

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

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

August 2, 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

We long for living faith

and so we come to worship

hoping that our time together, our time with God

will help to unclench our fists, will slowly soften our hearts

will quiet our voices and open our ears.

Revive our faith, O God

that we might serve you with glad and joyful hearts.

*Opening Hymn

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

#425

*Opening Prayer - ***Faithful One, make us rich in faith. Let our faith spill out from our hearts into all we do and say and are. Let it feed and clothe, comfort and set free, reconcile and make new. Let it change not only us but also others. You are faithful. May we be faithful. Amen.***

Passing of the Peace: Peace be with you. **And Also with you**

Words for All, Especially Children

Special Music

"Amazing Grace" Angie and James Donlin

Scripture Reading

James 2:14-26

Message

"From Spectators to Participants"

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: Creator, thank you for the opportunity to share in your abundant and renewing work. Use these gifts for the kingdom. Sow wisdom and discernment as we support the ministry of this church in your name. Amen.

*Order for Holy Communion

Christ invites "all" to the table of reconciliation ...

On the night of betrayal, denial, and desertion, Jesus prepared his disciples for life beyond the tomb. He demonstrated with wine and cup what he would later perform in his flesh and blood. Jesus wanted them to remember and to understand his solidarity and his sacrifice. Jesus still prepares a place for each and all of us at this table. Will you come?

In awe and wonder, humility and thanksgiving, we come to the table to feast with the Risen One.
(please be seated)

Words of Institution - *We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks and broke the bread, "This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." On that same night, in much the same way, he lifted a cup after supper saying: "This is the cup of the new covenant.*

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

We do remember. and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Open our hearts in and through this act, stripping away any excuse or fearful hesitation, so that we will open our doors to the world as the body of Christ, redeemed by his love.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory. Amen.

Breaking Bread and Raising the Cup

Sharing the Bread and Cup

The elements will be brought to you in your pews. Please hold the bread and cup until all are served and we will partake of the elements at one time. Gluten free bread is available.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving - Holy One, thank you for this feast at your table. May we go forward from this table with great joy, ever seeking your transformational presence among us and discerning your call for us to be present for our neighbors in the world. Amen.

*Hymn

"Take My Life, God, Let It Be"

#448

*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! - Please take the opportunity to thank Angie and James for sharing their music today.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR - Please join us after worship for a time of Fellowship and snacks. This month's fellowship hour is sponsored/hosted by Beth Moser.

THIS WEEK

Monday, August 3	12 pm - 1 pm 1 pm - 4 pm 6:30 pm	Lewisburg Garden Club Board (PAR) Community Harvest (KTCHN) SUMMER BOOK STUDY (GP)
Tuesday, August 4	9 am 10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	TUESDAY TRUDGERS (FH) Willowbrook Strings (FH) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, August 5	9 am 6 pm	GARDEN HARVEST (GARDEN) VBS (FH)
Thursday, August 6	8:30 am- 10:30am 9 am - 10:30 am 1:30 pm - 3 pm 6 pm 7 pm 7 pm	WW (FH) TOPS (CR) Trailside Troubadours (FH) VBS (FH) BUILDINGS/GROUNDS (GP) Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT)
Friday, August 7	6 pm	VBS (FH)
Saturday August 8		
Sunday, August 9	10 am 11 am	WORSHIP AT CENTRAL OAK HEIGHTS PICNIC AT CENTRAL OAK HEIGHTS

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 -August's mission offering is dedicated to the **Union County Food Bank**.

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 **August 15th**, 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.

AUGUST 9TH WORSHIP - We will hold worship on Sunday, August 9th at CENTRAL OAK HEIGHTS

in West Milton. There will be a picnic to follow the worship service.

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., Serita Barry, 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, The Family of Walter Swineford, Rick Wherley, Samantha Wyvill, Brett Yarger.

CHANCEL FLOWERS -

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

July 26, 2026

Current Expenses - \$1,505.00; Heiter Center - \$85.00;
Loose Offering - \$75.00; OCWM - \$165.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 1,830.00 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*

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.