

**ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**August 18, 2024**

**13<sup>th</sup> 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** Psalm 34:11,14

(L) Come, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

**(ALL) Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.**

**\*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** Ephesians 5:15-16

Seeking the wisdom of the Lord, let us consider how we have lived, confessing our sins and trusting in the mercy of God.

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

**All knowing God, we are your children, but we have turned away from your wisdom and walked in our own ways. We have lived carelessly and squandered time. Purge us from evil and fill us with your Spirit. Clear our minds from clutter that we may discern what is right and walk in your ways. Amen.** 1 Kings 3, Ephesians 5 and Psalm 111

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

Hear the good news: Christ offers himself as bread of life to all who would receive him. This proves his love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**Staci Gower**

**"THE PASSING OF THE PEACE"**

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

**INVITATION** Psalm 84, John 6

Our God has bestowed us with favor and honor through Christ, who has given us the words of eternal life. From this fullness, let us now offer our gifts of thanksgiving in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**OFFERTORY** *My Worth Is Not In What I Own (At the Cross)*

*My worth is not in what I own; Not in the strength of flesh and bone.*

*But in the costly wounds of love At the cross.*

*My worth is not in skill or name; In win or lose, in pride or shame.*

*But in the blood of Christ that flowed At the cross.*

**REFRAIN:** *I rejoice in my Redeemer–Greatest Treasure, Wellspring of my soul.*

*I will trust in Him, no other; My soul is satisfied in Him alone.*

*As summer flowers we fade and die; Fame, youth and beauty hurry by.*

*But life eternal calls to us At the cross.*

*I will not boast in wealth or might, Or human wisdom's fleeting light.*

*But I will boast in knowing Christ At the cross. (Refrain)*

*Two wonders here that I confess: My worth and my unworthiness.  
My value fixed – my ransom paid At the cross. (Refrain 2x)*

**READING OF THE SCRIPTURES**

**Diane Huber**

**Responsive Reading – Psalm 111**

(L) Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**(ALL) Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.**

(L) Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

**(ALL) He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.**

(L) He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**(ALL) He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

(L) The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

**(ALL) They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

(L) He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

**(ALL) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.**

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

**New Testament Reading – Matthew 20:20-28**

**Pew Bible page 801**

The mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him. And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you

must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

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

**SERMON Jesus asked, 'What is it you want?'**

**Pastor John**

**Matthew 20:20-28**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER – ALL**

**Pastor John**

**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 *Let the Nations Be Glad***

*Let the glory of the Lord forever be our joy  
May redemption be the theme of our song  
For by grace we have been saved  
And by grace we shall proclaim  
To the corners of the earth  
that Christ is come*

**Chorus:** *Let the nations be glad  
Let the people rejoice  
For salvation belongs to our God  
Let the whole earth be filled  
With the praises of the Lord  
For salvation belongs to our God  
Let the nations be glad*

*Through the ages gone before  
through the trial and the sword  
Many saints and martyrs  
conquered though they died  
Still we holding out the cross  
Crossing oceans suffering loss  
Shall endure all things to win  
the crown of life*

*As Your holy church goes forth  
in the Holy Spirit's power  
With the glories of the gospel  
to exclaim*

*Now we pray "Your Kingdom come"  
And we pray "Your will be done"  
For the honor and glory  
of Your name*

**\*CLOSING PRAYER**

**Pastor John**

Loving God, help me make the most of the time you give this day, to be wise in my decisions and careful in my actions. Let my life be a continual act of thanksgiving for your loving kindness, through Jesus Christ. 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.*

