

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

The Service: 10:00 a.m. April 19, 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

Come, let us walk with one another as the disciples did. Let us journey together as we tell God's story in song and proclamation.

Let us ponder what we have seen and heard, what we know to be true, and what we hope beyond hope is real.

Let us walk, that our minds might be clear, our hearts open, and our spirits renewed.

Behold, God journeys with us; Jesus walks beside us. May the Spirit give us eyes to see the risen Christ here and everywhere, now and always. Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn

"Many and Great"

#3

Prayer of Transformation and New Life: Spirit of the Living God, we ask you to meet us in those moments when we recognize that we have caused, through action or inaction, through words or silence, through participation or lack of participation, that we have caused or allow harm to take place. In those moments, allow our hearts to break in order to be mended with the burning fire of repentance and sharpening. In those moments, let our hearts cry, "what should we do?" In those moments, guide us to wisdom and discernment, Holy Spirit, so that we would not only be forgiven but gifted with the work of repair and restoration. Amen.

Assurance of Grace:

Beloved, the Holy Spirit continues to be our present companion. When we seek help, the Spirit responds with wisdom, hope, and peace. Be encouraged that the Holy One awaits to meet us where we are in order to journey with us to where we could be for the glory of God and the good of the world.

Passing of the Peace:

Peace be with you!
And also with you!

Song of Joy

"Halleluja"

#236

Words for All, Especially Children

Choir Anthem

Scripture Reading Luke 24:13-35

Message

“Surprise Visit”

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 God, we pray that these gifts will bring glory to your name and bless your creation through good stewardship, Spirit-led discernment, and generous love. Amen.

*Hymn

“Spirit Song”

Insert

*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 - Barry Bilger, Rev. Patty Dodds, Peg Heitman, Riley Hoey, Craig Hoffman, Pam Mabus, 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.

THIS WEEK

Monday, April 20	9 am - 11 am 6 pm 7 pm 7pm 7 pm	Kindermusik (PAR)BVS Rehearsal (FH) Empty Arms Group (CR) BVS Rhearsal (FH) FINANCE/PERSONNEL (ZOOM) Girl Scout Leaders (GP)
Tuesday, April 21	10:30 - Noon 1 pm - 4 pm 7 pm - 9:30 pm	Willowbrook Strings (FH) Community Harvest (KTCHN) Men's Westbranch Chorus (FH)
Wednesday, April 22		
Thursday, April 23	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, April 24	4 pm - 6 pm	Violin Class (SANCT)
Saturday April 25		
Sunday, April 26	8:45 am 9 am 10 am	BELL CHOIR (SANCT) CHANCEL CHOIR (CH.RM) WORSHIP, 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.

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 12, 2026

Current Expenses - \$2,208.00; Davy's Cards - \$100.00;
Improvements/Maintenance - \$20.00; LEAF Fund - \$200.00;
Loose Offering - \$145.00; OCWM - \$355.00; Reitz Est. - \$11,077.97;
Transitions - \$215.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 14,320.97 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.