

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 6, 2020

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ."

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(L) O come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the rock of salvation!

(P) Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving
singing joyful songs of praise.

OPENING PRAYER

(L) You who have created and who sustains us: We come with thanksgiving for these moments when we can ease the pace of our lives and listen for your voice. Create a spirit within us that truly draws us toward you and toward our brothers and sisters, a spirit deep, perceptive, gentle, and bold. Clear our minds, open our hearts, and touch us with your presence and your power. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our friend and our Savior. AMEN.

OPENING SONG *We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise*

*We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord,
We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord.
And we offer up to You the sacrifices of thanksgiving,
And we offer up to You the sacrifices of joy! (Repeat)*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, from the beginning of time you have called your children into communion with you. Yet we confess that like all the rest, we have turned to our own way and refused your love and grace. Restore us to the joy of knowing you, and of recognizing your reign among us, through Jesus Christ, bringer of your good news. AMEN.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER



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 while finding your seat and returning to your car and also while singing— keep 6 feet apart from others 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 at 105.5 FM or to continue sheltering at home and worship with us digitally on your smart phone and computer.*

Welcome to our pulpit the Rev. Allan Kramer-Moyer. Allan is a retired member of the Penn Northeast Conference. He was the Director of Pastoral Care at Phoebe and CPE educator. He is married to Nancy. Allan continues to be active in the life of our conference. Welcome Allan!



Are you or is your child or grandchild interested in confirmation class this coming school year? Pastor Suzanne would like to hear from you. She is having a Parent/Youth Confirmation meeting after worship on September 20 up in the grove pavilion (bring a chair). Pastor Suzanne would like to talk to parents and youth as we make plans for the beginning of confirmation.

The Sight and Sound trip to see Esther on September 22, 2020 had been postponed until THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021 at 11 am. If the virus situation improves and our evening bible study class is comfortable, we can move it up sometime next spring, but for now our tickets have been reserved for Sept. 2, 2021. Please mark your calendars.

Did you like the gray polo shirts and t-shirts with a St. Matthew's logo that were worn by our VBS staff? They are available for sale throughout September. Short sleeved gray tee's are \$16 for small to XL and \$19 for 2XL and up. The short sleeved gray Polo shirts are \$20 for small through XL and \$25 for 2XL and up. If you are interested, contact Cheryl Bartholomew at 570-224-2570 or Jessica Slawter (wjlawt02@gmail.com) our website manager. There will also be an order form in the September White Dove. \$3 for every shirt purchased will be given to the Church.

