

Tough Love from a Loving God

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

October 27, 2024

10:15 am

Welcome to St. John's UCC Lansdale!

Visitors, please complete the ivory visitor's card found in the pew pocket so we can thank you for joining us this Sunday!



Completed cards go in the basket by the narthex.

The **Book of Joys & Concerns** is a green binder on the podium at the front of the chancel. If you have an Announcement, Joy or Concern you'd like stated, celebrated or prayed about during the service, feel free to write inside before service begins!

Hymnals are on the back of the pew in front of you.

Bibles are on a shelf beneath the pew in front of you.



For **The Children's Message**, youth are invited to sit up front on the chancel steps for a direct and intentional age-appropriate message.



After the Children's Message, children will be dismissed and escorted downstairs for our youth programming; **Connect 3**. Connect 3 is aimed at ages 3 through 12, but all youth are welcome!

Hearing Aids are available if you are having trouble hearing the service.

Please ask a Hospitality Team Member.



Wheelchairs & First Aid Kit are stored in the labeled "First Aid Closet" in the narthex.



AED (Defibrillator) is in the church library on the wall closest to the Sanctuary by the window. When entering from the Sanctuary, turn left.

Audio Recordings of service can be found online on St. John's Facebook Page, Website, or Youtube. Sermons are available on Spotify; "St John's UCC Lansdale Sermons".

If you would like a physical copy, contact the church office.

The Nursery will be open for you to use mindfully. No volunteers will be on duty.

A parent, grandparent, or responsible adult **must** stay with their child.



Worship Leaders

Pastor Tom Adil, Acting Lead Bridge Pastor

Sally Atkiss, Liturgist

Abbie Lampe, Children's Message

Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music

Chancel Choir

Copyright Information

All texts and music are reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE A-721709 or are in the public domain.

Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You

Text: Rae Whitney, 1991; rev. 1994, © 1994, Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

Text: Brian Wren, 1989, © 1989, Hope Publishing Company

Order of Worship

St. John's United Church of Christ

500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446

10:15 am—October 27, 2024—Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

*You are invited to stand if able when indicated by an *asterisk and **speak the words in bold.***

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace.....Arranged by Joel Raney

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

-John Newton

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (INSPIRED BY PSALM 34)

Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Bless God at all times.

We praise God who is with us. We honor God who sustains, redeems, and delivers.

Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Boast in the Holy One.

We seek the Holy One who hears our cries with grace, mercy, and compassion.

Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Magnify God with me.

O taste and see, hear and proclaim, touch and know that God is good.

Bless the Holy One!

*OPENING HYMN

Ask Me What Great Thing I Know.....Hymn 49

Stanzas 2 and 3 may be sung in harmony.

*CONFESSION

Gracious God, break our hearts for what breaks yours. Forgive us for hearts that are sometimes cold with indifference. Forgive us for hearts sometimes hard with intractability. Forgive us for hearts closed with isolation. Open our hearts fully to compassion and companionship with our neighbor and your vision of a beloved kingdom come. Amen.

*ASSURANCE

Beloved, your heart bears the heart of God. With the Holy One's grace, heartbreak can transform into compassion, mutuality, and ministry that makes the love of God real in the world.

*SUNG RESPONSE

Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heav'n, on earth be found, Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing,
all your faith-ful mer-cies crown; Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 31:7-9.....Bible Page 692

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Praise God, the Gi-ver and the Gift. Hands, hearts, and voi-ces now up - lift: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Breath of glad sur - prise, free - ing our spir-its, op'n-ing eyes.
 Three in One-ness, love com-mun - ing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN**

Sent Forth by God’s Blessing.....Hymn 76

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in D Minor, BWV 565.....J.S. Bach

Following worship, you are invited to join us for Fellowship in the Assembly Hall.

Worship Assistants

Hospitality:

Bill Leslie, Bob Bertollette, Margie Jewell,
Gale Linderman, Rick O’Connor,
Scott Vanderburg

Elder of the Morning:

Chriss Bodde

Deacon of the Morning:

Rickie Lee Sands

Audio Technician:

Scott Cunningham

Chancel Flower Ministry:

Mary Billy

Driver:

Kay Peebles

Greeters:

OPEN

Social Host:

Kim Sands

St. John’s United Church of Christ

500 West Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446 Office: 215.855.5489 email: office@st-johns-ucc.org

If you would like more information about St. John’s please speak with one of the staff
or contact the office.

Pastor Tom Adil, M. Div., LPC, Acting Bridge Lead Pastor

Andrew Paulson, M.M., M.A., Minister of Music Abbie Lampe, Minister of Music for Children & Youth

Kay Peebles, Church Administrator Grace Marchione, Communications Coordinator

Bill Bergey, Custodian Mark Bruen, Council President

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2024	\$7,884.62
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2024	\$798.00
A Look at the Week of October 13, 2024	
Attendance: October 13, Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	97
Offering For Current Income	\$8,092.63
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$587.50
A Look at the Week of October 20, 2024	
Attendance: October 20, Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost	135
Offering For Current Income	\$5,037.50
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$196.50

To give online through our secure platform, visit <https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/stjohnsucc>

Scan here for online giving



ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John's Soup Sale! Sunday, October 27th

Today During Fellowship

Vegetable with Beef Vegetarian Vegetable

Chicken Noodle with Corn Chicken Noodle without Corn

\$9 per Quart

All proceeds go to the Exterior Restoration Fund

Lansdale-Hatfield National Giving Alliance Fall Ingathering!

