



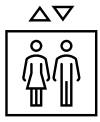
Roots and Branches

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 2026

10:15 am

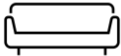
WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



The Elevator are at the end of the hall, through the door on the right front side of the sanctuary. **Accessible Bathrooms** are on the basement level. Once within the elevator, press "B". Exit and go left down the ramp. Once in the hallway, turn left, go the length, and turn right. The bathrooms are to the left.



Wheelchairs & First Aid Kit are stored in the labeled "First Aid Closet" near the Main Street entrance to the sanctuary. **AED** (Defibrillator) is in the church library on the wall closest to the Sanctuary by the window. When entering from the Sanctuary, turn left.



Our **Soft Worship Space** at the front right of the Sanctuary is available for all.



Hearing Assistance Devices are available in a basket at the back of the sanctuary if you are having trouble hearing the service. If the service is too loud, you may spend worship in the **Library**, which is to the right of the front of the Sanctuary, through the wall door.



Prayer Request and Information Cards are in pews for visitors, or anyone who would like to share information or a prayer request. Prayer requests will go to our prayer chain and pastors. These will not be read during service. **Visitors**, we are so glad you are here! Completed cards can be placed in the offering plates.



The **Book of Joys & Concerns** is on the podium at the front of the sanctuary on the right. If you have an Announcement, Joy or Concern you'd like shared, 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. **Large Print Hymns** are also available.



For **Our Time with Children**, children and youth are invited to sit up front on the chancel steps for conversation with the pastor. They will then 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. The **Nursery** is available and staffed for babies and toddlers. The Nursery is past the elevator, through the double doors, on the right.



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



A note on "Israel" language in worship: In our music and scriptures, "Israel" and "Israelites" refer to ancient Israel and its people, not the modern political state. We want to be faithful hearers and interpreters of scripture, and pray for the day when Palestinians and Israelis may live in mutual peace, security, and dignity.



We are an **Open and Affirming congregation**, advocating for and supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, nonbinary, and queer individuals in our church and our world, and affirming that all people are beloved children of God.

CHILDREN'S SONG This Little Light of Mine



This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine; this lit-tle light of mine,
 I'm gon-na let it shine; this lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

OUR TIME WITH CHILDREN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

CHILDREN'S SONG This Little Light of Mine (music on page 3)

SERMON "A Micah Moment"Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

*HYMN Build this World from Love

**We will build this world from love, la-la-li, la-li, la-la-li-li.
 And you must build this world from love, la-la-li, la-li, la-la-li-li.
 When we build this world from love, la-la-li, la-li, la-la-li-li.
 Then God will build this world from love. la-la-li, la-li, la-la-li-li.**

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS (* Indicates New Council Members)

DEACONS: Sumiko Booraem, Peter Conver, *Rick Fanciullacci, Rickie Lee Sands, *Scott Vanderburg, Paula White

EDUCATORS: *Karen Bausman, Jen Favata, *Kathy Floyd, Sally Jarinko, Barbara MacMullen, Kim Sands

ELDERS: Bill Cagney, Sue Clemens, *Suzie Franks, *Marge Jewell, Charles Sisian, Emilie Truscott

TRUSTEES: *Don Atkiss, *Mark Bruen, *Ken Hales, *Armin Fernando, Steve Hendricks

OFFICERS:

President – Alan Malachowski
 Vice President – *Bill Leslie
 Secretary – De' Jon Salmon

Treasurer – Susan Donahue
 Finance Committee Chair – Grace Bruen

Pastor: Siblings in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with responsibility for particular service in the ministry of the church, whether gathered or scattered. Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

Council Members: I am.

Pastor: Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

Council Members: I do, relying on God's grace.

Pastor: Members of this community of faith, you have heard the promises of our siblings in Christ who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them.

We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SUNG RESPONSE O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come

O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offering plates will be passed to the congregation in the pews.
For online giving, use the QR code.



Offertory I Come with Joy.....John Helgen
*I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me.
I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread.
As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends,
the love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends.
The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here.
Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one. -Brian Wren*

*Offertory Response #159 As with Gladness Those of Old; Stanza 3

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God who calls us "Beloved," receive these gifts as an expression of our gratitude and desire to build a world where all can thrive. Amen.

