

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. Richard Christensen
	Open Church:	William and Betty Arnold
	Greeter:	William and Betty Arnold
	Worship Leader:	Sally Kulp
	Ushers:	Doug, Stephanie and Braden Bohannon, Kenny Patrick
	Sound:	Robert Dash
	Counting Team:	Lois Werner, Sara Zeller, Sally Kulp
Flowers:	Celebrating the glory of God's creation	

Stewardship Report for Sunday, August 11, 2019

Offerings:	General Fund	\$ 3,616
	Our Church's Wider Mission	\$ 275
	Church Improvement Fund	\$ 660
	Total Attendance:	65

Myerstown United Church of Christ

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

August 18, 2019

Worship Time 9:00 am

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *Prière à Notre-Dame from Suite Gothique* Leon Boëllmann

Welcome and Announcements

Announcements/Concerns of Congregation

(all who are able, please stand)

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

Sing to the Lord a new song!

We sing a song of peace and hope!

Sing to the Lord a song of strength.

Our strength is in the Lord of hosts!

Sing to the Lord a song of joy!

Our song is a song of service and faithfulness. Amen.

*Opening Hymn *Let the Whole Creation Cry* #6

(please be seated)

Prayer of Confession (Leader/All)

God of healing mercies, we come to You this day as imperfect people. We know that You desire for us hope, happiness, and love, yet we have found so many ways in which to block your gifts, or to grab hold of them as if we were entitled to them. We have been given the pathway to peace in the witness of Jesus Christ. He taught us to live as people of compassion and service. But our service has been mostly for ourselves, for our own gratification. We have failed to be Your church, Your witnesses on earth. We have neglected the needs of others in our rush for our own comfort. Forgive us, O merciful God. Heal our wounded spirits. Turn us again to you, that we may again learn of Your love and mercy. Help us to become partners in peace and hope for others. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Leader/All)

Turn again, O people, to the Lord who always loves you. Remember God's loving mercies and faithfulness. **Amen.**

A Word for Children

Soloist: Katie Gehman

You Say

Lauren Daigle

Scripture Readings

The Old Testament reading is from Genesis 12:1-3.

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

The Epistle lesson is from Hebrews 11:29-12:2.

11:29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. 30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. 31 By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. 32 And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— 33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, 34 quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. 35 Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. 36 Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— 38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. 39 Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, 40 since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

(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 12:49-56.

49 "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! 50 I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! 51 Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! 52 From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; 53 they will be divided: 54 He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. 55 And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. 56 You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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

Praise to you, O Christ!

(please be seated)

The Message

Is Faith Risky?

Rev. Richard Christensen

Hymn

Oh Jesus, I Have Promised

#458

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(sung as hymn #740)*

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

Prière du Matins

Joseph Jongen

*Offertory Response

All Things Are Yours

#687 *(verse one)*

*A New Creed *(back of hymnal)*

*Closing Hymn

The Church's One Foundation

#544

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

Soon and Very Soon

#523 *(verse one)*

(please be seated)

Moments of Silent Meditation

Postlude

Aurelia

Arr. by: Edward L. Good