Monday, Oct 28th

Last year we donated **over 13,000 items** to **10 local agencies!** We collect:

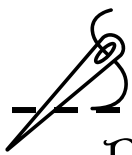
clothing (infant-adult)
linens & toiletries

You can give donations to Suzanne Franks or Sally Atkiss, or drop them off at the church office. Thank you!

Support the UCC's Hurricane Helene Appeal

The impact of Hurricane Helene is widespread and devastating, as more than 100 people have been confirmed dead, over 2 million people are without power, and damages are estimated to be over \$140 billion. Two UCC congregations on Florida's Gulf Coast have buildings with significant flood damage, and another experienced structural damage from high winds. The UCC has a long history of supporting communities as they recover from disaster well after their plight fades from the headlines. As we continue to pray for and respond to those who have experienced unimaginable loss this past week, please consider a gift to the Hurricane Helene Recovery Appeal. Gifts can be made through PSEC here:





(MORE) ANNOUNCEMENTS

Praying Hands

Stitchers

9:00 am

November 3rd

All knitters and crocheters are welcome!

Women's Retreat

Saturday, November 9

9:30 am

Church Library

First up will be the annual packing of Christmas stockings for Norristown State Hospital, followed by this month's program. Bonnie Weber will speak about the origin and evolution of St. John's Goodie Boxes.

Light refreshments will be served.

All women are welcome!



Bring your loose change to church to benefit St. John's Child Sponsorship Project

Change for the Children Offering

Sunday, November 10

THE Artist Series

AT ST. JOHN'S

Presents

Mainstreet Brass

Sunday, November 10th

4:00 pm

The Lehigh Valley based ensemble Mainstreet Brass will present a free program that is sure to reach listeners of all ages! The glorious sounds of trumpet, horn, trombone, tuba, and percussion will fill the sanctuary to begin this season. This is the first Artist Series concert of the year. *A freewill donation will be taken to support the Artist Series at St. John's.*

American Guild of Organists
Philadelphia Chapter
Tuesday Noon Recital Series

Every Tuesday in November

12:00 pm – 12:45 pm
St. John's Sanctuary

This free concert series is sponsored by the American Guild of Organists Philadelphia Chapter and rotates to different churches around the Philadelphia area from October to May – November is St. John's month!

November 5 – Michael Krentz

Christ Lutheran, Allentown

November 12 – Mina Choi

Doylestown Presbyterian Church, Doylestown

November 19 – Doppelflöte: Vincent M. Ryan

& Melissa Freilich (organ and flute duo)

Advent Lutheran, Harleysville

November 26 – Kathleen Scheide

Church of the Loving Shepherd, West Chester



As usual, there will be a large selection of "Gifts from the Heart" offered by 17 charities! You can choose the perfect gift to honor those on your gift list with donations to organizations such as Doctors Without Borders and The Seeing Eye that help people, animals and the environment. Alex's Lemonade Stand will be there, and soft pretzels and baked goods will be available for purchase. You can find the shopping list on St. John's website and on the CGM bulletin board in the corridor outside the Library.

See you on November 17 at the Market!

This Week at St. John's

If you would like more information about St. John's, please speak with one of the staff or contact the church office at 215.855.5489 or office@st-johns-ucc.org

Oct	27	Sun	10:15 am 10:45 am 11:30 am	Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Soup Sale , Assembly Hall Fellowship, Assembly Hall
Oct	29	Tues	7:00 pm	AA, Assembly Hall
Oct	30	Weds	5:45-6:45 pm 6:15-6:45 pm 7:00-7:20 pm 7:30-8:30 pm 8:30-9:30 pm	Wednesday Night Live! Community Meal, Activity Room Adult Education, Library United Ringers, Sanctuary Children's Choir, Music Room Holden Evening Prayer, Sanctuary Artist Series Chorus, Sanctuary Chancel Choir, Music Room
Oct	31	Thurs		Last Day for Artist Series Recognition
Nov	1	Fri	6:00 pm	North Penn Chess Club, Assembly Hall
Nov	2	Sat	8:30 am	Art of Living Foundation, Library
Nov	3	Sun	9:00 am 10:15 am 10:45 am 11:30 am 11:45 am	Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost All Saints Sunday Stitchers, Library Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall CGM 2024, Library



Chancel Flowers

In memory of Ian Brown's Oct 29th birthday from his wife, Vivienne Brown.

Jeremiah 31:7-9

For thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations[a] I will lead them back;
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn. He shall find satisfaction through his
knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out himself to death
and was numbered with the transgressors,
yet he bore the sin of many
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Mark 10:46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.