*HYMN O God of Love, This is a Time of Turning
 The hymn may be sung in harmony.

1 O God of love, this is a time of turn - ing,
 2 O God of peace, we hear your gra - cious pro - mise,
 3 O God of all, of im - mi - grant and neigh - bor,
 4 O God of love, have mer - cy on your chur - ches;

a time of change, with con - flict in the news.
 Your love can heal the hearts of hu - man - kind.
 of those in pow'r and of the re - fu - gee,
 Take from our hearts our par - a - ly - zing fear.

For in our land, some migh - ty winds are churn - ing;
 May we stand firm for truth and peace and jus - tice;
 You give us all our com - mon life and la - bor,
 Give us new faith! Make us cour - a - geous wor - kers.

There's much at stake that we could gain or lose.
 May we leave fear and hat - red far be - hind.
 our com - mon hope, the peace we long to see.
 Help us to la - bor on from year to year.

Love sings out strong, yet fires of hate are burn - ing;
 May we sing out, and sing - ing be a wit - ness,
 God, may we turn and be made strong to - ge - ther.
 When oth - er voi - ces call out to dis - tract us,

O God of all, you call us all to choose.
 and show re - solve to work for what is kind.
 May we seek jus - tice, love and un - i - ty.
 May we choose well and seek your king - dom here.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune.....Andrew Carter

St. John's United Church of Christ

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Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan (she/her), M.Div., PhD., Senior Pastor – pastorlinda@st-johns-ucc.org

Pastor Elaine Ely (she/her), M. Div., Support Pastor for Visitation and Pastoral Care - pastorelaine@st-johns-ucc.org

Andrew Paulson (he/him), M.M., M.A., Minister of Music - andrew@st-johns-ucc.org

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Grace Marchione (she/her), Communications Coordinator - communications@st-johns-ucc.org

Abbie Lampe (she/her), Connect3 Director

Anthony Ottaviano III (he/him), Facilities Manager - building@st-johns-ucc.org

Bill Bergey (he/him), Custodian ~ Alan Malachowski (he/him), Council President

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

Andrew Paulson

Chancel Choir

Worship Assistants

Hospitality: Team 4: Bruen
Elder: Charles Sisian
Deacon: Peter Conver
Audio Technician: Scott Cunningham

Chancel Flowers: Sarah Baker & Bob Keim
Driver: Scott Vanderburg
Umbrella Ministry: Judy Johnston

Copyright Acknowledgments

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Image: Martin Luther King, Jr and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, March from Selma to Birmingham, 1965

Build This World from Love: Menachem Creditor

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come: Text by Fred Pratt Green, © 1969 Hope Publishing Company

I Come with Joy: Text by Brian Wren, © 1971, 1995 Hope Publishing Company

O God of Love, This is a Time of Turning: Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, © 2026; Music by Jean Sibelius, © Breitkopf & Härtel

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

The Assembly Hall is located downstairs. From the Narthex – the room at the back of the Sanctuary – go down the steps on the left as you exit the Sanctuary and straight down the hallway. From the **Elevator**, go to the “B” level, go down the ramp and turn right.

This Week at St. John’s

Sun Feb 1	Third Sunday after Epiphany	
	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:00 AM	Praying Hands Stitchers LOFT: Roots & Branches
	10:15 AM	Worship Council Installation
	10:45 AM	Connect3
	11:30 AM	Fellowship
Mon Feb 2	7:00 PM	Council CA Fireside Meeting
Tues	7:00 PM	AA
Wed Feb 4	5:30 PM	Wind Ensemble
	6:00 PM	Kitchen in Use
	6:30 PM	United Ringers
	7:30 PM	Artist Series Chorus
	8:30 PM	Chancel Choir
Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club
Sat	9:30 AM	Art of Living Foundation
Sun Feb 8	Love Sunday	
	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:00 AM	LOFT: Roots & Branches
	9:45 AM	Beatles Sing-Along
	10:15 AM	Worship
	10:45 AM	Connect3
	11:30 AM	Fellowship

