

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 29, 2024

19th 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 126:2-3**

The Lord has filled our mouths with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy. The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

OPENING HYMN *Every Promise of Your Word

From the breaking of the dawn to the setting of the sun,

I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Words of power, strong to save, that will never pass away,

I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

For Your covenant is sure, And on this I am secure—

I can stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I stumble and I sin, condemnation pressing in,

I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

You are faithful to forgive that in freedom I might live,

So I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Guilt to innocence restored, You remember sins no more—

So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I'm faced with anguished choice, I will listen for Your voice,

And I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Through this dark and troubled land You will guide me with Your hand

As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

And You've promised to complete Ev'ry work begun in me—

So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Hope that lifts me from despair, love that casts out ev'ry fear,

As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Not forsaken, not alone, for the Comforter has come,

And I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Grace sufficient, grace for me, Grace for all who will believe—

We will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The God of mercy hears our cries. Let us confess our failings and needs to each other and to the one who commands us to come to be healed.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You see our need when we are blind to it. You have made us to be yours. In your compassion, forgive us for our lack of faith and the harm we do to your earth. Forgive us for turning away and not listening to what is most nourishing even for ourselves. Let our faults fall from your eyes as you open ours. Hear this and answer, in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

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

People of God, beloved of the Lord, the one who created you and maintains your every breath calls you to receive mercy and be forgiven. Go in peace, in the firm assurance of pardon, so that today and every day your path may be strong and free, in the name of the holy Trinity, one God, now and forever.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Gabby Bentley

"THE PASSING OF THE PEACE"

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

INVITATION

Seeing the bounty that God has made for our good use, let us give now our tithes and offerings for the sake of the church and the poor.

OFFERTORY

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged; Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness; Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our Refuge; Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

Dora Tartar

Responsive Reading – Psalm 19:7-14

(L)The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

(ALL)the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

(L)the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

(ALL) More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

(L) Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

(ALL)But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

(L) Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

(ALL) Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

New Testament Reading – James 5:13-20

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

14 Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

15 The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

16 Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

17 Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

18 Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another,

20 you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

SERMON

Ralph Hindmarch

***THE LORD'S PRAYER – ALL**

Ralph

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 *Since Jesus Came into My Heart

(1) What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought

Since Jesus came into my heart

I have light in my soul for which long I had sought

Since Jesus came into my heart

CHORUS: Since Jesus came into my heart

Since Jesus came into my heart

Floods of joy o'er my soul

Like the sea billows roll

Since Jesus came into my heart

(2) I have ceased from my wand'ring and going astray

Since Jesus came into my heart

And my sins which were many are all washed away

Since Jesus came into my heart (CHORUS)

(3) I shall go there to dwell in that city I know

Since Jesus came into my heart

And I'm happy so happy as onward I go

Since Jesus came into my heart (CHORUS 2x)

*Floods of joy o'er my soul
Like the sea billows roll
Since Jesus came into my heart*

***CLOSING PRAYER**

Ralph

As you go from here, walk in the way of the Lord: with thanksgiving, with gladness and insight. Turn to Him with all your needs, and pray for those who have no words today. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SUNG 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.

(CCLI #2810357 Don Besig)

***POSTLUDE**

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

Prayer Concerns

Ralph Wunder (Dan's brother), Brooke Beck, Marlette Palermo, Tina Martin (Pat's daughter), Todd Kresge, Alysha Katz, Wendy Peddigree, Rhonda Cramer (Randy and Ray's sister), Frank Rapa, 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), and the family and friends of Leon Barlieb



St. Matthews United Church of Christ

102 Church St, Kunkletown, PA 18058

610-381-2442, stmatts@ptd.net

Council President: Diann Bittenbender

Office Manager: Renée Keiper

www.stmattsucckunkletown



Sunday, September 29	19th Sunday after Pentecost	-Sanctuary, 9am
Monday, September 30	Exercise Group	-Office Open 10am – 2pm -Common Room - 10:30am
Wednesday, October 2	Exercise Group	-Office Open 10am - 2pm
Thursday, October 3	1st Thursday Game Day	-Office Open 10am – 2pm -Common Room - 10:30am
Sunday, October 6	20th Sunday after Pentecost Celebrating St. Matthew's History Memories – Music - Breakfast	- Social Hall – 12:30pm -Sanctuary, 9am

September Lead Usher – Tonya Peddigree

Altar Flowers

Vase #1 – In celebration of Dora Tartar's birthday today!

Vase #2 – available for purchase for \$15



**Howard McCloud turns 90 on November 12th
The family is requesting cards sent to him at
1433 Old Butler Road, New Castle Pa 16101**

**The family is throwing a party in New Castle PA
at the United Brethren Church
on 11/9 at 130pm and all are welcome.**

**Thank you
Jody (McCloud) Missmer**

➤ **Thank you to Ralph Hindmarch for leading our service today**

COMING NEXT SUNDAY!

**OCTOBER 6TH WE WILL
CELEBRATE ST. MATTHEW'S HISTORY WITH
MEMORIES, MUSIC AND BREAKFAST!!!!**

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.
- The 3rd Thursday of the month 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.

**Laymen's Fellowship is requesting donations of items for the
PA Dutch Auction for the Bazaar on November 2nd.**

These items should be valued at \$25 or more.

Items will be accepted until October 27th.

**Laymen's Fellowship will also have their annual filling
sale in November.**

More information to follow.



The Joyful Noise for September is Habitat for Humanity