

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

November 22, 2020

*"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"*

*Christ the King Sunday*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Joyce Fusner

(L) The Lord God is our shepherd.

**(P) We are the people of God's pasture, the sheep of God's hand.**

(L) God will seek the lost, feed the hungry, and strengthen the weak.

**(P) But the proud and power-hungry will be fed with justice.**

**\*THE OPENING PRAYER**

(L) God of majesty, you love us with an everlasting love  
and show us the way to your Kingdom.

In Jesus Christ you have reconciled the whole world to you  
and claimed us as your own,  
that we may live as his body on earth.

Draw near to us now in this hour of worship  
as we praise and honor our Lord, Jesus our Sovereign. **AMEN.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Jesus, Name Above All Names*

*Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.*

*Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.*

*Jesus, loving Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of God.*

*Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Lord of the universe, Light of the world.*

*Praise Him, Lord above all lords, King above all kings, God's only Son.*

*The Prince of Peace, who by His Spirit comes to live in us, Master and Friend.*

*Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.*

*Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm.**

**You guide us toward right paths,**

**but we refuse to follow where you lead.**

**You love and feed and care for us,**

**but we fail to love and serve others.**

**Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold  
and rejoice in your presence through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
the Lamb upon the throne. AMEN**

**MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ACT OF PRAISE #726**

*With voices united our praises we offer,  
our songs of thanksgiving to you we now raise;  
your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,  
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!*

**THE READING OF SCRIPTURE**

**The Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24**

**11** For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. **12** As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. **13** I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. **14** I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. **15** I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. **16** I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

**20** Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. **21** Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, **22** I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge

between sheep and sheep. **23** I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. **24** And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

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

**\*The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25: 31-46**

**31** "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. **32** All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, **33** and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. **34** Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; **35** for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. **36** I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' **37** Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? **38** And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? **39** And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" **40** And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

**41** Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; **42** for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, **43** I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' **44** Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" **45** Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' **46** And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

**SERMON**

"Where do you find Jesus?"

The Rev. Suzanne Brooks-Cope

**\*HYMN**

*Crown Him (Majesty)*

*Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.  
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him Who died for me,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.*

*Majesty! Lord of all! Let every throne before Him fall!  
The King of kings O come adore, our God Who reigns forevermore!*

*Crown Him the Lord of life! Who triumphed over the grave,  
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.*

**\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A New Creed

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

**God is with us.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

## THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*Come Ye Thankful People Come*

*Come, ye thankful people come; Raise the song of harvest home;  
All is safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin.*

*God, our Maker, doth provide For our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple come; Raise the song of harvest home.*

*For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take His harvest home;  
From His field shall in that day All offenses purge away.  
Give His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.*

*Even so, Lord, quickly come To Thy final harvest home;  
Gather Thou Thy people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin.  
There forever purified, In Thy presence to abide.  
Come, with all Thine angels come; Raise the glorious harvest home.*

*Come, thankful people, come! (3x)*

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #359

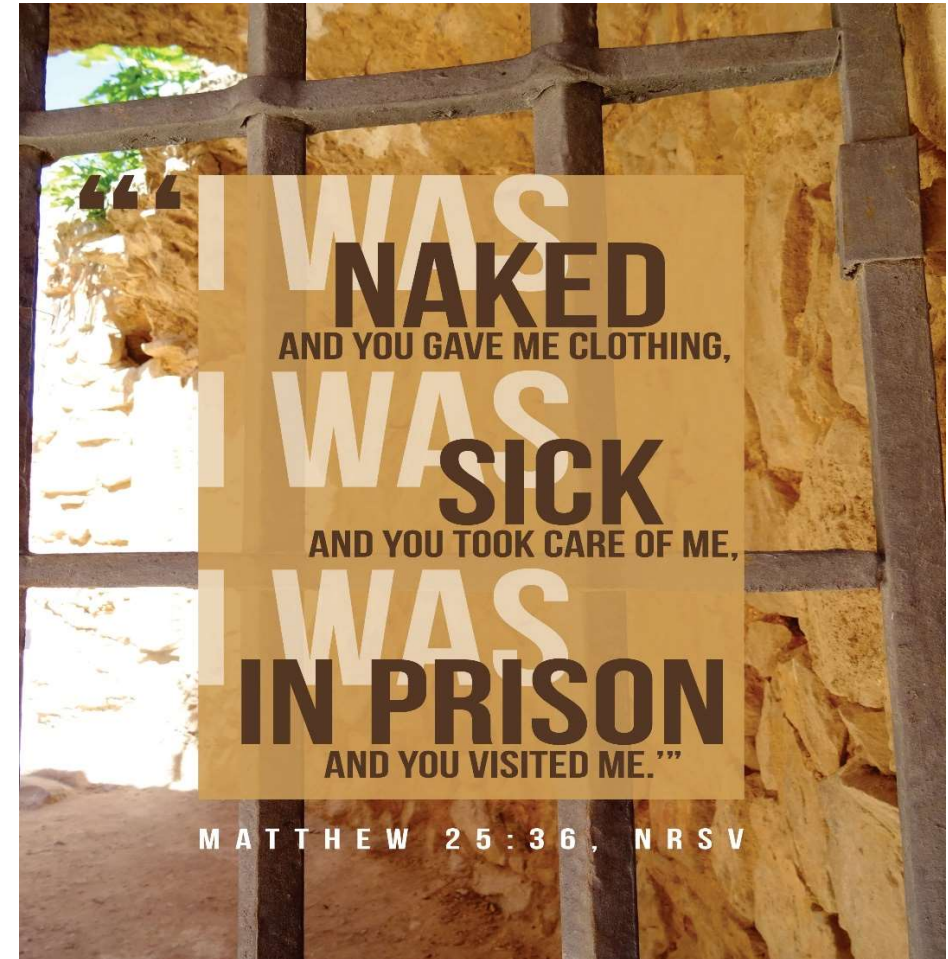
*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son (2 times)*

