

do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Sermon Rev. Sharon Carter

Responding in Faith

Affirmation of Faith Col. 1: 15– 20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

The Service of Giving

Prayer of Dedication Offering Music

+Song *Glory Be to the Father* #577

Notes

Church Timeline Activity

We are creating a timeline of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church. At this time, please come forward and find your 'person' and attach it to the place on the timeline when you first came to 1st Covington, 1st Ludlow, or COF. If you haven't created a person, there are some blank ones available—simply write your name and the month/ year (as close as you remember 😊) that you first came to one of the congregations, then stick it to the timeline. You may also write events from societal history or church history on the timelines, or bring in pictures to attach.

Going into the World

+Hymn *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* #592

+Charge and Benediction

+Postlude

MISSION



FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church

September 9, 2018

+Stand as you are able

Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ candle

+Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

L: O come, let us sing to the Lord and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

P: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful songs of praise.

Let us pray: **Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together: *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory***

are yours now and forever. Amen.

+Hymn *To God Be the Glory* #485

Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray: **O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all. Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so that all may know your justice and peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. (moment of silence.)**

Why should we not make distinctions between people in our congregation?

What does it mean that "faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead"?

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone, a new one has begun. Friends, know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song *Spirit of the Living God* #322

The Peace

L: Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. The peace of Christ be with you all!

P: And also with you.

Anthem

Jeff Carter

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Lord God, pour out your Spirit upon us to bring good news to the oppressed, and let your word be fulfilled among us; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Scripture

James 2:1-7 My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions

among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

Hymn *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love* STF2223

James 2:8-17 ⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but