

St. John's United Church of Christ

An "Open and Affirming" Congregation

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor - Rev. Gary Nottis, Guest Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

May 24, 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

Prayer Concerns

Call to Worship (responsive)

Do not give unthinking response to this day's call to worship.

For today, we ask God's Spirit to fill us so we may prophesy, and dream dreams, and see visions.

The call to worship today is a summons to be touched by holy fire, flames that even now above our heads.

Flames to ignite our opinions on how to be a vibrant community of faith so that they blaze into commitment and burn in our hearts. Flames to animate us, leaving us no rest as individuals until God's realm of comprehensive peace fills the earth as the waters fill the seas.

Prophets, visionaries, dreamers!

Let us all worship with courage and hope! Amen.

*Hymn: **"Let Every Christian Pray"** #261

Recognition of Our Brokenness

Prayer of Transformation and New Life (unison)

All-Sufficient and Gracious God, we confess that we have failed to open our hearts to the power and leadings of your Spirit. We continue the divisions of Babel, speaking in tongues and acting in ways that confound rather than clarify, hurt rather than heal, separate rather than unite. Though we are not deserving, we pray for the gift of fellowship and a passion for ministry that confirms your presence among us and sends us into the world to enact Christ's gospel message. Restore our fractured lives that we, with one voice and purpose, may ever give you thanks and praise. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

God's grace is sufficient for all. That which we regret is redeemed. We are given the courage to live new lives, deeply grounded in communion with the Spirit, and inspired by it to lovingly and creatively respond to the true needs of others. We are people of Pentecost, once more. Praise be to God. Amen.

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

Song of Joy: "Halleluja" #236

Words for All – Especially for Children

Anthem: "You Are Welcome Here"

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

Message: "The Life Blood of the Church" – Rev. Gary Nottis

Prayers of the People

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 (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:

Holy Spirit of God, we commit our lives to your service through the dedication of our offerings. We ask for your bold winds and dancing flames to magnify and multiply our tangible gifts to further your work of liberation, justice, and compassionate aid, here and around the world. Amen

*Hymn: "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" #459

*Benediction:

Postlude

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

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

Ongoing Needs- 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 - Laurie Anderson, Rev. Patty Dodds, Hunter English (Sharon Von Blohn's grandson), Peg Heitman, Riley Hoey, Craig Hoffman, Steve M., Pam Mabus, Ben Moyer, Craig O'Neil, Todd O'Neil, Bruce Rauch, Colleen Ross, Ann Smit, Renee St. Clair, Rick Wherley, Samantha Wyvill, Brett Yarger.

CHANCEL FLOWERS - Are sponsored by Jeanne & John Letteer, in loving memory of their parents.

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, May 25	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday, May 26	10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	Willowbrook Strings (NARTHX) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, May 27		
Thursday, May 28	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 29		
Saturday May 30	3:00 pm	Pavilion Reserved
Sunday, May 31	9:00 am 10 am 11 am	CHANCEL CHOIR (CH.RM) WORSHIP, MUSIC SUNDAY, CHILDREN'S CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HOUR

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 - 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 **June 20th**, 10 am - Noon.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

May 17, 2026

Chancel Flowers - \$100.00; Current Expenses - \$2,343.00;
Davy's Cards - \$300.00; Getting Ahead in the Valley - \$135.00;
Giant Cards - \$200.00; Improvements/Maintenance - \$25.00;
Loose Offering - \$45.00; OCWM - \$545.00; St. John's Quilters - \$15.00;
Weis Cards - \$100.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 3,808.00 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*

Staci & Shannon Prutzman, *Greeters*

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.