

*Faith United Methodist Church*  
*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*                      *September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019*  
*God's People Gather to Worship at 9:00 am*

† OPENING PRAYER

Most gracious and loving God, You have given us permission to celebrate even in the midst of adversity, for history and eternity belong to You. We give Your our praise and thanksgiving, Lord. In Christ we pray. Amen.

† GREETING *(Take time this morning to greet each other in the name of Christ.)*

† CALL TO WORSHIP *(RESPONSIVELY)*

Leader Praise be to the Lord, who has set us free from sin and death!  
**People** ***Even while we were lost in our sin, Christ died that we might have life.***  
Leader But we are saved that we might serve the Lord through all of our days,  
**People** ***Bound by our love and gratitude for God's redeeming love in Christ.***  
Leader God remembers those who are faithful, so let us give voice to our praise.

† OPENING HYMN 140                      Great Is Thy Faithfulness

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(IN UNISON)*

Merciful God, we repent of our failings at doing good, and seek your forgiveness offered through your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us, we pray, a new sense of wisdom that will enable us to see the needs of all about us; and seeing them, give us the courage to do something about them. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We live in the shelter of God's embrace and our salvation is at hand in God's love. God is our grace in every wilderness calling us home from sin and death. In the name of Jesus our Redeemer, and by the redeeming power of God's Holy Spirit, we are forgiven and set free. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING                      Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15                      *Page 561, pew Bible*

† NEW TESTAMENT READING                      Luke 16:19-23                      *Page 741, pew Bible*

OFFERTORY

We experience goodness in the midst of violence and suffering. One way to demonstrate gratitude is to find ways to continue goodness here and elsewhere. We do that with our time, our skills, and our money.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Page 95, UMH*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O Lord, we bring these gifts as a pledge of our allegiance to your kingdom. Bless them and us as we strive to be worthy messengers of your redeeming love. Amen.

† HYMN 474                      Precious Lord, Take My Hand

SERMON                      *Everything Now, Nothing Late*                      Rev. David A. E. Whitt

† HYMN (SEE INSERT)                      I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

† PRAYER

Dear loving Father, like our ancestors, we pray for peace; we pray for an end to hatred. We pray for global leaders who compromise and collaborate to end tribal disputes; we pray for renewed vision of neighborliness and hospitality. We long for wise men and women who will not enhance themselves at the expense of others. Empower us to be peace-makers and peace demonstrators here on this street...


TIME OF JOYS

† BENEDICTION

May the road continue smooth before you. May there be enough light along the way; may peace greet you at every crossroad; and joy accompany you to the end. Through whatever pain and suffering is yours to endure, know that God is in it with you. Amid every temptation that comes to you, be aware that wisdom is yours for the asking. **We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.**

† HYMN 666                      Shalom to You

† *Please stand if you are able.*



Good morning and welcome to Faith United Methodist Church. Our hope is that you will feel God's presence through friendly faces, meaningful worship, and opportunities to serve God's people. We are blessed by your presence and our doors are always open to you. *Please complete a visitor card found in the back of the pew in front of you and give it to an usher.* We have a gift for you that we feel will have an impact on your life! We hope you feel at home and invite you to worship with us again.