

Friedens United Church of Christ
Sumneytown, PA
Yesterday, today and tomorrow, Friedens United Church
of Christ shares Christ's love through worship, teaching,
missions and the discipleship of God's truth.
 Telephone: (215) 234-4941
 Website: <http://www.friedens-sumney.org>

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021

WORSHIP – 10AM

***We ask that those physically present at Friedens please refrain from singing the words to the hymns and responses. Our worship is all for the glory of God and we know that even in our silence God can still be praised. ***

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Solemn Declaration

Pastor: Remembering our baptisms, we worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Call to Worship

Pastor: Come and give thanks to our God.
Praise God's Holy Name!

**All: With the melody of the lute and the harp and the song
in our hearts, we declare God's steadfast love in the
morning and faithfulness at night.**

Pastor: God's works make us glad!

**All: We sing praises of joy with our lives!
Let us worship God together!**

Opening Hymn: ***This Is a Day of New Beginnings***

**This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.**

**For by the life and death of Jesus,
love's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again.**

**Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.**

**Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.**

Opening Prayer

Pastor: O God, maker of all things, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit to be with us and among us. In this time together, touch us, teach us, inspire us to sow seeds of your Kingdom through our lives and ministries, that all may share in your abundance and joy. And hear now the confession of our hearts and lips:

Prayer of Confession

All: Loving God, we sometimes see what you give us as so little and yet it is filled with potential. It is enough. We are filled with your potential. We are enough. Help us to have faith in that potential, to trust your potential in us, even when we cannot see it. Forgive us and help us to step out in faith as we follow Jesus. Amen.

(shared silence)

Assurance of Grace

Pastor: If anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation. The old has passed away. All things have become new! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and empowered for new life always!

All: Thanks be to God!

Scripture Readings:

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶ So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰ For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴ For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶ He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰ He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

May God add a blessing to the reading and reflecting upon this Holy Word.

Reflection Upon God’s Word for Our Lives

– *Pastor Deb Schwartz*

Affirmation of Faith –

ALL: We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

United Church of Canada, 1980

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Pastor: Now is the time in our worship when we remember all that we have and all that we are comes from God. Jesus' teachings give us many seeds to sow in this community and beyond. Through our offering, we can nurture these seeds so all may know the gospel's promise. Let us give with grateful hearts, in all the ways available to us, as we listen to our offertory.

Those of you at home are invited to mail your offering envelopes to the church at:

Friedens United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 268
Sumneytown, PA 18084

Anyone giving electronically, may do so now by using the QR reader

on your phone to scan the QR Code



or by going to www.friedens-sumney.org and clicking on the green "give now" button. Either will take you to a screen where you fill in your information, choose the frequency of your gift –

one time, weekly or monthly, and designate the amount just like you would on the offering envelopes.

Whatever your preference, and whatever you can give, thank you for your generosity!

Offertory:

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

All: Gracious God, you provide for us all that we need. You provide for us in abundance. We return a portion of what we have in grateful thanksgiving. Bless our offerings that they will nurture the seeds of hope and healing in this community and beyond. Amen.

Closing Hymn:

Hymn of Promise

**In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity;
in our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

Commission and Benediction

Pastor: Everyday objects and situations can turn our attention to our faith and the difference that our faith can make in the midst of life.

So, be attentive. Be aware. Be receptive to the reminders all around us of the Kingdom of God in our midst.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit
be with you always. Amen.

Response – Three-fold Amen

Postlude

..... **CONTRIBUTIONS – Week Ending June 6, 2021**

	Last Week	To Date
Income Needed	\$2,895	\$63,690
Income Received	\$1,394	\$55,465
Difference (+ or -)	- \$1,501	- \$8,225

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Lectionary Liturgy, "Year B: Season after Pentecost, Proper 6," www.ScriptureEcho.com

Worship Ways, Sowing Seeds of Ministry: Service Prayers for the Third Sunday after Pentecost," by the Rev. Quentin Chin, © 2021 Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ. All rights reserved.

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Music:

Prelude

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

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Offertory

Doxology

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Hymn of Promise

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Threefold Amen

Words & Music: Traditional; Public Domain

Postlude

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