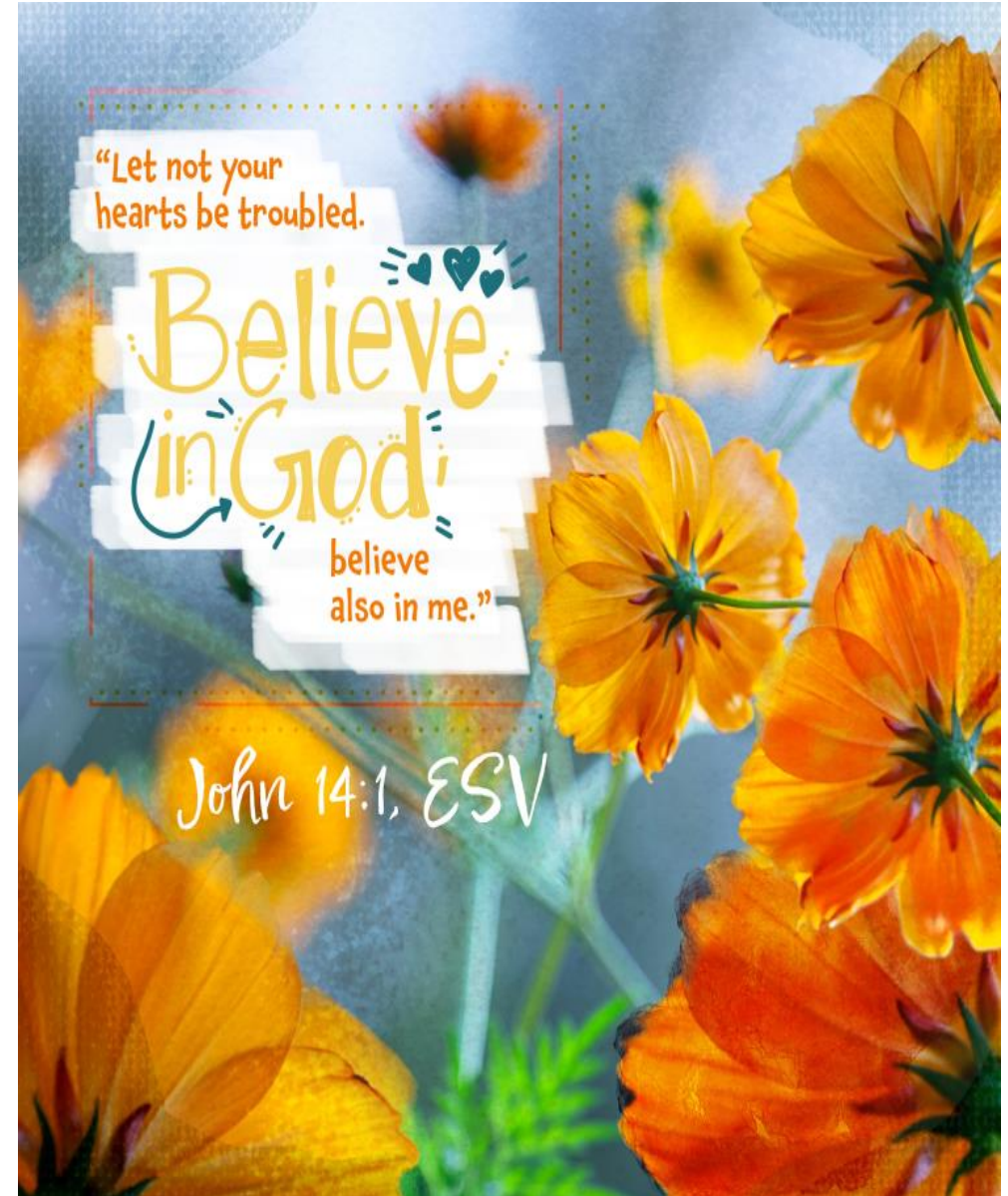
*(CCLI #2810357 Don Besig)*

**\*POSTLUDE**

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

**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).



**St. Matthews United Church of Christ**

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**August**

Sunday, August 18  
Monday, August 19

13th Sunday after Pentecost

-Sanctuary, 9am  
-Office Open 10am – 2pm  
-Gathering Room, 10:30am  
-Office Open 10am - 2pm  
-Office Open 10am – 2pm

Exercise Group

Wednesday, August 21

Thursday, August 22

Sunday, August 25

Exercise Group

14th Sunday after Pentecost  
Guest Preacher – Will Hoffman

-Sanctuary, 9am

**August Lead Usher – Devoe Breinich**

**Altar Flowers**

Vase #1 – In memory of Sherry Kreger by her Family.

Vase #2 – In memory of Jerry Haydt from his Family.

**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 from the book of Luke.  
**NO CLASS AUGUST 21, 28, SEPT 4; WILL RESUME ON SEPTEMBER 11TH**
- 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.

- **Thank you to Pastor John Smith for leading our service today.**
- **Committees, please check your mailboxes in the office.**
- **Laymen’s will meet for craft days on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am.**

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**West End Fair  
Sunday, August 18 – August 24**

**VISIT THE FOOD STAND ON THE MAIN MIDWAY NEXT  
TO THE FUNNEL CAKE STAND!!!**

**See Dora if you haven’t signed up for a shift.  
This is an ALL-CHURCH fundraiser that benefits everyone!**

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

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**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.**