*And Now, let the weak say "I am strong," let the poor say "I am rich,"  
because of what the Lord has done for us (2 times)*

*Give Thanks!*

### \*POSTLUDE

*(\*Please stand in body or spirit.)*



### St. Matthews United Church of Christ

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610-381-2442, [stmatts@ptd.net](mailto:stmatts@ptd.net)

Pastor: The Rev. Suzanne Brooks-Cope

Office Manager: Mrs. Rose Arace

Coordinator of Spiritual Formation: Mrs. Staci Gower

Music Director: Mr. Daniel Smale

Council President: Mr. George Huber

Sunday Worship, 9 AM; AM, Adult Sunday School, 10:30 am

Children's Sunday School is virtual on our website

[www.stmattsucckunkletown.com](http://www.stmattsucckunkletown.com)



*Christ Jesus, reestablish your reign in my heart every day,  
so that I live as an emissary of your love.*

**This Week Ahead**

Sunday, November 22	Worship	-Sanctuary, Soc. Hall 9 am
	Christ the King Sunday	-CIA Class, Stage 10:30 am
Monday, November 23		-Office Open 9am-1 pm
	Exercise Group	-Gathering Room, 1 pm
Wednesday, November 25		-Office Open 9am-1pm
	Exercise Group	-Gathering Room, 1 pm
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving Day	- Office Closed
Friday, November 20		-Office Open 9am-1pm
Sunday, November 29	Worship	-Sanctuary, Soc. Hall 9 am
		-CIA Class, Stage 10:30 am

**Prayer Concerns**

Bill Slawter, Eliza Dymond, Janet Gower, Rosemarie Stranahan, Alton and Lila Kleintop, Gladys Lindenmoyer, Erica Pozza, McCoy Rappa, Scott Madden, Doug Hawk, Lee Sitler, Ralph Wunder, Lynda Edwards, Janet Fowler, Shirley Smith, Chapman and Mason Buskirk, Brayden Wunder, Kelly George, Kim Cope, Josh and Kevin Engler, Mae Borger, Marlette Palermo, Gladys Meixsell, George Keller, and the Families of Loretta Hawk, Marlene Prutzman, Bobbie Christman, Franklin Smith and Linda Strohl

**Today's Ushers:**

George Huber and Cheryl Dorshimer

**Next Week's Ushers:**

Shirley Brotzman and Darryl Breinich

**Acolyte:** Lydia Borger

**Next Week's Acolyte:** Jake Procita

*Have a wonderful and happy Thanksgiving!*

**Thank you to all those who picked up Angel tags.** Your gifts will be distributed to children through PVEN. Please bring back the “unwrapped” presents with tag attached by November 29 or drop them off at PVEN by December 4. Thank You.

**Help Needed!** The Council is looking for a few volunteers to help with usher duties. We need volunteers to open our outside doors each Sunday. If you would be willing to be a “Doorman” or “Doorwoman” speak to George Huber. Responsibilities include handing out bulletins to those who worship in cars or in Social Hall and giving masks to anyone who needs one. Volunteers need to be here by 8:30 am.

**Pastors Scott and Suzanne will be going on a walk to support the Huntington's Disease Society of America.** They will be walking when Kim and Trevor (son and daughter in law) will be walking in Florida. If you would like to sponsor them, donations of cash or check, made out to HDSA will be gratefully accepted or give online at <https://app.donorview.com/5yNG4> (Trevor's team Hope Walk link). Thank You!

**Calling all Families...**The next Friday Fun night is November 27 inside the church. Join us for Merry Movie Night as we kick off the holiday season. Pizza, cookies and cocoa will be served. Sign up early, as seating is limited to 30 people.



**Our Annual Congregational Meeting will take place at the close of worship on Dec. 6.** The purpose will be two-fold—to approve the proposed budget and to elect three new council members for the Class of 2023. A saint of the church will also be recognized!

**Transmission of COVID19 is on the rise in our area. Don't forget to wear a mask at all times when inside the building and to keep 6 feet away from others not in your household! If you are not feeling well or running a fever, please stay home. Thank you for helping to keep each other safe.**