

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 11, 2024

12th 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** (Ephesians 4:30)

(L) By the power of the Holy Spirit our steadfast loving God reaches out to redeem us.

(ALL) Thanks be to God!

***OPENING HYMN** *Let the Earth Resound*

Let the earth resound with songs of praise To the Father's power and love;

For the One who set each star in place Chose to set His heart on us.

To the One whose might gives victory, Yet whose mercies never cease;

As the tapestry of history Tells the story of His grace.

CHORUS: *King immortal, Faithful God; Crowned with splendor, rich in love.*

Let the heavens and the earth resound With songs of praise to You.

Let the earth be stilled before the sight Of a Father's sacrifice –

That revealed the depths of love divine In the face of Jesus Christ.

Through a life of full obedience And a death in agony,

He removed the rebel's punishment And He set the prisoner free. (CHORUS)

Let the earth resound with songs of faith At the wonder yet to come,

When all sin and pain are put to death And the church and Christ are one.

When we stand as God's great family And we meet the Father's gaze,

And we share in His eternal joy As we join in ceaseless praise. (CHORUS)

CALL TO CONFESSION (Psalm 130, 2 Samuel 18)

Let us confess our sins to the One who hears our voice and is deeply moved by our distress.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Confessing our sins to God through prayer)

God of peace, we have rejected your redemption and forged our own way. We hang between heaven and earth, caught up in our own folly. We have held fast to falsehood, deceiving others and ourselves. But there is forgiveness with you so that you may be revered. Our soul waits in hope for your word to redeem us so that we may begin anew, a new day with you. Amen. (Psalm 130, 2 Samuel 18)

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

Let us put away bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven us. **Thanks be to God.** (Ephesians 4)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Staci Gower

"THE PASSING OF THE PEACE"

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

INVITATION (Ephesians 5)

As Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, let us offer ourselves to God.

OFFERTORY *Behold Our God*

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?

Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice. (CHORUS)

CHORUS: *Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.*

Behold our King, nothing can compare, come, let us adore Him!

Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His words?

Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds?

(CHORUS)

Who has felt the nails upon His hands, bearing all the guilt of sinful man?

God eternal, humbled to the grave, Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign! (CHORUS)

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Cheryl Hummer

Responsive Reading – Psalm 34: 1-8

(L) I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

(ALL) My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

(L) O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

(ALL) I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

(L) Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

(ALL)This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.

(L)The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

(ALL) O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

***The Gloria Tibi:** *Glory be to thee, O Lord*

New Testament Reading – Luke 24:36-43

Pew Bible pg 861

***Laus Tibi:** *Praise be to thee, O Christ*

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Scars” by Ray Boltz*

SERMON **“Jesus Appears to Disciples”** **Paul Van Osten**

***THE LORD’S PRAYER – ALL** **Paul**

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** *Since Jesus Came into My Heart*

*(1) What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought
Since Jesus came into my heart
I have light in my soul for which long I had sought
Since Jesus came into my heart*

CHORUS: *Since Jesus came into my heart
Since Jesus came into my heart
Floods of joy o'er my soul
Like the sea billows roll
Since Jesus came into my heart*

*(2) I have ceased from my wand'ring and going astray
Since Jesus came into my heart
And my sins which were many are all washed away
Since Jesus came into my heart (CHORUS)*

*(3) I shall go there to dwell in that city I know
Since Jesus came into my heart
And I'm happy so happy as onward I go
Since Jesus came into my heart (CHORUS 2x)*

*Floods of joy o'er my soul
Like the sea billows roll
Since Jesus came into my heart*

***CLOSING PRAYER** **Paul**

God of the morning watches, my soul waits for you, and I hope in your word. Bread of life, nourish, strengthen, and accompany me throughout this day, that I may labor honestly, share with the needy and imitate your love. 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.

(CCLI #2810357 Don Besig)

***POSTLUDE**

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

St. Matthews United Church of Christ

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610-381-2442, stmatts@ptd.net

Council President: Diann Bittenbender
Coordinator of Spiritual Formation: Staci Gower
Office Manager: Renée Keiper
www.stmattsucckunkletown



Sunday, August 11	12th Sunday after Pentecost	-Sanctuary, 9am
Monday, August 12		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Exercise Group	-Gathering Room, 10:30am
Wednesday, August 14		-Office Open 10am - 2pm
Thursday, August 15	Exercise Group	-Office Open 10am – 2pm
Sunday, August 18	13th Sunday after Pentecost	-Sanctuary, 9am
	Guest Preacher – John Smith	

