

WELCOME TO:
FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
711 Seventh Ave (at 8th Street Bridge), Altoona, PA 16602
Ph: 814-943-0713
Website: www.FaithUCCAltoona.com
Email: faithuccaltoona@verizon.net

9:30 AM Adult Christian Education
10:45 AM Worship
Fellowship Hour Following Worship

Rev. John L. Emig
Pastor
814-244-1602



*No matter who YOU are or where YOU are on life's journey,
YOU are welcome here.*

*“Never place a period where God has placed a comma” –
Gracie Allen*



**Love is the key that can open another's heart.
Our goal is to love one another as Christ has
loved us. Therefore, be assured that you're
lovingly welcomed to God's house. Let us rejoice
together now!**

Christ Jesus didn't reject anyone neither do we. God Is Still
Speaking!



Sunday, September 20, 2026
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

***Those who are able are invited to stand.**
BOLD print – congregation participates.
Hymns are in the New Century Hymnal unless otherwise indicated.

*Faithful God, we give You thanks that in Jesus Christ You have
entrusted us with the richness of Your glory and the treasure of Your
grace. Make us faithful stewards of Your good gifts, that we may show
Your love to this generation and welcome us into Your eternal home
where we will worship and serve You forever; through Christ our Savior.
Amen.*

Chimes

Joys, Concerns, and Announcements

Greeting:

L: No matter who YOU are or where YOU are on life's journey,

P: YOU are welcome here!

Prelude

Lighting the Altar Candles

Call to Worship: “Gathered Here in the Mystery of This Hour” #742

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 20: 1 – 16

Response: “Praise be to you, O Christ.”

***Hymn of Adoration: “Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped” #22**

***Call to Confession**

L: Lord, we call to You, our refuge,

P: provide Your safe space.

L: We call to You, our fortress,

P: provide Your strength.

L: We call to You, our trust,

P: provide Your vision.

L: We call to You, our deliverer,

P: provide Your promise.

L: We call to You, our cover,

P: provide Your gentleness.

L: We call to You, our faithful,

P: provide Your presence.

L: We call to You, our shield,

P: provide our defense.

L: We call to You, our bunker,

P: provide Your confidence.

L: We call to You, our protector,

P: provide Your future.

L: We call to You, our rescuer,

P: provide Your breath.

L: We call to You, our satisfaction,

P: provide Your peace.

L: We call to You, our Savior,

P: provide Your grace.

***Confession (In Unison)**

Holy God, in the face of sin, our gravest enemy, we call to You for help. You know our fault before we speak. Forgive us for what we have done in opposition to Your will. Forgive us for those things we have not undertaken and for which we know our wrong. We have not loved You and our neighbors as we ought. We have denied our dependence on You. Lead us away from this grief and sorrow. Save us that we may fulfill our vows to You and attend to the needs of Your people. Amen.

***Words of Forgiveness and Assurance**

L: Do you believe that God is willing, for Christ's sake, to forgive all your sins?

P: I believe.

L: Do you forgive those who have sinned against you?

P: I do, with God's help.

L: Do you resolve or offer yourself to the guidance of the Holy Spirit that you may have the power to resist evil and do what is good?

P: I do.

L: In Christ's name, and as one with you in the Church, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

***Gloria (tune: "Lasst Uns Erfreuen")**

From all that swell below the skies

Let the Creator's praise arise;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung.

Let God the Spirit free each tongue!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

First Lesson: Jonah 3: 10 – 4: 11

Psalter: Psalm 145 1 – 8, page 718

Hymn of Preparation: "In Solitude" #521

SERMON

***Affirmation of Faith: "The Apostles' Creed" #881**

***Call to Prayer**

L: The Lord be with you

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

P: And renew a right spirit within me.

L: Cast us not away from Your presence

P: And take not Your Holy Spirit from us. (Please be seated)

Morning Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

***Dedicatory Prayer**

We honor you, O God, as we give. We know we do not live or die to ourselves but are part of a large community, linked in ways beyond our knowing with You and all generations of Your children. We are accountable to You and share in responsibility for one another and for the care of this planet. Thus, we dedicate our resources and our lives to You for the world of Your realm. Receive our gifts and draw us to Yourself. Amen.

***Hymn of Response: "Take My Gifts" #562**

***Benediction**

***Masithi Page 760**

Postlude



Participating in Today's Service

YOU – the members and ministers in Christ's family

Music Director	Claire White
Lay Reader	Becky White
Church Secretary	Christina and Shane Schmitt
Minister	Rev. John Emig

Attendance: 9 – 13 – 26 Sunday School: 5 Worship: 14

OUR STEWARDSHIP FOR September 13, 2026

Current	\$300.00
Plate	\$ 4.00
Sunday School	\$ 8.00
TOTAL	\$312.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, September 27 th	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:45 AM	Worship

We practice “extravagant” welcome here at Faith UCC, just as Jesus would invite and encourage us to do. So **WELCOME** to each and every one!

Many thanks to those who are “representing” us this afternoon at the fall meeting of the Juniata Association Meeting in Martinsburg. Thank you.

Tomorrow evening **Consistory** will meet at 6:00 PM.

“Dip Sunday” is next week after worship. Please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Room.

The Mountain “Back Pack” Program is seeking everyone’s help needed for student meals. 10 oz cans of soup, cans of Spaghetti-O’s, cans or packets of tuna and chicken, or any single-serve nutritional food items would be acceptable. Donations are due by next Sunday, September 27th. Thank you!

Please mark your calendar! October 18th is the 25th Anniversary of Faith UCC, and we will celebrate, but it won’t be complete without you!

The Flower Calendar for 2026 is available on the board above the water fountain.

Don’t forget to like us and follow us on Facebook.
(www.facebook.com/faithuccaltoona) and subscribe to our YouTube channel (@faithuccaltoona).

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!! In an effort to keep our prayer list as up-to-date as possible, we request that you **personally notify the office** any time a name needs to be added or deleted from the list. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Friends and Neighbors needing our Prayers:

Janet Weyer
Cindy Edmiston
Phil Keth
Dave Zimmerman
Donald Imler
Jeff Cain
Gracie Raihl
Rick Plowman
Heather Guthrie
Nick Lonsinger
Baby Ridge
Dallas Webb
Peggy Mapes
Donna Skelley
Linda Hollen
Carol Marlett
Our sick and shut-ins



We offer up our prayers for any of our **church family** not listed here who may be in need

Please pray for our men and women in the military.

