

St. John's United Church of Christ  
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation  
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - ONA SUNDAY  
Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m. June 28, 2026

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

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**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.

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*In 2026 We Are Dreaming God's Dream Together*

Prelude

Announcements and Prayer Concerns

\*Call to Worship

*Beloved, some of us came here tired, or carrying grief.*

**But we are still here.**

*Some of us came with joy in our bones and rainbows in our spirit.*

**And we are still here.**

*In a world that tries to erase peoples' stories,*

**We shall not be moved.**

*In a time when vulnerable lives are targeted,*

**We shall not be moved.**

*When fear tells us to be silent,*

**We shall not be moved.**

*When shame tries to pull us from the truth of who God made us to be,*

**We shall not be moved.**

*We are rooted in love.*

**We are rooted in justice.**

*We are rooted in affirmation.*

**We are rooted in God.**

*Like trees planted by living water,*

**We shall not be moved.**

*Come, let us worship the God who sees the vulnerable, strengthens the weary, and calls the church into holy courage.*

**Rooted in love, justice, and affirmation, we worship with joy. We worship with courage. We worship together.**

\*Opening Hymn

*"God of Change and Glory"*

#177

Prayer of Transformation and New Life: *God of love and justice, We confess that we have not always loved as you call us to love. We confess the harm done in your name, especially to LGBTQ+ people: the exclusion, shame, silence, and fear that have wounded your beloved children. We confess, too, the ways we all fall short: choosing comfort over courage, silence over justice, and fear over love. Forgive us. Transform us. Root us again in love, justice, and affirmation. Make us a church where all people are safe, celebrated, and truly belong. In the name of Jesus, who welcomed all with courageous love, we pray. Amen.*

Sung Response

*"Spirit of the Living God"*

#283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Grace: *Beloved, hear this good news: God does not abandon us to shame. God does not leave us in the wilderness. God does not ask us to sacrifice our beloved-ness in order to be faithful. In Christ, the old powers do not get the final word. Fear does not get the final word. Exclusion does not get the final word. Bad theology that rejects does not get the final word. God's grace is still rising. God's Spirit is still making the church new. So stand tall, beloved. Breathe deep. You are forgiven. You are beloved. You are free. Thanks be to God.*

Passing of the Peace: *The Peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!*

Song of Joy

*"How Can I Say Thanks"*

#14

How can I say thanks for the things you have done for me?  
Things so undeserved, yet you gave to prove your love for me;  
The voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude.  
All that I am, and ever hope to be; I owe it all to you.

To God be the glory, to God be the glory,  
To God be the glory for the things you have done.  
With your blood you have saved me;  
With your power you have raised me;  
To God be the glory for the things you have done.

Words for All, Especially Children

Scripture Reading

Acts 10:9-35

Message

*"From Welcome to Celebration"*

Morning 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.

Celebrations and Joys

\*Singing Our Gratitude as We Dedicate our Offerings #376 Stanza #1

God, we thank you for our people, roots dug deep within the soil,  
Hardy spirits, rich in loving, strong for struggle, bold for toil.  
Faithful Rock of generations, you whom parents' parents praised:  
Here is hope as we remember may our song to you be raised.

\*Dedication of Gifts and Offerings: God of abundance, receive these gifts as seeds of holy resistance. Let them grow into shelter for those who have been cast out. Let them grow into courage for churches learning to speak. Let them grow into care for vulnerable people who need more than words. Let them grow into justice, joy, safety, and beloved community. Bless what we give. Bless what we hold. Bless what we build together. Please root our generosity in love, justice, and affirmation, so that your people may flourish. Amen.

\*Hymn

*"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"*

#23

\*Benediction

Postlude

TODAY

**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) or fill out a Welcome Card (located on the Welcome Table in the Narthex) and introduce yourself to the people 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 greeters. Offering plates are located at the rear of the Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK

|                   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Monday, June 29   | 1 pm - 4 pm   | Community Harvest (KTCHN)   |
| Tuesday, June 30  | <b>9 am</b><br>10:30 - Noon<br>7 pm - 9:30 pm   | <b>TUESDAY TRUDGERS (FH)</b><br>Willowbrook Strings (FH)<br>Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)   |
| Wednesday, July 1 | <b>9 am</b>   | <b>GARDEN HARVEST (GARDEN)</b>  |
| Thursday, July 2  | 8:30 am- 10:30am<br>9 am - 10:30 am<br>9 am - Noon<br><b>10 am</b><br>1:30 pm - 3 pm<br><b>7 pm</b><br>7 pm | WW (FH)<br>TOPS (CR)<br>P.E.O. (GP)<br><b>CHRISTIAN ED (ZOOM)</b><br>Trailside Troubadours (FH)<br><b>BUILDINGS/GROUNDS (GP)</b><br>Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT) |
| Friday, July 3    | <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  | <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  |
| Saturday July 4   |   |   |
| Sunday, July 5    | <b>10 am</b>  | <b>WORSHIP, COMMUNION, CHILDREN'S CHURCH</b>  |

FUTURE

**NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH** - Rides to Church services are now available for folks. If you're in need of a ride to one of our services, please call the Church office (570) 523-0162 by at least the Friday prior to needing a ride.

**MONTHLY MISSION OFFERING** - June's mission offering is dedicated to the **Strengthen the Church** fund. July's mission offering is dedicated to the **Donald Heiter Center**.

**CHANCEL FLOWER CHART** - The Chancel Flower Chart is located in the Narthex. Please consider sponsoring a Sunday or two for flowers.

**COMMUNITY HARVEST MEAL** -. If you have any questions or are interested please contact me through messages or email. 570-492-4487 - Riley. [Hoeyriley32@gmail.com](mailto:Hoeyriley32@gmail.com) The next food distribution will be **July 18<sup>th</sup>**, 10 am - Noon.

**Our Congregation's Cooking Team is scheduled for tomorrow - June 29<sup>th</sup> - 1 to 4 p.m.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - "All Things Bright and Beautiful" will be the theme of VBS this year. It will be held on Wed., Thurs., and Friday - August 5-7 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Registration is open, forms are located in the Narthex. Meeting of the leadership team for planning is scheduled for July 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

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

**Ongoing Needs-** Laurie Anderson, Anna Brouse, Peg Brouse, Dorothy Griffith, Bill Fuller, Bill Geyer, Brock Hare, Jean Hartman, Kristian K., Ethel Moser, Bruce Rauch, Christine Sartwell, Alice Savidge, Leslie Shearer, Dianna Spickler, Emily Weaver, Linda Williams, Rev. Sharon Von Blohn.

**Immediate Concerns** -Pat B., Rev. Patty Dodds, Hunter English (Sharon Von Blohn's grandson), Deb Hackenberg, Craig Hoffman, Steve M., Pam Mabus, Dennis Meckley, Ben Moyer, Craig O'Neil, Todd O'Neil, Dusti Ramey, Ann Smit, The Family of Victor Snyder, Renee St. Clair, Rick Wherley, Samantha Wyvill, Brett Yarger.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** - are sponsored by the Catherman Family in celebration of Keira's 11<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 18.

**THE OUTWARD SIGNS**

June 21, 2026

Chancel Flowers - \$50.00; Current Expenses - \$1,743.00;  
Davy's Cards - \$50.00; Heiter Center - \$100.00;  
Improvements/Maintenance - \$25.00; Loose Offering - \$40.00;  
Memorial Fund - \$50.00; OCWM - \$590.00; St. John's Quilters - \$15.00;  
Strengthen the Church - \$60.00; Weis Cards - \$75.00;

**GRAND TOTAL - \$ 2,798.00 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](http://www.stjohnslewisburg.org) Email: [stjohnsucc@ptd.net](mailto:stjohnsucc@ptd.net)

***It is a privilege to serve you today . . .***

Rev. Alice Rauch, *Pastor*

Rev. Gary Nottis, *Pastoral Care Assoc.*

Todd R. Hummel, *Dir. Of Music / Organist*

Todd R. Hummel, *Bell Choir Director*

Sylas Wilde, *Kitchen Manager*

Todd Hummel, *Administrative Assistant*

Carol Berry, *Greeter*

Keira Aulenbach, Kora Aulenbach, *Acolytes*

Sue Baish, Barry Catherman, Alicia Graybill,

Lisa Graybill, Linda Sartwell, Dave Smit,

*Tech Team*

CCLI #20796546 One License #738455-A

**Available to you**, if needed, are Quiet Rooms 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 greeter or A/V team member.

