



Prophet

on the

Edge

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPHIPHANY
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

January 30, 2022

(Let us be silent and prayerful as we prepare ourselves for worship.)

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Remembering that God calls us through Christ to be ministers with each other, St. John's United Church of Christ, as inspired and directed by the Holy Spirit, seeks: To be inclusive and accessible to all people; To provide loving service to all of God's people through mission and ministry; To strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Prelude

Announcements and Prayer Concerns

President's Greetings

Moment of Meditation

Buildings and Grounds - Blessed to be a Blessing

Call to Worship

One: The souls of our elders are churning with dreams,

All: We stop and listen!

One: The eyes of our young are seeing visions like never before.

All: We stop and listen!

One: Fear and trembling invade our souls as we cling to the monuments of the past.

All: We stop and listen!

One: Yet, the Spirit still pours, moves, and works among us.

All: We stop and listen!

One: May we dream with our elders and see the visions of our young.

All: Spirit of the living God fall fresh on us.

Hospitality and Growth Among Us

*Hymn #495

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

*Invocation - We come to worship with a spirit of gratitude. Grateful for Your still-moving, still-speaking, and still-working Spirit. Even in times when we chose to ignore Your nudge, You remained faithful to us. Gather us in to embrace the growing edge of our faith with open hearts and open minds. Let us dream Your dream and see the visions You have for us and our world with courage and hope. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Worship and Music - Thankful for gathering

Words for All - Especially Children

Christian Education --

Scripture - *Joel 2: 28, Jeremiah 29: 4-6*

Message *"Gratitude and Vision"*

Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sinned and sinned against us) 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 sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Celebration and Joys

Stewardship/Finance and Personnel

*Dedication of Gifts and Offerings: We humbly ask that You bless these gifts we offer. Receive them as symbols of our desire for the common good; as contributions toward renewing the body; as our pledge to live as wise persons, abiding in the gentle peace that is first, last, and always the best fruit of the Life You desire for us all. In Christ's name, Amen.

*Hymn #538 *"Standing at the Future's Threshold"*

Mission and Social Action - The Church in the World

Sending Forth - *"Bound for Greater Things"*

Ken Medema and St. Luke's UMC, Pure Sound Choir, Houston, TX

Benediction

Postlude

Liturgy from New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, NH 03275. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education.

THIS MORNING

St. John's is pleased you have joined with us today. We hope that you have found this time to be a blessing. Please sign the attendance book located in the Narthex (and kindly include your mailing address/telephone number and/or email) and introduce yourself to the persons who are worshipping around you. If you are looking for a new church family and are interested in knowing more about St. John's, please indicate that following worship to the Pastor or one of the ushers.

Available to you, if needed, is a Quiet Room for adults and children, where the service can be seen and heard. Also available are phonic-ear hearing units, large print bulletins, and large-print Bibles. Ask any usher.

HOLY JOE CAFÉ - The Congregation invites you to enjoy coffee and fellowship before the worship service. The Holy Joe's Café ministry enables the UCC chaplains to provide a coffee house atmosphere for spiritual care and good coffee. This program can be supported by placing a donation in the Holy Joe's container located by the coffee cart or visit Holy Joe's Café' at www.ucc.org.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers This Morning

(Please contact the church office, at 570-523-0162, with any updates)

Ongoing Needs- Scott Bower, Bill Geyer, Betty Hackenberg, Janet Heaton, Ingrid, Christine Sartwell, Joanne & Bill Stahley, Peg Swinehart. Leanne Trout (Dee Ledgerwood's Mother), Linda Williams, Wayne Williams.

Shut-In/Homebound- Ann Beasom, Richard Berry, Peg Brouse, Bill & Lola Fuller, Jane Hayes, Evelyn Mabus, Ken Moore, Ethel Moser, Loretta Roberson, Mary Stover.

Immediate Concerns - Anna Brouse, Maryjane H., Richard Heaton, Michelle L., Katelynn Mattison, Logan Nolter, Russ Wynn Jr.

THIS WEEK

Monday, January 31		
Tuesday, February 1	10:45 am 1:30 - 3:30 pm 6:30 - 8 pm 7:30 - 9:30 pm	OFFICE OPENS Buffalo Roadster's Jam Session (FH) Girl Scout Troop 600006 (CR) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, February 2	7 am - 8:30 am 7 pm 8 am - 8 pm	Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary (FH) INTERFAITH PRAYER (SANCT.) Kitchen Reserved
Thursday February 3	8 am - 8 pm 9 - 10 am 1030-NOON 2 pm	Kitchen Reserved TOPS (CR) Willowbrook String Band (FH) DINNER BY THE RIVER (PRESB. CH.)
Friday, February 4	8 am - 8 pm 4pm - 6pm	Kitchen Reserved Suzuki Class (SANCT.)
Saturday February 5	8am - ?	Kitchen Reserved
Sunday, February 6	9 am 10 am 11 am	BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL (SANCT.) WORSHIP - COMMUNION (Children's Church during worship) WELCOMING TEAM INFO SESSION (SANCT)

