

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m. April 26, 2026

(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.

In 2026 We Are Dreaming God's Dream Together

Prelude

Announcements

*Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 23)

The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us enter with thanksgiving and praise!

The Shepherd restores our souls, satisfies our needs, and leads us on the right path.

The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us live with courage and conviction not fear and timidity.

Through valleys and storms, chaos and confusion, threats and concerns, the Shepherd comforts us with power and strength, love and compassion, hope and peace.

The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us worship in the presence of the Holy One!

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all our days of my life. Let us dwell in God's presence forever!

*Opening Hymn "For the Healing of the Nations" #576

Prayer of Transformation and New Life: Shepherd of our lives, like sheep, we wander and stray. We come to you for sustenance yet distance ourselves from your realm when you require more from us. We bite one another with words that cut and attitudes that reflect more apathy than care. We lie down and become stuck when you would expand our territory and sphere of belonging. We give you thanks for not giving up on us and continuing to lead us by your Spirit. Give us courage and confidence to do your will and to love with our lives. We devote ourselves anew to your teaching, to community, to the sacramental life, and to prayer. Lead us in the ever full and renewed life in Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Grace: *Beloved, the Shepherd cares for you and rejoices whenever you turn back to follow God's holy way. Life in the promise of glorious, flourishing life and the kingdom of God manifested on earth. There is no detour you may take where the Shepherd cannot find you and urge you back into their loving embrace. You are redeemed and restored in Christ. Receive the goodness of God whose grace is sufficient and available for you to begin anew.*

Passing of the Peace:

Peace be with you!
And also with you!

Song of Joy "Halleluja" #236

Words for All, Especially Children

Choir Anthem *“Embrace the Day”* Choplin

Scripture Reading John 10:1-10

Message *“What Did You Say?”*

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.**

Moment for Mission Transitions of PA Nicole Yeager

Celebrations and Joys

*Singing Our Gratitude as We Dedicate our Offerings (tune: Canonberry)

**Bless Thou the gifts our hands have brought;
Bless Thou the work our hearts have planned;
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;
The rest, O God, is in Thy hand. Amen.**

*Dedication of Gifts and Offerings: **Generous God, may these gifts bless our life together, fortify our ministry, and transform our community. Receive them as we give them—with gladness and thanksgiving. Amen.**

*Hymn *“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”* #252

*Benediction
Postlude

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, Christine Sartwell, Alice Savidge, Leslie Shearer, Victor Snyder, Dianna Spickler, Emily Weaver, Linda Williams, Rev. Sharon Von Blohn.

Immediate Concerns - The Family of Barry Bilger, Rev. Patty Dodds, Hunter English (Sharon Von Blohn’s grandson), Peg Heitman, Riley Hoey, Craig Hoffman, Pam Mabus, Ben Moyer, Craig O’Neil, Todd O’Neil, Bruce Rauch, Colleen Ross, Ann Smit, Renee St. Clair, Rick Wherley, The Family of Wayne Williams, Samantha Wyvill, Brett Yarger.

CHANCEL FLOWERS - Are sponsored by Jean Maurer.

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.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR - Please join us in the Narthex immediately following the worship service for a time of fellowship and snacks. This month's fellowship hour is being hosted by Staci and Shannon Prutzman.

THIS WEEK

Monday, April 27	9 am - 11 am 1 pm - 4 pm 7 pm	Kindermusik (PAR)BVS Rehearsal (FH) Community Harvest (KTCHN) BVS Rhearsal (FH)
Tuesday, April 28	10:30 - Noon 4 pm - 6 pm 7 pm - 9:30 pm	Willowbrook Strings (FH) Hunger Coalition (FH) Men's Westbranch Chorus (FH)
Wednesday, April 29		
Thursday, April 30	8:30 am- 10:30am 9 am - 10:30 am 1:30 pm - 3 pm 7 pm	WW (FH) TOPS (CR) Trailside Troubadours (FH) Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT)
Friday, May 1	4 pm - 6 pm	Violin Class (SANCT)
Saturday May 2	10 am - Noon	Girl Scouts (PAV/FH)
Sunday, May 3	9 am 10 am	CHANCEL CHOIR (CH.RM) WORSHIP, COMMUNION, CHILDREN'S CHURCH

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 - April's mission offering is dedicated to **Transitions**. May's mission offering is dedicated to **Getting Ahead in the Valley**.

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 The next food distribution will be May 16th, 10 am - Noon.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

April 19, 2026

Current Expenses - \$1,470.00; Davy's Cards - \$200.00;
Envelope Expenses - \$10.00 ; Giant Cards - \$100.00 ; Loose Offering - \$80.00;
OCWM - \$565.00; St. John's Quilters - \$15.00; Transitions - \$65.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 2,505.00 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. Gary Nottis, *Pastoral Care Assoc.*

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

Todd R. Hummel, *Bell Choir Director*

Todd Hummel, *Administrative Assistant*

Craig Swineford, *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.