mark 10:21

As followers of Jesus, we are called to give ourselves for others, as Jesus has given himself for us. With gratitude for Christ's grace, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERTORY We Will Feast In the House of Zion

Chorus: *We will feast in the house of Zion We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things we will say together We will feast and weep no more*

*We will not be burned by the fire He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood Upheld protected gathered up (CHORUS)*

*In the dark of night before the dawn My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning oh how long Oh God of Jacob be my strength (CHORUS)*

*Every vow we've broken and betrayed You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave Bind us together bring shalom (CHORUS)*

SCRIPTURE READING

Responsive Reading: Psalm 22:1-15

(L) My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

(ALL) O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night but find no rest.

(L) Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

(ALL) In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

(L) To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

(ALL) But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.

(L) All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me; they shake their heads;

(ALL) "Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver— let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

(L) Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

(ALL) On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me, you have been my God.

(L) Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

(ALL) Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

(L) I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

1 The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.

2 He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry.

3 He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know."

4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.

6 I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

8 I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them.

9 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

10 I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11 Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely."

12 Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.

13 And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people.

14 I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

SERMON From Anxiety To Anticipation

Pastor Rick Rufenacht

Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Dry Bones Can Be _____

_____ is the _____ for Dry Bones

Matthew 19:26 Psalm 130:7

_____ to the Dry Bones

Psalm 19:7-8 Isaiah 43:2

_____ to the Breath of God

Romans 5:5; 15:13

*THE LORD'S PRAYER – ALL

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.

CLOSING HYMN *Press On

Where two or three are gathered In the name of the Lord, He is here, He is here in our midst.

And we will sing together, Be renewed by the Word. When we part, may we go in His peace.

(CHORUS) *Press on, all you saints, Press on till the end. Christ with us, ever with us Until He comes again.*

Press on, all you saints, Run and run to win! Christ with us, ever with us Until He comes again.

Now let the Word be scattered like the seed on the soil; Day by day, Watch it grow in His care.

And may you be a shelter as you reach to the lost, Glad in hope, calm in pain, true in prayer. CHORUS

And may He find us waiting with our lamps burning still; Keeping watch through the night Til He comes.

For soon it will be morning and the sun will appear; Christ who brought us this far brings us home. CHORUS

***CLOSING PRAYER**

Steadfast, loving God, in the morning I sing your praise. Give me wisdom for this day and rejoice in me, as I rejoice in you. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG RESPONSE - ALL *Go Now In Peace

Go now in peace; never be afraid, God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe, reach out to others, so all the world can see. God will be there, watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.

(CCLI #2810357 Don Besig)

***POSTLUDE**

***INDICATES THAT YOU STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**



St. Matthews Church Kunkletown

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Council President: Diann Bittenbender

Office Manager: Renée Keiper

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Prayer Concerns

Dawn Eckhart (Hal and Bruce's Aunt), Ralph Wunder (Dan's brother), Brooke Beck, Marlette Palermo, Tina Martin (Pat's daughter), Todd Kresge, Alysha Katz, Wendy Peddigree, Rhonda Cramer (Randy and Ray's sister), Ellen Kresge, Beverly Frantz, John Blundetto, Jessica Speer, Tom and Lee Byrne, Barbara Souders, Debra Kemmerer, Joan Madden, Janet Smith, Marilyn McCloud, Kyle Frable, Diane Bonser, Shirley Smith, Edith George, Doris Neumeyer, Janet Gower, Joyce Gower, Conner Brawley, Gabrielle Collins, Gene Borger, Sharlee Ahner, Ronald Frantz, Sheila Sherer, Margaret and Larry Hahn, Hudson Stewart, Conner Bittenbender, Marlene Long, Roberta Heffley, Mike Heller, and Brian Holderman (Wendy Peddigree's brother), Barry Serfass (Brenda Hawk's brother), Barbara Marks (Pat Martin's sister-in-law), Georgia Smith (friend of Connie Frantz and Dora Tartar), David Zacharias (Dean's brother), Helen Alpaugh, Leni (friend of Helen), Logan Mackes (Rose Fritz's grandson), and the family and friends of Robert Long.

Altar Flowers

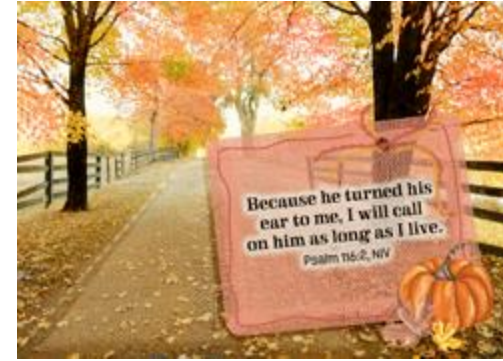
Vase 1 and Vase 2

Welcoming Pastor Rick and Eileen Rufenacht to St. Matthew's



❖ **Howard McCloud turns 90 on November 12th**
The family is requesting cards sent to him at
1433 Old Butler Road, New Castle Pa 16101
The family is throwing a party in New Castle PA
at the United Brethren Church
on 11/9 at 1:30pm and all are welcome.

Thank you
Jody (McCloud) Missmer



Sunday, October 13	21st Sunday after Pentecost Eldred Twp. Historical Society Bingo	-Sanctuary, 9am -Lunch 12:00 - Bingo 1:00
Monday, October 14	Exercise Group	-Office Open 10am – 2pm -Common Room - 10:30am
Wednesday, October 16		-Office Open 10am - 2pm
Thursday, October 17	Exercise Group	-Office Open 10am – 2pm -Common Room - 10:30am
Sunday, October 20	22nd Sunday after Pentecost	-Sanctuary, 9am

October – Lead Usher – Brenda Sheckler

❖ **HARVEST HOME COLLECTION**
OCTOBER 20TH AND OCTOBER 27TH

❖ **OCTOBER 26TH AND OCTOBER 27TH**
IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED A SURVEY, IT WILL BE DUE THAT WEEKEND.
FACE TO FACE INTERVIEWS WILL OCCUR BOTH DAYS THAT WEEKEND.
PLEASE HELP US TO MAKE ST. MATTHEW'S THE BEST WE CAN BE!!

❖ **ST. MATTHEW'S IS TAKING UP A COLLECTION FOR THE**
HURRICANE VICTIMS. LOOK FOR THE
GREEN SHOE BOXES.
ELDRED TWP. COMMUNITY CENTER IS ALSO COLLECTING BIBLES
TO BE DELIVERED TO FLORIDA.