

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 14, 2020

Second Sunday After Pentecost

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ."

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(L) Call on the name of the Triune God.

(P) God hears our voice and listens to our longings.

(L) Even when times are hard, there is hope in our God.

(P) Let us worship the God who inspires and calls us to live creatively.

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING SONG

"How Very Good and Pleasant it is"

How very good and pleasant when we live in unity.

It is like precious oil, like fresh morning dew.

*We gather here together with our hearts and voices raised to God,
who's the center of our unity and praise!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Triune God, Holy Three, Holy One,

We confess that we do not know how to look for you.

We do not sense your nearness,

and if there are angels among us, we are unaware.

We do not show the hospitality to strangers

that Abraham showed to you.

We do not trust that our hardships can be transformed by your Spirit.

O Covenant-keeper, forgive us.

Let us laugh with joy because your grace has made peace among us.

**Send us out with this good news so that others will receive your blessing;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE #136

Holy, holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee!

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Staci Gower

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Genesis 18:1-15, 21: 1-7

1 The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. **2** He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. **3** He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. **4** Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. **5** Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said."

6 And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." **7** Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. **8** Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. **9** They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." **10** Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.

11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. **12** So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" **13** The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?'"

14 Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." **15** But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

1 The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. **2** Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. **3** Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. **4** And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. **5** Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

6 Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." **7** And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

THE MESSAGE

“Sarah Laughed”

The Rev. Suzanne Brooks-Cope

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rylee Kristen Meckes

(See Insert)

Daughter of Tighe and Joanne Meckes

HYMN

(See Insert)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

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.

OFFERING

*The earth and all it contains belong to the Lord, the world and those who live in it.
With gladness, let us present the offerings of our life and labor to our God.*

HYMN

CHARGE AND BLESSING

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*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.*

POSTLUDE

(When you leave, please practice social distancing.)

I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.

Genesis 18:10, ESV



Second Sunday after Pentecost

Worship, 9 am Sundays in the Grove

102 Church Rd, Kunkletown, PA 18058

610-381-2442, stmatts@ptd.net

Pastor: The Rev. Suzanne Brooks-Cope sbcstmts@ptd.net

Music Director: Mr. Daniel Smale

Coordinator of Spiritual Formation: Mrs. Staci Gower

Office Manager: Mrs. Rose Arace

Council President: Mr. George Huber

www.stmattsucckunkletown.com

“A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ”



Thank you, Creator God, for this lovely summer day and for your glory that shimmers in nature. Hallelujah!

This Week Ahead

Sunday, June 14	Worship in the Grove (Baptism of Rylee K. Meckes) No Social Hour	-Grove, 9 am
Monday, June 15	Walking Group (Exercise)	-Office Open 9am-1 pm -Outside, 1 pm
Wednesday, June 17	Walking Group (Exercise)	-Office Open 9am-1pm -Outside, 1 pm
Friday, June 19		-Office Open 9am-1pm
Sunday, June 21	Worship in the Grove Fathers' Day	-Grove, 9 am

Prayer Concerns

Edith Semmel, Mae Borger, Marlette Palermo, George Keller, Gladys Lindenmoyer, Alton and Lila Kleintop, Charlotte Christman (M. Prutzman's niece), Erica Pozza, Bobbie Christman, Scott Madden, Jeannie Anewalt, Doug Hawk, Bruce Devoncourt Lee Sitler, Marlene Prutzman, Janet Fowler, Carol Popay, Donna Smith, Shirley Smith, Chapman and Mason Buskirk, Sylvia George, Jan Burger, Dean Zacharis Brayden Wunder, Kelly George, The Rev. Alan Miller, Kim Cope, Margaret Hahn, Josh and Kevin Engler; and the Families of Don Schneider, Frances Ash and Robert Boyer



We will continue to worship up in the Grove on Sunday mornings at 9 am. We will record the service and post a video of our worship service online later this afternoon for those who are not comfortable joining us in person. If you know of someone who is unable to worship at the Grove or unable to access the Sunday worship service online, please let the office know and we will mail the bulletin and message to them through US Mail.

When we worship in the Grove, we ask that all worshipers follow best practices for the safety of our members and visitors. *Best Practices will include—wear a mask— keep 6 feet apart at all times—no congregating in groups—no hugging or shaking of hands—no playing on the playground. Other practices may be added. Any who are uncomfortable joining us, we encourage you to continue sheltering at home and worship with us digitally on your smart phone and computer. The bathrooms are cleaned and open.*

A Prayer Vigil for peace in our nation will be held in the church parking lot (by our new church sign) at 2 pm. It will be a short vigil with the ringing of bells, prayers, silence and the singing of "Let There be Peace on earth" at the end. Please bring a candle (electric if you have one).

VBS is scheduled for July 20 through the 24. The theme is Rainforest Explorers. There is a wish list of needed items if you on our website if you would like to donate something. Our VBS teachers need individually (store bought) wrapped snacks this year and individual 100% juice boxes.



Kay Frable collects our Weis and Shoprite receipts, talley's them up and turns them into to receive a donation for PVEN. Please continue to save your receipts. You may drop them in her mailbox any afternoon or drop them by the church office.



The Strawberry Festival is being postponed and will be combined with our church picnic on July 18. Hopefully, we will be in the green zone by then. Plans are to include the car show.

Our planned Sight and Sound Field Trip to see the production "Esther" has been rescheduled to September 22. If necessary, we can reschedule it for even a later date.