* Tim Ahrens will be preaching on Love Sunday

Deadlines	
Love Sunday Photo Display	TODAY
Enlightener Deadline	NEXT SUNDAY
Directory Photo Sign Ups	2/28



Chancel Flowers:



In memory of **Richard R. Schmidt’s January 10th birthday** from his cousins Bob & Jane Keim

In memory of **Marie Evans’ January 6th birthday** from her daughter, Jeane, Bob Fritz & family

In honor of the **January 19th anniversary of Judy & Jim Lederach**

In memory of **Lorraine Badger’s January 24th birthday** from her daughter, Susan, & John Hendricks

In memory of **Ethel Shellenberger’s January 25th birthday** from Lorene Ahrens

In loving memory of **my son, Shane R. Morcom** from Merle Anne Schultz Morcom & Walter Hawkins. May he rest in peace.

In memory of **Albert C. Munzinger’s February 6th birthday** from his daughter and grandson, Kay & Tony Fiala

In memory of **Bud Moyer** from his wife, Ruth, & family

In memory of **Dick Yocum’s February 9th birthday** from his family

In memory of **Barbara Wenner’s February 10th birthday** from her husband, Bill, & Shelly and Marissa Longcoy

Acknowledgements:

In memory of **Joan Haag-Beiter**
to the memorial fund from Cynthia A Vallina

Announcements:

Today:

- Congregational Meeting (Vocal vote) both services
- Stitches at 9:00 AM in the library
- Council Installation at 10:15 service
 - o Curious to what each Council Board does? Check our website or the bulletin board in the hallway!
- Connect3
- Offering Envelopes and contribution statements are in the narthex

This Week:

Next Sunday:

- Tim Ahrens preaching
- Beatles Sing Along
- LOFT: Ahrens Family

Announcing the 2026 St. John's Directory!



This year, St. John's will be making a picture directory! **Sign-ups for photo slots have begun!** All participants will receive a free 8 x 10 photo and directory. Photography days will be Wednesday, March 18th and Thursday, March 19th. **Sign ups can be made in the office or call (215) 855-5489 during office hours.**

Want to sign up yourself?
Use the QR Code:



Women's Retreat Saturday, February 14

Sarah Bergin, Executive Director
Care & Share Thrift Shoppes

Learn more about Care & Share's history, local and global impact, and future.

Congregational Dinner

has been rescheduled to
Sunday, February 22



Offering Envelopes & Contribution Statements

available in the Narthex



Beatles Sing-Along

9:45 AM

Sunday, February 8

Love Sunday Photo Display

Sunday, February 8



We will be holding a special celebration of Love in all forms! **You are invited to bring photos of whom you love: wedding photos, partners, family, friends, pets, etc on Sunday, February 1.** These will be part of a display during Fellowship. Please identify each photo with a card with names, dates, and any other information you would like to share.

Game Night

Thursday, February 19



Join us in the Assembly Hall for Game Night every third Thursday! We supply a large selection of games and invite you to bring your own to share! Meet some new friends and enjoy a fun night of gaming!

Beverages and snacks provided.
Feel free to bring snacks to share!

Come to the LOFT and Explore St. John's Roots & Branches!

SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM IN THE ACTIVITY ROOM

FEBRUARY 1 How the Light Gets In:
Exploring our 100-year-old
Sunday School Windows!

FEBRUARY 8 Generations at St John's:
The Ahrens Family



Living Our Faith Together (The LOFT)

SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM

In February, the LOFT (Living Our Faith Together - which is our adult faith formation space – our Adult "Sunday School") will focus on some of the history of St. John's UCC (roots) and the ways in which the vision of our forebears is being lived out in our time (branches). Come and share your own stories, learn about those who have gone before us, and imagine together how God might still be speaking at St. John's.

Come to the LOFT and Explore St. John's Roots & Branches!

FEBRUARY 1

How the Light Gets In:
Exploring Our 100 Year Old Sunday School Windows

FEBRUARY 8

Generations at St. John's:
The Ahrens Family

FEBRUARY 15

Generations at St. John's:
Continued

Many families have deep roots in our congregation. Come and share **your** family's stories, memories and photos of times past at St. John's.

Micah 6:1-2, 6-8

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the Lord has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

I Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”