

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 | Rev. John L. Emig |
| 10:45 AM | Worship | Pastor |
| <i>Fellowship Hour Following Worship</i> | | 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



From wherever you've come, we extend a hearty welcome! It's our intention to be warmhearted. Please introduce yourself to those near you and especially to the worship leaders.

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

Sunday, April 27, 2025
Second Sunday of Easter



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

Gracious God, we celebrate with joy the festival of our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in Your service. Graciously, help us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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: “He Is Lord” (Congregation Sings)**

“He is Lord, He is Lord! He is risen from the dead, and He is Lord!

Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!”

Gospel Lesson: John 20: 19 – 31

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

***Hymn of Adoration: “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain” #230**

***Call to Confession (John 20: 20—23)**

L: The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them:

P: Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me so I send you.

L: When he had said this, he breathed on them the Holy Spirit, and said to them:

**P: Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven;
If you retain the sins of any, they're retained.**

***Confession (In Unison)**

If at times we deny You, God forgive.

**If at times when the risks of discipleship are high, we are nowhere to be found,
God forgive.**

If at times we wash our hands of responsibility, God forgive.

**If at times fear keeps us from witnessing to Your truth or prejudice keeps us
from believing it, God forgive.**

**In the bright light of Easter morning, our sin is exposed, but Your grace is
revealed.**

Tender God, we are bold to come before You and ask You to forgive us.

**Help us to leave behind our foolish doubt so that with joy we may witness to
Your awesome deeds in Jesus the Risen One. Amen.**

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

L: We have an advocate with God – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One – who offered
His life in love to save the world from sin. This is the Good News of the Gospel;
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God.

***Gloria**

Anthem: “Sing Joyful Praise” Mary Lynn Lightfoot

First Lesson: Acts 5: 27 – 32

Psalter: Psalm 150, page 723

***Hymn of Preparation: “Because You Live, O Christ” #231**

SERMON

***Affirmation of Faith**

***Call to Prayer**

L: For the lengthening of the days and the greening of the earth,

P: We thank the Creator of life.

L: For work that gives meaning to our lives,

P: We thank the Creator of life.

L: For people who love us even when we do not deserve their caring and for the
One who loves undyingly,

P: We thank the Creator of life.

L: For the hope that Easter affords that we may live our days to the fullest,

P: We offer grateful praise to the spirit of Christ who rules the world with love.

L: Let us pray. (Please be seated)

Morning Prayer: The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory

***Offering Response**

***Dedicatory Prayer**

**Holy One, bless our offerings and transform them into healing for the
wounded, hope for the disheartened, courage for the frightened, and faith for the
embittered. In the name of Jesus Christ, your faithful witness, the first
resurrected, and ruler of the sovereigns of the earth. Amen.**

***Hymn of Response: “Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day” #241**

***Benediction**

***Masithi Page 760**

Postlude



Participating in Today's Service

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| YOU – the members and ministers in Christ's family | |
| Music Director | Claire White |
| Acolyte | Nick Lonsinger |
| Greeter | Debby Glunt |
| Lay Reader | Bonnie Skelley |
| Church Secretary | Christin and Shane Schmitt |
| Minister | Rev. John Emig |

**Attendance: 4 – 20 – 25 Easter Breakfast: 25 Worship: 43
Maundy Thursday: 16 Good Friday: 24**

OUR STEWARDSHIP FOR April 20, 2025

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Current | \$ 700.00 |
| Maundy Thursday | \$ 15.00 |
| Good Friday | \$ 123.00 |
| <u>Plate</u> | <u>\$ 186.00</u> |
| TOTAL | \$1,024.00 |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Sunday, May 4 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!

Next Sunday is Holy Communion. Honor God by being here to receive the gifts He bestows.

Our next fellowship meal will be on May 11th, Mother’s Day. It will be Salad Sunday.

Penn West Conference Annual Meeting will be held June 7th at Saint Paul’s United Church of Christ in Somerset from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. This will be a historic meeting because after 68 years, it will be the last. We are looking for visitors and delegates to participate. The cost is \$35.99 for registration, materials, and noon-time meal. If interested in attending, please speak with Pastor John. Thank you.

Dates Ahead

May 13 – Faith Fellowship
 May 28 – Consistory
 June 28 – “Yard Sale” (with vendors)
 July 22 – Curve Game
 August 17 – Church Picnic

Credit card/debit card slips are available.

Sign-up sheet in fellowship room for Altoona Curve game.

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

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

Friends and Neighbors needing our Prayers:

David Raihl
Rick Plowman
Richard Port
Vivian Fitzsimmons
Craig Meyers
Heather Guthrie
Nick Lonsinger
Janet Weyer
Beverly Emig Family, grieving
Baby Ridge
Dave Zimmerman
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.

