

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

If you are visiting, we welcome you!

Kory Leppo, Council President 717-269-6033
Marie Hibshman, Elder 717-343-3247
Emily Frantz, Parish Administrator/Choir Director 717-383-1147
Mark Herr, Organist/Christian Education Coordinator
Lindy Bennetch, Financial Administrator
Elicia Frank, Custodian
Beverly Asroff, Church Secretary

WORSHIP LEADERS & ASSISTANTS

Appreciation to the following people who assisted with today's service:

9:00 am **Supply Pastor:** Rev. Rodney Shearer
Open Church: Mark Herr
Greeter: Dawn Hassler
Worship Leader: Stephen and Marianne Frisch
Ushers: Marie Hibshman, Emily, Kara and Abby Frantz,
Kenny Patrick
Sound: Paulie McQuate
Counting Team: Marie Hibsman, Kathy Grose, Charles and
Carolyn Williams
Flowers: Celebrating the glory of God's creation

The conversational will be hosted by the Bennetch Family following worship today.

Thank you, Ed and Candy Hibshman, for providing August's Better Families.

Stewardship Report for Sunday, August 4, 2019

Offerings:	General Fund	\$ 3,852
	Our Church's Wider Mission	\$ 380
	Church Improvement Fund	\$ 760
	Total Attendance:	60

Myerstown United Church of Christ

306 West Main Avenue
Myerstown, PA 17067-1023
717-866-5252

August 11, 2019
Worship Time 9:00 am
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *Grand Fantasy* Cyrill Kistler

Welcome and Announcements

Announcements/Concerns of Congregation

(all who are able, please stand)

*Call to Worship from *Isaiah 1:16c-17* (Leader/All)

Cease to do evil;

Learn to do good.

Seek justice;

Rescue the oppressed.

Defend the orphan;

Plead for the widow.

God knows our sins,

God offers us forgiveness and restoration.

Come, worship our God,

Who is giving us a fresh start right now. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

How Great Thou Art

#51

(please be seated)

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession (Leader/All)

Holy One, we have devalued our neighbors and valued our possessions. We have locked up our wealth and ignored the people living on our streets. We cover our cars while our kindred go without shelter. Forgive us for treating property better than we treat Your children. Forgive us for our short-sightedness and selfish ways. Call us into valuing people, valuing relationships, much more than the things of this world that will surely pass away. In the name of Christ, who called us to give up our possessions and love our neighbors as ourselves, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Leader/All)

If we are willing, God has shown us a new way. If we are willing, God has laid the foundation before us for a new life. If we are willing, we know that God has forgiven us, and restores us. If we are willing, we know that God's love is all around. If we are willing, we know that Christ has called us to love our neighbor. If we are willing, we know that our lives have been transformed forever by Christ. If we are willing, may we go share the Good News. Amen.

Time for Children

(please be seated)

Scripture Readings

The Epistle lesson is from Hebrew 11:1-3, 8-16.

1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. 3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. 8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11 By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” 13 All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, 14 for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

(all who are able, please stand for the reading of the Gospel)

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord!

The reading is recorded in chapter 12:32-40.

32 “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an un-failing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 35 “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 36 be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. 37 Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. 38 If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. 39 “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. 40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Here ends the Gospel reading. It is the Good news of Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ!

The Message: The Word of God to us in Song

Rev. Rodney Shearer

Pastoral Prayer

The 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.

Offertory	<i>Fairest Lord Jesus (St. Elizabeth)</i>	Arr. by: Edward L. Good
*Offertory Response	<i>He Is Exalted</i>	#122
*The Apostle’s Creed	<i>(on the inside back cover of the hymnal)</i>	
*Closing Hymn	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	#411
*Benediction		
*Congregational Response	<i>When Peace Like a River</i>	#428 (refrain only)

(please be seated)

Moments of Silent Meditation

Postlude *Toccata* Hector Berlioz

