

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

The Service: 10:00 a.m. July 12, 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 and Prayer Concerns

*Call to Worship

Praise is due to the Holy One, whose ways are the joy of our hearts.

The Faithful One holds our lives and our hands. Happy are we who praise the Holy One!

Worship is due to the Holy One, whose revelation illuminates our path.

The Just God is righteous. Happy are we who follow the Holy One!

Love is due to the Holy One, whose compassion, peace, and strength satisfies the prayers spoken and unspoken.

The Sovereign God answers prayer. Happy are we who love the Holy One!

*Opening Hymn

"God of the Ages"

#592

Prayer of Transformation and New Life: Holy One, we incline our hearts toward you, but the concerns of the world and challenges of daily living pull us away. Keep us grounded in your promises, your purposes, your power, and your presence. Reorient us on the road of liberation, belonging, and communal care so that not only do we receive the gift of transformation, we companion with siblings, neighbors, and even enemies in your work of making all things new. Remove the misleading veil that disguises sufficiency with scarcity. Sustain us with being satisfied with enough and abundance materially while continuing to thirst for righteousness so that all may be well. In you, we hope and believe. 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, rest in the assurance of Psalm 65:5, "By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas." The Holy One receives and responds to our prayers and offers the promise of renewed life and the power of community in the kingdom of God. Through Christ, we participate as witnesses, agents, and recipients of transformation for the glory of God and by the grace of 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

Special Music

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Message

"From Strangers to Neighbors"

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: Generous God, receive these gifts and magnify them to bless our community and world. May these offerings reflect our gratitude for your beloved community and trust in your kingdom. Amen.

*Hymn

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

#388

*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.

THANKS! - We thank Rev. Daniel Busch for the sharing of his talents today!

PICNIC - Please join us in the pavilion immediately following the worship service for our 250th birthday America picnic.

THIS WEEK

Monday, July 13	9 am Noon - 3 pm 2 pm 6:30 pm	ST. JOHN'S QUILTERS (CR) Lewisburg Garden Club WORSHIP/MUSIC (GP) SUMMER BOOK STUDY (GP)
Tuesday, July 14	9 am 10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	TUESDAY TRUDGERS (FH) Willowbrook Strings (FH) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, July 15	9 am	GARDEN HARVEST (GARDEN)
Thursday, July 16	8:30 am- 10:30am 9 am - 10:30 am 1:30 pm - 3 pm 7 pm 7 pm	WW (FH) TOPS (CR) Trailside Troubadours (FH) CONSISTORY (ZOOM) Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT)
Friday, July 17		
Saturday July 18	10 - Noon	COMMUNITY HARVEST (FH)
Sunday, July 19	10 am 11 am	WORSHIP, CHILDREN'S CHURCH, BAPTISM FUTURE READ CHURCH VISION (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 - 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 The next food distribution will be **July 18th**, 10 am - Noon.

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.

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 -

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

July 5, 2026

Building Use - \$40.00; Chancel Flowers - \$50.00;
Current Expenses - \$3,265.00; Davy's Cards - \$125.00;
Heiter Center - \$240.00; Loose Offering - \$85.00; Memorial Fund - \$50.00;
OCWM - \$185.00; St. John's Quilters - \$15.00;
Strengthen the Church - \$20.00; Weis Cards - \$775.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 4,850.00 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*

Sylas Wilde, *Kitchen Manager*

Todd Hummel, *Administrative Assistant*

Beth Moser, *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.