

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



Welcome! Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior. May every blessing be yours.

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

Sunday, January 5, 2025

Second Sunday after Christmas

***Those who are able are invited to stand.**

BOLD print – congregation participates.

Hymns are in the New Century Hymnal unless otherwise indicated.

God of glory, Your Word made a home with us so that we might be at home in You. Gather Your children from the farthest places in the world and lead us to that home where the human race can become a human family; through Jesus Christ and in the Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Organ 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: "Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child" #136

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2: 1 – 12

Response: "Praise be to you, O Christ!"

***Hymn of Adoration: "The First Nowell" #139 (verses 1 – 4)**

***Call to Confession**

Let us be bold and confess our sins, for God is gracious and always ready to forgive.

***Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

God, you placed a star in the sky
to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity.
There you revealed the mystery
of your eternal purpose for all humanity:
God made flesh, born of Mary,
opening to all the world the promise you made
to Abraham and Sarah.
Empower your church to be as the light of the star,
that we may draw the world
to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.

***Kyrie**

(The Leader says)

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

(The People sing)

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

***Words of Forgiveness and Assurance**

L: This is the good news:
Christ is the light of the world,
who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins.
P: Thanks be to God.

***Gloria: "The First Nowell" #139 (verse 5)**

Anthem: "As With Gladness Men of Old" – setting by H. Hopson

First Lesson: Isaiah 60: 1 – 6
Psalter: Psalm 72: 1 – 7, 10 – 14, page 667

***Hymn of Preparation: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" #160**

SERMON

***Offering Response**

**"O come, let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. Amen."**

****Invitation to Holy Communion***

***The Dialogue**

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to God.

L: Let us give thanks to God most high.

P: It is right to give thanks and praise.

***The Communion Prayer (Pastor)**

***Seraphic Hymn (sung page 795)**

**"Holy, holy, holy God of the heavenly host;
Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of your glory,
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed the one who comes in the name of our God,
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!"**
(Please be seated)

Words of Institution (Pastor)

Prayer of Consecration (Pastor)

Sharing of the Bread and Cup



***Blessing**

Prayer of Thanksgiving (In Unison)

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn of Response: “Arise, Your Light Is Come” #164**

***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 Jerry Paul
Church Secretary Christina and Shane Schmitt
Minister Rev. John Emig

Attendance: 12—29—24 Sunday School: 8 Worship: 26

OUR STEWARDSHIP FOR December 29, 2024

Current	\$ 2,571.00
Plate	\$ 171.00
Sunday School	\$ 17.00
Christmas Fund	\$ 10.00
<u>Houston Fund</u>	<u>\$ 8,732.00</u>
TOTAL	\$11,501.00



Bonnie Skelley

1/10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sun., January 12th

9:30 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Worship

The choir will practice following worship today.

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!

Pastor John wishes to thanks everyone for the very generous Christmas gift that was given on December 22nd. Thank you all so very much.

Forms for a Faith Fellowship “Fundraiser” are available today. The deadline is January 19th, and the pick-up/delivery will be January 25th. This effort helps support many missions in our community. Please participate.

Saturday is a good day to undecorate from Christmas. Volunteers are invited to come at 11:00 AM for that purpose. Thank you.

The next Consistory meeting is January 13th at 6:00 PM.

Dates Ahead:

January 15 – Faith Fellowship

January 19 – Chili Sunday

All annual reports are due in the church office by January 19th. Thank you for your cooperation.

The annual meeting of the church will take place on January 26th after worship. Please make every effort to be with us on that occasion.

End-of- Year Statements. If you wish a statement of your giving for 2024 for tax purposes, please let the church office know.

Large-print Daily Bread devotionals are available in the narthex (hall). Please help yourself.

The Flower Calendar for 2025 is available on the board above the water fountain.

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:

Heather Guthrie

Nick Lonsinger

Janet Weyer

Raymond Ramey Family, grieving

Beverly Emig Family, grieving

Baby Ridge

Dave Zimmerman

Jim Vaughn Family, grieving

Lettie Allen

Sally Sprow

Joe Stubby

Dallas Webb

Peggy Mapes

Zach Lonsinger Family

Donna Skelley

Linda Hollen

Shawn Ellis

Scott Weyer

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.

