**Salem United Church of Christ Moorestown**

**Church Office (610) 759-1652 – www.salemuccbathpa.org**

**Pastor Kaye Lentz, (610) 217-0041, email: SalemPastor2218@yahoo.com**

**Lisa Abruzzese, Organist/Choir Director, (610) 217-4234**

**Ministers of the Church – Every Member of Salem UCC**

**October 11, 2020**

**Please note that in order to protect ourselves and each other:**

* *Masks, covering our nose and mouth, will be worn during the entire service.*
* *There will be no congregational singing during hymns or responses. This is our opportunity to enjoy Lisa’s musical talents.*
* *During the passing of the peace, we will remain seated and share the peace of Christ by waving or sharing the peace sign.*
* *If restrooms are needed, please use the ones below the Sanctuary steps.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: You have been invited to a special feast.

**ALL: We need more details, for our schedules are very busy.**

One: This is celebration of commitment between God and God’s people.

**ALL: Maybe next time, we have other plans. What is God going to do if we**

 **don’t come?**

One: Your response is noted. There are many others who would be delighted to come,

 even on a last-minute notice. God looks forward to greeting them and celebrating

 with them.

**ALL: Will we get a second chance? God forgive us for placing our schedules**

 **and other plans before coming to your celebration. AMEN.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**All:** **Beloved God, we gather in the shelter of your love, grateful for the banquet of worship you have prepared for us. Focus our hearts and our minds on the beauty of this time, the blessings of our lives, and the fullness of your message. Strengthen our call to fulfill our role as your partners in ministry to the world. Amen.**

**PLAYING OF HYMN #646 “*As We Gather”***

**A TIME OF CONFESSION**

**All: God of infinite forgiveness, we implore you this day to forgive those many times in which we have turned our backs on you by turning away from the needs of the voiceless, the hopeless, the helpless. We let ourselves get distracted by schedules and activities which drain us of energy and enthusiasm. Light a fire under us, O God, that we may again feel the exciting challenge of being your people. Heal our wounds of indifference and apathy; bring us together in harmony and joy to serve you and your creation with peace, justice, and hope. It is in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, that we offer this prayer. AMEN.** *(Silence is kept)*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: Feel the powerful warmth of God’s love for you! God is with you, healing and restoring your lives and bringing you peace. This is the good news from our persistent and patient God. AMEN.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE!**

Leader: Peace be with you.

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another *(stay in place, wave or make the*

 *peace sign)*

**TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS Philippians 4:1-9**

 **Matthew 22:1-14**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

**PLAYING OF HYMN #478 “S*weet Hour of Prayer”***

**OFFERING** *(Virtual only)–*I invite you at this time to consider ways to express your thankfulness for all that God provides by giving of your time and talents in new ways in this time. I also ask you to consider how you will offer your tithes and offerings to support the ministry of our church at this time as well – some options are: on-line giving available through our website or your smartphone, mail check in weekly or set aside your offering each week and mail it in monthly. Thank you.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.**

**All: God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to you. Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family, and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER** (debts and debtors)

**PLAYING OF HYMN #716 *“God Be With You”***

**\*BENEDICTION**

One: We walk by faith, we live by faith, we give by faith. God of great gifts,
you have given us so much. Build a fire under us and within us, O Lord. Enable us to joyfully go into your world to serve your people and in doing so serve you also. Let us hear your call.

**ALL: AMEN.**

**\*THREE-FOLD AMEN** *(played by Lisa)*

**\*POSTLUDE**

 *In order to keep everyone safe, please wait for an usher to lead us out of the sanctuary. Thank you!*

*\* Portions of this worship service were adapted from “The text this week”, “Sermon central”, “Sermon*

*writer.”*

If restrooms are needed, please use the ones under the sanctuary steps.

**Thank you to Tammy Miles for leading us in Worship today.**

**Presented to the Glory of God: The FLOWERS in honor of the 80th birthday of Ed Wagner, Sr. by family. The BULLETINS in memory of Richard Schaffer. The MEMORIAL CANDLE is burning in memory of Theresa Smith.**

**We are looking for people who would like to help with recording the service or virtual worship. Please speak to Ed Taylor or Vicki Troxell if you are interested.**

**Today we begin worshipping in the sanctuary at 10:15. Members will be seated following social distancing guidelines. Masks covering your nose and mouth will be required at all times. We will be entering and exiting only using the red church doors. Virtual worship on Facebook Live and on our website will continue to be an option for at home worship.**

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR YOUTH GROUP BY PURCHASING GIANT GIFT CARDS. The group receives 5 percent of the amount purchased. If you would like information about this activity, please speak to Wendi Myers or call the Church Office at 610-759-1652.**

**THE ALTAR GUILD HAS THE YELLOW GARBAGE BAGS TO SELL, THE COST IS $10,00/ROLL. If you are interested, please speak to Donna Schlegel or call the church office at 610-759-1652.**