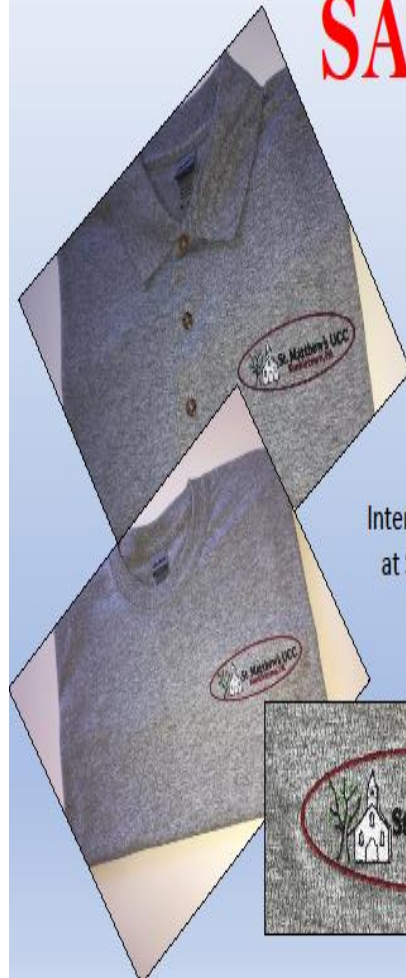
St. Matthew's shirts for **SALE!**

**For every shirt
purchased, Stitch
Craft Magic will
donate \$3.00 to
St. Matthew's UCC!**

Short Sleeved Polo:
\$20 for sizes SM thru XL
\$25 for sizes 2XL and up

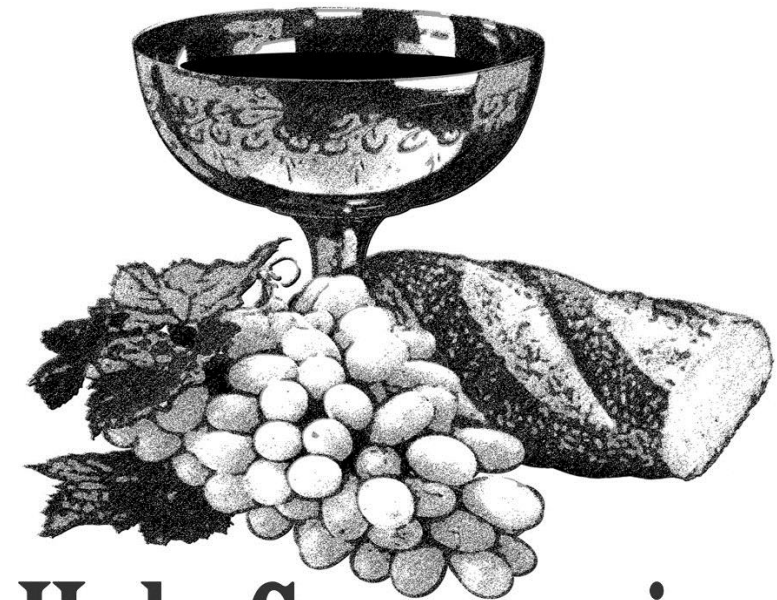
Short Sleeved Tee:
\$16 for sizes SM thru XL
\$19 for sizes 2XL and up

Interested? Please call/email Cheryl Bartholomew
at Stitch Craft Magic or contact Jessica Slawter.



www.stitchcraftmagic.com
info@stitchcraftmagic.com
570.224.2570

Stitch Craft Magic is a family owned and operated retail and custom embroidery boutique located in the historic Victorian town of Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania. "Our focus is to make truly beautiful pieces you'll love to own!"



Holy Communion

St. Matthew's United Church of Christ
Worship, 9 am Sundays in the Grove; 105.5 FM

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.



God, this Labor Day weekend, I thank you for the work to which you have called me — at home and beyond. May I glorify you in all I do.

This Week Ahead

Sunday, September 6 Worship in the Grove -Grove, 9 am
 Communion Sunday
 The Rev. Allan Kramer-Moyer preaching
Monday, September 7 Labor Day -Office Closed
Tuesday, September 8 Council Meeting -Social Hall, 7 pm
 Exercise Group -Gathering Room, 1 pm
Wednesday, September 9 -Office Open 9am-1pm
 Exercise Group -Gathering Room, 1 pm
Friday, September 11 -Office Open 9am-1pm
Sunday, September 13 Worship in the Grove -Grove, 9 am
 The Rev. Allan Kramer-Moyer preaching

Prayer Concerns

Henry Krechel, Dale Meixsell, Loretta Hawk, George Keller, Ann Heffner, Sandy Smith
Linda Handwerk, Sherwood Smith, Gladys Lindenmoyer, Alton Kleintop, Erica Pozza,
Lynn Borger, Bobbie Christman, Scott Madden, Doug Hawk, Bruce Devoncourt
Amanda Mitchell (Joan Madden’s niece), Lee Sitler, Marlene Prutzman,
Janet Fowler, Carol Popay, Donna Smith, Shirley Smith, Chapman, and Mason Buskirk,
Jan Burger, Dean Zacharis, Brayden Wunder, Kelly George, Alan Miller, Kim Cope,
Margaret Hahn, Josh and Kevin Engler, Mae Borger, Marlette Palermo
and the Family of The Rev. Sterling Schnell

Today’s Ushers:

Jenny Rose Serfass and Dora Tartar
Stephen Christiansen, Gabrielle Bentley, Starlene Barr

Next Week’s Ushers:

Cheryl Dorshimer and Darryl Brienich

Sept. 20th Ushers:

Gabby & George

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE #63

*Give to our God immortal praise; Mercy and truth are all his ways.
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Staci Gower

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Kyle Strohl

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:1-4

Our Gospel Lesson today is the introduction to Luke's gospel in which Luke describes how he received the accounts of Jesus' life and recorded them in his gospel.

1 Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, **2** just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, **3** I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, **4** so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

THE MESSAGE

“Who Will Tell His Story?”

The Rev. Allan Kramer-Moyer

HYMN

Bind Us Together

(Chorus) *Bind us together, Lord;*

Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken

Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together Lord;

Bind us together with love.

There is only one God, there is only one King.

There is only one body; That is why we can sing: (Chorus)

Made for the glory of God, purchased by His precious Son.

Born with the right to be clean, for Jesus the vict'ry has won. (Chorus)

You are the fam'ly of God, you are the promise divine.

You are God's chosen desire. You are the glorious new wine. (Chorus)

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed (In unison)

(L) Do you believe in God?

(P) We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

(L) Do you believe in Jesus the son?

(P) We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

(L) Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

(P) We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN *All Creatures of Our God and King*

*All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou rushing wind that are so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!*

*Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice; Ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia!*

Let all things their Creator bless, And worship Him in humbleness,

O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One,

O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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.)