

Myerstown United Church of Christ

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 27, 2019

Worship Time 8:00 am

Brief Service of the Word

Prelude *Fugue on the Name of BACH* J Albrechtsberger

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (Leader/All)

This is the day the Lord has made:

A day for praise and prayer; a day for gratitude and generosity.

This is the time God has given us:

A time for singing and silence; a time for speaking and listening.

This is the life to which God calls us:

A life of humility and service; a life of faith and trust.

(will all who are able, please stand)

*Opening Hymn #31 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE
(please be seated)

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Join me as we pray to our God, saying

Watching God, like the Pharisee, we think we can stick our thumbs into life, pull out a prayer, and congratulate ourselves for being such good Christians. Then, we remember the harsh words we have spoken this week, the hurt we have inflicted on someone we loved, the lack of compassion we failed to offer to someone who needed our help.

Forgive us, God of Grace, and deal gently with us. May we become more like the tax collector—humble, penitent, acknowledging our faulty lives to you. Then, may we receive the mercy promised to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Forgiven and healed, we open ourselves to the grace, the peace, the hope offered to us through our living God.

This is the good news we have received!

[will those who are able please stand for the reading of the Gospel]

*A Reading from the Gospels Luke 18:9-14

Hear the good news of Jesus Christ as remembered by Luke in verses 9 through 14 of chapter 18.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt. "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income. But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner! I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'"

This is where the reading ends. It is the gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

[the congregation may be seated]

Homily

Nora Foust

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Our Savior

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.

[will those who are able please stand]

*Closing Hymn #502

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

*Taking Today Into the World

We have offered praise and prayer to our God,

Who sends us out to offer peace and hope to others.

We have heard the call of Jesus in the silence and singing,

And we will join him in speaking for the voiceless.

Filled by the Spirit with faith and trust,

We go to serve others, humbly and lovingly.

*Benediction

*Moments of Silent Meditation

Postlude

Postludium

Adolf Hesse

Acknowledgements

We welcome Rev. Rev Nora Foust again to our pulpit and thank her for her presence among us today. Rev. Foust is the Associate Conference Minister for Congregational and Ministerial Excellence for the Penn Central Conference. She staffs all association Committees on Ministry, facilitates the Ministerial Education Forums, leads the congregational and clergy boundary training program, and meets with consistories and congregations for a wide variety of educational opportunities. A life-long member of the UCC, Rev. Foust has been involved with outdoor ministries as a camper and director for over 30 years. Nora loves spending time outside and reading when she can find extra minutes. Nora and Mike have an adult daughter that lives in NC; their son Joshua lives with them in Harrisburg, PA.

The flowers on the altar in honor of our parents by the Scott Bennetch family.

Liturgy Information: Some liturgy for this services was reprinted with permission from <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/10/liturgy-with-communion-for-october-27.html> and by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word* © *Worship Companion*. Copyright 2013.

Calendar for This Week

Today, Sunday, October 27

8:00 am

Worship; Nora Foust, preaching

8:45 am

Small group meetings.

10:00 am

Worship, Nora Foust, preaching

11:00 am

Christian Education Committee

Monday, October 28

8:30 am

Strong Bones [social hall]

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Church Office Open

Tuesday, October 29

12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Pastor Office Hours [preferably by appointment]

Wednesday, October 30

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Church Office Open

7:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Scouts

Thursday, October 31

8:30 am

Strong Bones [social hall]

Friday, November 1

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Church Office Open

Saturday, November 2

Sunday, November 3

Gift Card Orders Received

8:00 am

Worship with Communion; Jim Yoder, preaching

8:45 am

Small group meetings.

10:00 am

Worship with Communion, Jim Yoder, preaching

:3:00 pm

Garret Book Ordination

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Announcements

**ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY** is November 3rd. As before, we will read the names of members of the congregation who have died in the past years. If there are *family members* who have died this year, you are also invited to submit their names to be read. Please contact the Church Office on or before Wednesday, October 30th. Be sure to spell the name if leaving a voicemail message.

In addition, we will gather the names of persons who achieved their *sainthood* in previous years. You are invited to submit names of family members and friends on the cloud cards. You are also encouraged to talk with your neighbors and

invite them to submit names. If you returned any cards today, please put them in the container on the Information Table in the Gathering Area. Cards that you bring with you on the 3rd will be placed during the worship service.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will take place on Sunday, November 10th. There will be only one service that morning at 9 am. The meeting to follow the service.

**ANNUAL MEETING CHOIR:** Since there is only one service on November 10th, there is an opportunity for folks who normally attend the early service to sing in the choir. It's also an opportunity for late service people to participate in a special musical event. If you are interested / willing, please contact Emily.

**CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS:** At the Annual Meeting on November 10, 2019, we will vote on some amendments to our Constitution and By-Laws. Major changes include removing the list and descriptions of committees and task groups including term limits that we find impossible to follow. Committees will now be controlled by Council so adjustments can be made as needed (See Section 4.1 of the By-laws). We adjusted the terms for Elders to coordinate with having 4 Elders rather than 6, a change we made three years ago (See Section 4.2) We also added the word *active before member* in several locations to emphasize that quorums will be determined based on active membership. We replaced general mailing with communication to reflect our current use of electronic as well as paper communications (See Constitution Section 7.2, By-laws Section 5.3 and 5.4). Copies of the current [white paper] and proposed [pink] By-Laws are available on the information table.

**ORDINATION SERVICE FOR GARRETT BOOK.** The service will be held on Nov 3rd and begins at 3:00 pm. It will take place at Christ UCC, 200 S White Oak St, Annville.

