**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 18, 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 AND OPENING PRAYER**

One: All good gifts come from God, and we delight in them.

**All:  God’s gifts are ours to use – to manage faithfully as stewards of the**

**mysteries of faith.**

One: Let us bring forth all that we are to offer to our Creator!

**All:  We come with joy to offer our lives anew!**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**All: Almighty God, you have made a way in the world for each of us to follow – a way that leads to abundant life in your Spirit.  Cleanse our hearts this day, and open our spirits to that new reality made known in Jesus Christ, that as our praise rises to you and our minds are awakened to your gospel call, we may be made ready to walk in your paths in fresh ways as your beloved children.**  **Amen.**

**PLAYING OF HYMN #480** “Open My Eyes That I May See”

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

One: God does not deal with us with partiality, but with the grace of Christ Jesus, deals with each of us according to our need. With gratitude for this amazing grace, let us confess our sins.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: Creator God, we confess that at times we think we deserve more, that we are more important than others, that we know better than others. Forgive us of our arrogance. We think we owe no one anything, but we owe you everything. We think as long as we don’t hurt others intentionally, we have done enough. When we have not seen how our unintentional words and actions can cause harm, forgive us of our short-sightedness. Remind us that we are called to owe one another love, and that love calls us to see the challenges our neighbors face, and calls us to take responsibility, both for the intended and unintended consequences of our words and actions. Call us into your ways of love, justice, and reconciliation. Hear now our silent confessions.** *(silence is kept)*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

One: God’s love is in you. God’s love is working through you. God’s love is flowing from you to others in every act of kindness, in every act of justice, in every act of mercy. Be filled with God’s love, and know you are forgiven, loved, and restored. Now go: forgive, love, and restore. Amen.

**All: Amen.**

**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)*

**PRAISE RESPONSE:**

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**People: The Lord’s name be praised!**

**TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS Exodus 33:12-23**

**Matthew 22:15-22**

**RESPONSE:**

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**TODAY’S MESSAGE**

**PLAYING OF HYMN #455** *“Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord”*

*Focus verse – verse 4 - “Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind and will; through our surrendered souls your plans fulfil. We yield ourselves to thee, time, talents, all; we hear and hence forth heed, thy solemn call.”*

**OFFERING** *(for those worshipping virtually)–*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: Almighty God, receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts and use our lives for the ministry of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

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

**PLAYING OF HYMN #471** *“God Be With You”*

**BENEDICTION**

One: May the loving power of God, strengthen you in hope, enrich you with love, and fill you with joy. Amen.

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

**\*POSTLUDE**

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

*\* Portions of this worship service were adapted from “revolution.org”, “ministrymatters, “Feasting on the Word Worship Companion”*

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

**Presented to the Glory of God: The FLOWERS in memory of my sisters by Sandra Bauder. The BULLETINS in honor of Pat and Mel Smith’s Anniversary. The MEMORIAL CANDLE is burning in memory of Gordon and Althea Schleicher.**

**Pastor Kaye would like to thank everyone for their kindness shown to her during her recent illness and surgery. The calls, emails, texts and cards were greatly appreciated.**

**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.**

**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.**