

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

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

August 23, 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 *"The Old Rugged Cross"*

Announcements

*Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 124)

Blessed be the Holy One. If it had not been God on our side—the people proclaim!

With God on our side, we find our help in the name of the Holy One!

Blessed be the Holy One, who draws us from aimlessness, despair, and bitterness.

With God on our side, we find purpose, hope, and peace.

Blessed be the Holy One, who calls us to love one another—neighbors, enemies, family and friends.

With God on our side, we find compassion, grace, and mercy for one another.

Blessed be the Holy One!

*Opening Hymn *"There Is a Balm in Gilead"* #553

*Opening Prayer

Living God, you draw us from the waters that offer both life and death, nourishment and destruction, peace and power. We gather as your people to remember your timely and tangible works. We call upon your many names as we have known you to be Redeemer, Counselor, Shepherd, and Friend. We worship you for who you are, and we draw near to become who you have crafted us to be. Amen.

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

Words for All, Especially Children

Scripture Reading I Kings 19:1-9a

Special Music *"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"*

Message *"From Exhaustion to Wholeness"*

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: Wonderful God, please sanctify these gifts for your glory, amplify them for your people, and replicate them for your kingdom. May they meet the needs and hopes of the world and community in which we belong. Amen.

*Hymn *"O Savior, Let Me Walk with You"* #503

*Benediction

Postlude *"God of Our Fathers"*

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, Isaiah English, Deb Hackenberg, Craig Hoffman, Janet Kling, 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 - given in loving memory of Rev. LeRoy C. Brumbaugh by his daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Ron Zug.

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! A special thank you to Rev. Dan Busch for sharing his musical talents with us this morning.

THIS WEEK

Monday, August 24	1 pm - 4 pm	Community Harvest (KTCHN)
Tuesday, August 25	9 am 10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	TUESDAY TRUDGERS (FH) Willowbrook Strings (FH) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, August 26	9 am	GARDEN HARVEST (GARDEN)
Thursday, August 27	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 (FH)
Friday, August 28		
Saturday August 29		
Sunday, August 30	10 am	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 -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 or Sue Kindya. The next food distribution will be **September 19th**, 10 am - Noon. **Our next cooking session will be Monday, August 31st, 1-4 pm.**

FALL RETREAT - Please mark your calendars for our Fall Transformation & Prayer retreat to be held on September 11 - 13th at Central Oak Heights. Registration forms are available in the Narthex. Please register by September 1st.

YARD SALE 2026 - The annual yard sale will be **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND**. Items for this year's yard sale can be brought into the chapel parlor area or under the pavilion to be sorted through August. We already have a lot of donations, so this will be a very big year!!

Help will be needed Mon. (8/31), Tues. (9/1) at 10 am to set up. Then help is really needed on Wed. (9/2). If you can help in any way or even part of the time, please contact; Linda Sartwell, Dee Ledgerwood, or Penny Cooper.

ORDINATION INVITATION - On Sunday August 30 2026 at 3:00 PM EDT, the Central Association along with Saint Paul's at the Farm will celebrate the Ordination of Pastor Tim Hogan-Palazzo. Information regarding service is included in the attached invitation. For GPS the address of the church is: 50 Brookpark Cir, Lewisburg, PA 17837 RSVP by August 26 by reply to this email or text or call 570.850.7739.

Join Our Music Ministry: Bell & Chancel Choir. Are you looking for a wonderful way to share your musical gifts? We are warmly inviting anyone interested in making music to join our vocal choir and bell choir. No prior musical experience is required—just a willing heart and a desire to make a joyful noise! Whether you read music fluently or are just starting your musical journey, we have a place for you. Chancel Choir rehearsals begin on Sunday, September 20th, Bell choir begins on September 27th.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

August 16, 2026

Building Use - \$125.00; Chancel Flowers - \$50.00;
Current Expenses - \$3,158.00; Davy's Cards - \$300.00;
Food Pantry - \$205.00; Giant Cards - \$600.00;
Improvements/Maintenance - \$125.00; LEAF Fund - \$200.00;
Loose Offering - \$75.00; OCWM - \$255.00; St. John's Quilters - \$15.00;
Tuesday Trudgers - \$25.00; Weis Cards - \$200.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$ 5,333.00 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.