FUTURE

MARK YOU CALENDAR, AGAIN - We will continue the monthly series titled, *"So, we're Open and Affirming. Now what?"* - The next session is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 16th at 7 pm** during which we will learn a bit about a faithful response to racism. Speaker - Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola. The series will be held on Wednesday evenings, both **In-Person or ZOOM**, whichever is most comfortable for you. Please call the Church office (570-523-0162) if interested in attending.

Souper Bowl of Caring SOUP SALE - The Souper Bowl of Caring is a nation-wide, grassroots program to address hunger, where every dollar raised stays completely local. On the Sunday of The Big Game, thousands of groups across the country raise money for food charities of their choice. St. John's will be participating again this year with a homemade soup sale. **The soup pick-up will be on Sunday, February 13th, following the worship service.** Soup choices are either Beef Vegetable or Chicken Corn, \$7 per quart and \$4 per pint. All soup must be pre-ordered by Sunday, February 6th Please call the church office at 570-523-0162 to place your pre-order. **Please bring exact change or check to the soup pick-up.** All proceeds of the soup sale will be donated to the Lewisburg Food Pantry. If you are unable to pick up your soup, please let us know when you order, and we can arrange for delivery. Soup will already be refrigerated. All you'd need to do is reheat and eat!

MASK REQUIREMENTS - We thank you for your vigilance as we all continue to stay safe and healthy. We **ask** that masks be worn when inside the building.

INTERFAITH PRAYER - We have been invited to participate in a time of interfaith prayer. You are invited to spend time in the sanctuary on Wednesday, **February 2, from 7 to 8 p.m.** The sanctuary will be open for you to come and go as you wish. Written prayers will be available for those who would like to use them. This is an invitation to a time of personal prayer for the many concerns and issues that we are experiencing - including prayers for healing of COVID, strength for medical, emergency, and other personnel who are overwhelmed and exhausted, prayers for peace in our nation, prayers for peace in our world, etc. All are invited to this time of quiet, music and candle lighting as we pray with others in our communities.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

Sunday, January 23, 2022

Building Use - \$12.00; Current Expenses - \$13,830.00;
Envelope Expenses - \$25.00; Food Pantry - \$20.00; Giant Gift Cards - \$200.00;
Improvements/Maintenance - \$25.00; LEAF Fund - \$50.00;
Loose Offering - \$15.00; OCWM - \$3,351.00; St. John's Quilters - \$20.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$17,548.00 THANK YOU!

St. John's United Church of Christ

1050 Buffalo Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837 -- (570) 523-0162
Worship 10:00 a.m. Office: Mon.- Fri. 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Website: www.stjohnslewisburg.org Email: stjohnsucc@ptd.net

It is a privilege to serve you today . . .

Rev. Alice Rauch, *Pastor*
Rev. James E. Johnson, *Pastor Emeritus*
Todd R. Hummel, *Dir. of Music/Organist*
Todd R. Hummel, *Bell Choir Director*

Linda Sartwell / Sue Baish, *Sound Technician*
Todd Hummel, *Administrative Assistant*
?, *Greeters*
Kiera Aulenbach, *Acolyte*
Barry Catherman, *Video Technician*

CCLI #20796546 One License #738455-A

January 30, 2022

Luke 4:21-30

Prophet on the Edge
Health and Human Service Sunday



This is the logo of Health and Human Service Sunday, which many churches celebrate today.

The logo shows a circle of hands of many colors reaching for each other. This circle of hands reminds us that we are all involved in the circle of care - sometimes giving, sometimes receiving, always included in some way in the circle.

In recent years we have begun to use the phrase “essential worker” to describe some workers whose work in the circle pandemic helped us realize we could not live without. As we honor essential workers on this day, we give thanks for all who are involved in the circle of care.

“The UCC and its predecessor denominations courageously founded schools, hospitals, and orphanages during times of pandemic, war, and social upheaval. Now, there are more than 400 UCC affiliated health care centers, hospitals, affordable housing and retirement communities, transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness or domestic violence, and service centers for children, youth, families, and those with developmental disabilities. These ministries continue to show up in the most challenging circumstances—and do so with the fervor of healing and justice.”*

*“Council for Health and Human Service Ministries | Home.”
 CHHSM, www.chhsm.org/. Accessed 7 July 2021.



8.5" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

Bulletin artwork and backpage stories copyright © 2022 United Church of Christ