

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 28, 2020

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ."

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(L) The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.

(P) You shall love the LORD your God, and your neighbor as yourself.

(L) Beloved, let us love one another.

(P) We love because God first loved us.

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

Almighty and merciful God,

we have erred and strayed from your way like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;

and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

O LORD, have mercy upon us. Forgive those who confess their faults.

**Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises
declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**and grant, O Merciful God for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and
humble life to the glory of your holy name. 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

Psalm 13

How long, O God? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I bear pain in my soul,

and have sorrow in my heart all day long?

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

Consider and answer me, O God, my God!

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";

my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.

But I trusted in your steadfast love;

my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

I will sing to the Lord,

because God has dealt bountifully with me.

THE MESSAGE

"How long, O God?"

The Rev. Dr. Scott Brooks-Cope

HYMN

O How Long, Lord?

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 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; and
lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. AMEN.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

Rock of Ages Cleft for Me

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.)



St. Matthew's United Church of Christ

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"



*Dear Jesus, I pray for anyone here today who is hurting.
May your love comfort and encourage them. Amen.*

This Week Ahead

Sunday, June 28	Worship in the Grove	-Grove, 9 am
Monday, June 29		-Office Open 9am-1 pm
	Exercise Group	-Gathering Room, 1 pm
Wednesday, July 1		-Office Open 9am-1pm
	Exercise Group	-Gathering Room, 1 pm
Friday, July 3		-Office Open 9am-1pm
Sunday, July 5	Worship in the Grove	-Grove, 9 am

Holy Communion—please bring your own elements

Prayer Concerns

Loretta Hawk, Mae Borger, Marlette Palermo, George Keller, Ann Heffner
Gladys Lindenmoyer, Alton and Lila Kleintop, Charlotte Christman, 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, Alan Miller, Kim Cope, Margaret Hahn, Josh and Kevin Engler;
and the Families of Sylvia George, Edith Semmel, Don Schneider, Frances Ash and Robert Boyer

Today's Ushers:

Harry Koehler and George Huber

Next Week's Ushers:

Gabrielle Bentley and Dora Tartar



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.

Phoebe Ministries needs sewers to make a few more cloth gowns for their medical staff. They pre-cut the fabric and give out all needed materials. If you are able to sew a couple gowns, please speak to Pastor Scott or Pastor Suzanne. They have the kits.

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 worship in your car or to continue sheltering at home and worship with us digitally on your smart phone and computer. The bathrooms are cleaned and open.*

VBS is scheduled for July 20 through the 24. The theme is Rainforest Explorers and will include a field trip to the zoo. For parents who are not comfortable bringing their children to VBS, Staci Gower will be making packets so parents can lead the VBS message from home. There is a wish list of needed items on a poster board if you would like to give a donation. Our VBS teachers need individually (store bought) wrapped snacks this year and individual 100% juice boxes.



Kay Frable collects our Weis and Shoprite receipts, tallies them up and turns them into 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 Picnic will take place on July 18 from noon to 6 pm. The Cramer Brother Band will be playing from noon until 3 and the Dean Moore Band will play for 4 to 6 pm. Spread the word and join us. They will need help preparing the strawberries and staffing our food stands.