

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - COMMUNION
Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor - Rev. Gary Nottis, Pastoral Care Associate
The Service: 10:00 a.m. June 7, 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, inspired by Psalm 139)

My Creator and Sustainer, where can I go from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

**You fashioned my inward parts; you knit me in my mother's womb,
endowing me with purpose and ability.**

*My soul was not hidden from you when I was being formed in secret,
woven in the depths of the world.*

**How can I keep from praising you? I am fearfully and wonderfully made,
and all your works are marvelous.**

In thankfulness, let us worship our God!

*Hymn: **"We Praise You, O God"** #420

Recognition of Our Brokenness

Prayer of Transformation and New Life (unison) - **Majestic and compassionate God, we come to you a wayward people. We have forgotten your intentions for us; we have rejected the way of Jesus, our Christ. We have disregarded the power of your Spirit. We have worshiped ourselves and the things we have made. Forgive us. Restore us in the knowledge of who we are and the purpose you have given each of us. Make us alive to serve you in faith, hope, and love; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace - *God loves us in the midst of our searching for holy purpose and wholeness. God walks with us and supports us as we strive to recognize and enact our callings. God fills us with dreams, passion, and sacred urging so we will find our way to good life. Truly, this is good! 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

Special Music: **"Song of a Tree"** arr. and sung by Ron Zug

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-9

Message: ***"We Are Created for Purpose"***— 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: **Generous Spirit, Receive these gifts, even our very lives for your service. Multiply them and our efforts to meet the need. We are yours God, use us we pray. Amen.**
Order for Holy Communion

Invitation

Communion Litany (responsive)

*We remember the witness of faith made by Jesus of Nazareth,
who yearned to set people free to know their purpose, and live in
wellbeing and thanksgiving, according to God's will.*

*We give thanks for the way Jesus leads us to lives in which we are
aware of God, the Holy One's blessings in our everyday living, and our
responsibility to gratefully share with all. This is the path to salvation.*

**Jesus beckons us to be neighbor in ways that cross religious, cultural,
and social barriers. He challenges us to give God free reign in our lives
so that the human community and our own personal lives, may be
characterized by compassion, gratitude, genuine care for the
disadvantaged, and concern for justice. He set us free so that we can
live in peace and God's presence, all the days of our lives.**

*We are called to partake of this simple meal to remember what God, through Jesus, requires of us,
the cost of discipleship, and our commitment to it. We are called to this meal to regain our God-
inspired vision, and the strength and courage to witness to its transformative power through our living
and loving.*

Words of Institution

Communion Prayer (unison) - **Lord, we come knowing that we depend on you for life and truth and love. We come knowing that you welcome us with open and accepting arms. We come ready to meet with you, and be changed by the encounter. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and juice, on our gifts, and on us. Amen.**

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison) - Thank you, God, for this meal of remembrance and commitment, and for coming to us in the Spirit's power as we have shared it. May we come away from this experience of the sacred with the same fire and passion that burned in the life of Jesus. May the love we find at this table be reflected in our lives. May the power we receive at this table make us peacemakers and healers. May the Spirit who fills us again at this table, lead us to be those who proclaim God's Kingdom, in every word we speak and in everything we do, with love and thanksgiving. Amen.

*Hymn: *"I'm Pressing on the Upward Way"* #442

*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 8	9 am 12 pm - 3 pm 2 pm	ST. JOHN'S QUILTERS (CR) Lewisburg Garden Club (FH) WORSHIP/MUSIC (GP)
Tuesday, June 9	10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	Willowbrook Strings (NARTHX) Community Harvest (KTCHN) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, June 10		
Thursday, June 11	8:30 am- 10:30am 9 am - 10:30 am 10 am 1:30 pm - 3 pm 7 pm 7 pm	WW (FH) TOPS (CR) CHRISTIAN ED (ZOOM) Trailside Troubadours (FH) M.A.S.H. (GP/ZOOM) Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT)
Friday, June 12		
Saturday June 13		
Sunday, June 14	10 am 11 am	WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S CHURCH SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL (FH)

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.

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.

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 Alicia & Lisa Graybill, in celebration of Jamison's 20th birthday on June 12th.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

May 31, 2026

Current Expenses - \$2,700.00; Davy's Cards - \$25.00;
Getting Ahead in the Valley - \$45.00; Giant Cards - \$650.00;
Improvements/Maintenance - \$25.00; Loose Offering - \$125.00;
OCWM - \$155.00; St. John's Quilters - \$15.00; Weis Cards - \$200.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 3,940.00 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*

Sue & Jim Tomlinson, *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.