**MAILBOXES** for church staff and all task groups are located in the Library.

**KITCHEN EQUIPMENT & UTENSILS** should not be removed from the kitchen without talking to the Kitchen Task Group [Mark Herr] and being signed out through the church office.

**LCCM** needs plastic store bags in addition to the goods on the list. Please place them in the usual LCCM collection box. Also, the Annual Fundraising Event is scheduled for Thursday, Nov 21st. Carolyn Williams will be selling tickets. MUCC also provides a basket for the silent auction that contains gift cards. Double benefit: Order a gift card on Nov 3 and give it to the Williams on Nov 10. Very simple!

**LEBANON VALLEY HOMES [ANNVILLE] ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR** will be held on Saturday, November 23rd from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Chapel. Refer to

the November Vineyard for items they would like to have donated.

**CHOIR MEMBERS:** Please take note of the rehearsal schedule for October through December: Wednesdays at 7:30 in the Music room 10/30, 11/6, 12/18, 12/22 [11am,if needed],12/24. Anthems will be rehearsed at 9:40 am (music room) and sung on 11/3, and 12/22 at the 10 am services and 8:40 am for the 9 am service on 11/10, as well as 12/24. Please contact Emily Frantz or put your name on the absentee chart as soon as possible if you will miss any of these dates.

**PRAYER TEAM:** Replacing a traditional prayer chain, participants will come together to pray for individuals and situations as a group. Sally Kulp is organizing this team. Please contact her to participate.

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Worship Assistants for November 3, 2019

8:00 am Service

Open Church: Cal Beamesderfer **Greeter:** Shirley Krall

Worship Leader: William Arnold

10:00 am Service

Greeter: Ed & Candy Hibshman **Sound:** Paulie McQuate

Worship Leaders: Steve & Marianne Fritsch

Ushers: Travis Bicher, Youth, Kenny Patrick

Communion Servers: Travis Bicher, Charles & Carolyn Williams (choir)

Counting Team: Carol & Ted Batdorf, Darryl Brown

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### Prayer List

|                                          |                |                                    |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Nancy Brown                              | Rosene Duffy   | Larry Eisenhauer                   |
| Ellen Goodyear                           | Ruth Ann Snoke | Joyce Mitstifer                    |
| Jewel Fessler (Kathy Grose)              |                | Linda Feaser (Kathy Grose)         |
| Suzanne Fritsch (Stephen Fritsch)        |                | Bill Gracely (Margo McQuate)       |
| Ralph Woynarowski (Sara Zeller)          |                |                                    |
| Rosalla Hollenbach (Trudy Yeager)        |                | Joanne Frantz (Emily Frantz)       |
| David Mock (Ed & Candy Hibshman)         |                | James Haines (Ed & Candy Hibshman) |
| Heather & Elvin Perez (Marianne Fritsch) |                | Beverly Asroff (Steve Fritsch)     |
| Family of Carol Schwalm                  |                | Steve Norford (Margo McQuate)      |

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Upcoming Preaching Schedule

November 3 Jim Yoder November 10 Jim Yoder
 November 17 Peter Schmiechen November 24 Peter Hook
 Jim Yoder will be preaching the entire season of Advent and Christmas Eve

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**Upcoming Community Activities**

**November**

9th            9:00 am -- Scouting for Food Drop Off  
 10th          7:00 pm --- Myerstown Area Veterans Day Concert  
                   --- at Zion UMC  
 14th          9:00 am -- Community Meal Prep  
                   4:00 pm -- Community Meal  
 16th                    --- Scouting for Food Pick Up  
 21st                    --- LCCM Dinner  
 23rd          9:00 am --- New Horizons at Country Fare  
                   --- Myerstown Holiday Parade  
 24th          7:00 pm --- Myerstown Community Thanksgiving Service  
                   --- Theater on Main Street, Stoneridge at  
                   --- Poplar Run

**December**

15th          3:00 pm --- Lebanon County Choral Society Concert  
                   --- Myerstown UCC  
 4:00 pm --- Festival of Lessons & Carols at  
                   --- Frieden's Lutheran

**Welcome to Myerstown United Church of Christ**

Church Office: 304 West Main Avenue, Myerstown , PA 17067-1023  
 Phone: 717/866-5252 myerstownucc@comcast.net  
 website: [myerstownuccchurch.org](http://myerstownuccchurch.org)

Kory Leppo ----- 717-269-6033 ----- Council President  
 Marie Hibshman 717-343-3247 ----- Elder  
 Jim Yoder ----- 252-258-4268 ----- Bridge Pastor  
 Emily Frantz ----- 717-383-1147 ----- Parish Administrator  
 Mark Herr ----- 717-572-7734 -Family & Community Ministry Coordinator  
 Lindy Bennetch ----- Financial Administrator  
 Jim Yoder ----- Office Administrative Assistant  
 Elicia Frank ----- Custodian

**Worship Assistants**

*Appreciation to the following who participated in today's service:*

**Organist**                    Mark Herr

8:00 am Service

**Open Church** William & Betty Arnold            **Greeters**            William & Betty Arnold  
**Worship Leader**                    Wanda Rabold

10:00 am Service

**Greeter**                    Dawn Hassler            **Sound:**                    Robert Dash  
**Worship Leaders**                    Sally Kulp  
**Ushers**                    Kory & Ryan Leppo, Bob Dash, Kenny Patrick  
**Counting Team**                    Ed & Candy Hibshman, Terry & Suzie Schott

Stewardship Report for Sunday, September 29, 2019

|                  |         |                         |       |
|------------------|---------|-------------------------|-------|
| General Fund     | \$3,416 | OCWM                    | \$150 |
|                  |         | Church Improvement Fund | \$300 |
| Attendance 8 am: | 17      | Attendance 10 am:       | 41    |