

# Welcome to Myerstown United Church of Christ

Church Office: 304 West Main Avenue, Myerstown , PA 17067-1023

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*If you are visiting, we welcome you!*

Kory Leppo, Council President 717-269-6033

Marie Hibshman, Elder 717-343-3247

Emily Frantz, Parish Administrator 717-383-1147

Mark Herr, Family and Community Ministry Coordinator 717-572-7734

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:*

**Supply Pastor:** Rev. Dave Swift  
**Organist:** Mark Herr  
**Choir Director:** Emily Frantz  
**Open Church:** William and Betty Arnold  
**Greeter(s):** Terry and Suzie Schott  
**Worship Leader(s):** Doug Bohannon  
**Ushers:** Ed and Candy Hibshman, Terry and Suzie Schott, Kenny Patrick  
**Sound:** Robert Dash  
**Counting Team:** Terry and Suzie Schott, Ed and Candy Hibshman  
**Flowers:** Celebrating the glory of God's creation

## **Stewardship Report for Sunday, September 22, 2019**

<b>Offerings:</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 3,216</b>
	<b>Our Church's Wider Mission</b>	<b>\$ 55</b>
	<b>Church Improvement Fund</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
	<b>Total Attendance 8 am:</b>	<b>24</b>
	<b>Total Attendance 10 am:</b>	<b>32</b>

# Myerstown United Church of Christ

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2019

Worship Time 10:00 am

## **Traditional Service of the Word**

Prelude *Andante Cantabile* Alexandre Guilmant

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship (Leader/All)

*(will all who are able, please stand)*

Praise the Lord, O my soul.

**Let us sing praises to our God.**

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment;

**We brought nothing into the world and can take nothing out of it.**

We must fight the good fight and take hold of eternal life.

**It is this promise to which we are called.**

Let us worship God!

\*Opening Hymn

*You Servants of God*

#112

*(please be seated)*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Leader/All)

**We have sinned, O God, hoarding what we have, grasping for more, and ignoring those who hunger and thirst. We stay with our own kind; we are complacent in the face of systems that oppress. Forgive us; purify us; remake us, that we might love as you love. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Anthem

*I Will Be With You*

Joel Raney

A Word for Children

## Scripture Readings

A Reading from the Old Testament

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria, the notables of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel resorts! Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

A reading from Psalm 146 Leader/All

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

**who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.**

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!**

The Director of Activities of the Lebanon Valley Home is asking for donations of bags of candy for their annual “**Safe Trick or Treat Night.**” All candy needs to be turned in by Monday, October 28th.

Thank you to Beverly Asroff for her time and efforts as our church secretary. Her last day was Friday, September 27th. We wish her health, healing and happiness in all of her future endeavors. Blessings!

**We welcome Rev. Jim Yoder as he begins his work as Bridge Pastor** beginning on October 1st. Please contact him at [muccpastor@comcast.net](mailto:muccpastor@comcast.net) or at the church office 717-866-5252.

**Office Hours Week of September 30th: Monday 9 am - noon, Tuesday - closed, Wednesday - Friday 9 am - noon.**

**Rev. Dave Swift** was Born in Bethlehem PA and graduated from Freedom High School. He has an Associate in Arts Degree from Northampton Community College, a Bachelors Degree from United Wesleyan College, as well as a Master of Divinity from Evangelical in Myerstown. Dave has served as an Associate Pastor and Pastor in EC churches throughout the eastern PA area ending with Zion EC in Myerstown. In June 2019 Dave retired from formal pastoral work. Before serving as Pastor Dave served with Youth for Christ. For the last few years, Dave has been further serving the community at its time of need in the bereavement process with the Grose Funeral Home. **Thank you, Rev. Dave Swift, for delivering the message today! We're happy to have you with us!**

### Prayer List

#### Family Member/s

### Long-Term Prayer Concerns

#### Family Members

Rosalla Hollenbach — mother of Trudy Yeager; Joanne Frantz — mother-in-law of Emily Frantz; Ralph Woynarowski — son-in-law of Sara Zeller; Nancy Brown; Ellen Goodyear; Ruthann Snoke; Joyce Mitstifer; Larry Eisenhauer