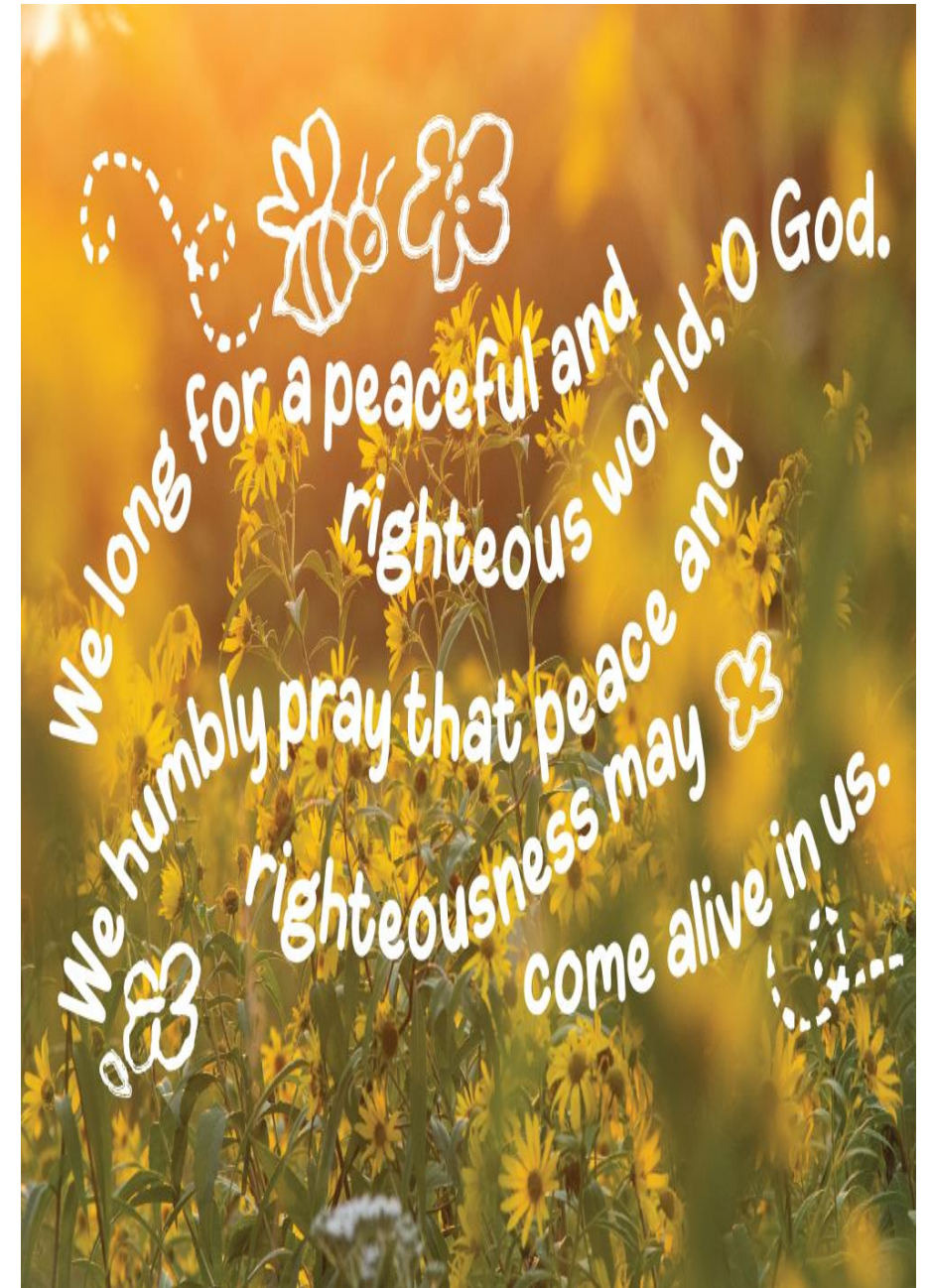
August Lead Usher – Devoe Breinich

Altar Flowers

Vase #1 and Vase #2 are sponsored by Diane Bonser

Prayer Concerns

Tina Martin (Pat's daughter), Todd Kresge, Alysha Katz, Wendy Peddigree, Rhonda Cramer(Randy and Ray's sister), Frank Rapa, Leon Barlieb, 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).



- Thank you to Paul Van Osten for leading our service today.
- Committees, please check your mailboxes in the office.
- Laymen's will meet for craft days on August 28th at 10am.
- The Christian Ed team will meet on Tuesday, August 13 at 5:15pm. Sunday School teachers and nursery helpers are needed.
- The next Faith & Family event is mini golf at Snydersville Golf Range on Saturday, August 17 at 6:30pm

**West End Fair Preparation Schedule:
Sunday, August 18 – August 24 Fair Week**

See Dora to sign up for a shift.

**S'MORE FUN
CAMPFIRE FELLOWSHIP
At St. Matthew's Kunkletown Church Grove
Friday, September 20th at 7pm (rain date Sept. 21)
FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
GAMES – MUSIC – HOT DOGS – FUN!!!**

COMING SOON!

**OCTOBER 6TH WE WILL
CELEBRATE ST. MATTHEW'S HISTORY!!**

**SHARE YOUR PICTURES AND MEMORIES BY DROPPING THEM OFF IN
THE MARKED BOXES IN THE NARTHEX OR ON THE ROUND TABLE
IN THE COMMON ROOM.**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR PICTURES WITH YOUR NAME OR
LEAVE COPIES FOR US.**

THE DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 8TH.

The Joyful Noise for August is Operation Touch of Home which began in 2004 by Dean and Sharon Green in preparation of their son's deployment to Fallujah, Iraq. They had many questions for other seasoned Marines and in reaching out, they discovered the immense impact receiving items from friends and families at home had on their morale. This effort has since touched the lives of over 1,270 heroes with an excess of 133,595 pounds of essential items shipped in more than 5,422 large boxes. These individuals typically share these items with their whole unit, so not only hundreds, but literally thousands of US Troops have been touched by Operation: Touch of Home.

Bible Studies:

- Wednesdays at 1:00pm – led by Pastor Mike at People's EC Church (216 Wagner Street, Leighton)
- Wednesdays at 6:00pm – led by Dan Smale on the book of Luke. CIA classroom at St. Matthew's.
- Thursdays at 12:30pm – led by Pastor Mike at Papa Al's (Delaware Ave, Palmerton). Contact Pastor Mike to find out what chapter and verse will be discussed while you have lunch.