#### Friends

David Mock — friend of Ed and Candy Hibshman; Family and Friends of Heidi Shyda; James Haines — friend of Ed and Candy Hibshman; Suzanne Fritsch — mother of Stephen Fritsch; Bill Gracely — father of Margo McQuate; Dennis Palm — former ScoutMaster of Troop 20; Linda Feaser — friend of Kathy Grose; Jewel Fessler — friend of Kathy Grose; Heather and Elvin Perez — friends of Marianne Fritsch

**October 6th @ 10 am – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

- Open Church:** Carl Beamesderfer
- Greeter(s):** Ed and Candy Hibshman
- Worship Leader(s):** Margo McQuate
- Ushers:** Travis, Angie, Gabb, and Gavin Bicher, Kenny Patrick
- Communion Servers:** Travis and Angie Bicher, Jen and David Blystone
- Sound:** Paulie McQuate
- Counting Team:** Ted and Carol Batdorf, Darryl Brown, Marie Hibshman

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**Announcements**

**CHOIR MEMBERS:** Please take note of the rehearsal schedule for October and November: Wednesdays at 7:30 in the Music room (10/9, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6.) Anthems will be rehearsed at 9:40 am (music room) and sung on 10/13, 10/27, 11/3, and 11/10 at the 10 am service. Please contact Emily Frantz or put your name on the absentee chart as soon as possible if you will miss any of these dates.

**LCCM items needed include** sugar, flour, pancake syrup, salad dressing, toilet paper, laundry detergent, tissues, men’s deodorant, refried beans, taco kits, jello mix, pudding mix, red beets, ketchup, mustard, and coffee (instant or ground). The list is on the box and will be updated periodically. PLEASE donate plastic grocery bags! Thank you!

**GIFT CARDS:** Orders will be collected on October 6th.

**Our Thursday Meals** will begin again on Thursday October 10 from 4 to 6 pm in our Social Hall. All are invited come and eat and help. The menu for October (in three weeks!) is as follows: Vegetable Soup, Hamburger Barbeque, Potato Chips and Pickles, Dessert, Tea/Coffee. If you have questions, speak with Carolyn Williams, or Mark Herr.

**Worship Support** is at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 14th and will meet in the library.

**Myerstown UCC is creating a Prayer Team.** This would be a modern version of the prayer chain where any available members of the team would come together and pray for the people on our prayer list and visit through prayer any other needs that arise. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Sally Kulp.

**The single rose has been placed in honor of Corynna Raine Swope**, 5 lbs. 4 oz., 17” long, born on 9/20/19 at 8:59 am. Parents, Taryn Rae and Corey Swope, are celebrating with their family: great grandparents, Dawn and the late Carl Hassler, grandmother, Lori Hassler, grandfather, David Famous, and brothers, Carter and Aiden.

The Epistle lesson is from 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

\*A Reading from the Gospels

Luke 16:19-31

Will those who are able please stand.

Hear the good news of Jesus Christ recorded by Luke in the 16th chapter.

### Glory be to you, O Lord.

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

The lesson ends here. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### Thanks be to God.

*(please be seated)*

Message *You Do Not Own What You Can Not Give* Rev. Dave Swift

Hymn *All Things Bright and Beautiful* #30

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.**

Offertory *Reverie* Noel Rawsthorne

\*Offertory Response *All You Works of God, Bless the Lord* #39 (vs 1 and 2)

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (Leader/All)

**We give you thanks and praise, generous God, for every good gift that comes from your hand: for food and clothing, for life and health, for family and friends, above all for the treasure of your grace. Make us rich in good works, generous and ready to share, taking hold of the life that really is life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*The Apostles’ Creed (on the inside back cover of the hymnal)

\*Closing Hymn *Take My Life* #466

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response *Jesus, Remember Me* #285

Moments of Meditation (seated)

Postlude *Allegretto* Alexandre Boely

Acknowledgements

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