



This One Wild and Precious Life

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:15 am

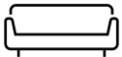
WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



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.

Order of Worship
St. John's United Church of Christ
500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446
10:15 am — May 3, 2026 — Fifth Sunday of Easter

You are invited to rise in body or spirit when indicated by an *asterisk* and **spea**k the words in bold.

PRELUDE Now the Green Blade Rises.....Setting by Anne Krentz Organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 19 and Mary Oliver, "Spring"

The heavens are telling the glory of God;

the galaxies proclaim God's handiwork.

The day pours out speech of God's goodness;

the night holds deep knowledge of God's peace.

Somewhere a black bear has just risen from sleep

and is starting down the mountain.

Beneath the canopy of the trees, the pearly white and pale pink trillium
seek out the sun.

The heavens are telling the glory of God,

and the wild earth sings forth God's praises.

The monarchs are leaving Mexico to travel thousands of miles to our backyards.

There is only one question: how to love this world.

Colorful Creator, be with us in this place. Receive our gratitude.

Open us to your presence.

Teach us to love you and the world with courage, extravagance, and faith. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

If you prefer a "no-contact" greeting, you are invited to place your hand over your heart as you acknowledge your neighbor.

*HYMN #238 Now the Green Blade Rises

The choir sings stanza 2.

CONFESSION

Creating Spirit, who dwells within and among us,

Hallowed be this earth, our home.

We praise you for the lands and the skies and the rolling seas.

**Your gardens thrive; your spirit is alive through woodlands, streams,
mountains, plains – everywhere.**

Grant us this day that we take only what we need,

and refresh us with your living waters.

Forgive us when we mistreat the earth, and give us the courage to be loving stewards.

Lift us from negligence, and deliver us from greed,

For yours is the beauty, and the power, and the life that sustains us all,

Now and forever, amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16.....Pew Bible Page 489

John 14:1-14.....Pew Bible Page 101

CHILDREN'S SONG Rooted and Grounded in Love

We are root-ed and ground-ed in love. Like a tree by the ri-ver, we're plant-ed so deep.

We are root-ed and ground-ed in love. With each gift that we bring and each pro-mise we keep

as we birth a new world where we all have e-nough. We are root-ed and ground-ed in love.

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.**

SERMON "The Dwelling Place"K Ruth (they/them)
 Executive Director of Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light

*HYMN #72 Here, O God, Your Servants Gather
The hymn is sung in English.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am is sung before and after the spoken prayers.

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

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



Offertory Salmo 150 (Psalm 150).....Ernani Aguiar
Sung in Latin

Laudáte Dóminum in sánctis éjus,
Praise the Lord in his sacred places,
Laudáte éum in firmaménto virtutis éjus.
Praise him in the firmament of his power.
Laudáte éum in virtútibus éjus,
Praise him for his mighty acts,
Laudáte éum secúndum multitúdinum magnitúdinis éjus.
Praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Laudáte éum in sóno túbæ,
Praise him with the sound of trumpet,
Laudáte éum in psaltério et cithara.
Praise him with the psaltery and the harp.
Laudáte éum in týmpano et chóro,
Praise him with the timbrel and the dance,
Laudáte éum in chórdis et orgáno.
Praise him with strings and pipes.
Laudáte éum in cýmbalis benesonántibus,
Praise him with high-sounding cymbals,
Laudáte éum in cýmbalis jubilatiónis,
Praise him with cymbals of joy.
Ómnis spíritus láudet Dóminum.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

*Offertory Response Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Spirit of Love and of Life, you have blessed us with the resources to share the good news of your love for all creation. Receive and multiply these gifts that they may bring healing, wholeness, and hope to the world, that future generations may know your abundant love. Amen.

*HYMN #595 Some Glad Morning (I'll Fly Away)
The hymn may be sung in harmony.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Reprise on "Some Glad Morning (I'll Fly Away)"

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.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan K Ruth (they/them)
Andrew Paulson Chancel Choir United Ringers

Worship Assistants

Hospitality: Team MacMullen

Umbrella Ministry: Judy Johnston

Elder: Sue Clemens

Connect3 Helper: Kim Sands

Audio Tech: Griff Francis

Chancel Flowers: OPEN

Driver: Scott Vanderburg

Deacon: Sumiko Booraem

Social Host: The Rivetts

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Image: "Trillium," 2020. Linda Noonan

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Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am: Text and Music-John L. Bell © 1995 Iona Community/GIA Publications Inc.

Praise God the Giver and the Gift: Text-Brian Wren © 1989 Hope Publishing Company



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN DIRECTORY PHOTOS!



If you were unable to get a photo taken, we are providing the option of submitting photos for the Directory! If you would like to submit a photo, please email your photo to office@st-johns-ucc.org or mail it to the church. Please keep in mind that the purpose of a Directory is to help folks recognize each other in the pews, so a picture from 5 years ago won't do!

Photos may be taken by yourself or professionally, however, **if any professional photos are sent, you must include a copyright release unless the photo is from Lifetouch.** Photos must be no smaller than wallet size (2x3), and **MUST** vertical shots and not horizontal/landscape. Do **NOT** crop these photos, as the Directory company will do that for us.

The deadline to submit photos for the directory is Sunday, May 17th.

This Week at St. John's

Sun	Fifth Sunday of Easter	
May 3	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:00 AM	Praying Hands Stitchers LOFT: Earth & Faith with K Ruth
	10:15 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Fellowship
	4:00 PM	Artist Series Presents: Katelyn Emerson
Mon	7:00 PM	CA Fireside Meeting
Tues	7:00 PM	AA
Wed	6:30 PM	United Ringers
April 29	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir
Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club
Sat	9:30 AM	Women's Retreat Art of Living Foundation
Sun	Mother's Day	
May 10	Sixth Sunday of Easter	
	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:00 AM	LOFT: Honoring Those Who Mother
	10:15 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Fellowship

Deadlines	
Anniversary Booklet Submissions	5/10
Basket Raffle Baskets	5/4 - 5/10
Directory Photos	5/17
Enlightener	5/10

Chancel Flowers:

In memory of **George & Dorothy Knipe, John & Diane Skibbe, & Wendy Hunt** from Phil Hunt, John Kibbe III, and Donavan Thomas



In memory of **Mary Franks** from Suzanne Franks

From Our Communications Coordinator:

Thank you, St. John's, for all the well wishes and support following my surgery and other recent life challenges. I am so grateful for the kindness you've shown, and very glad to be back with you all!

- Grace Marchione



KATELYN EMERSON

CONCERT ORGANIST



Sunday
May 3
4pm
Free
Admission

It's Basket Raffle Time!

The baskets will be displayed in the Fireside Room and tickets will be sold before and after church on Sundays from May 17 to June 7.

Baskets will be on display at our anniversary block party May 30 and at Lansdale Day June 6. The final raffle will take place on June 14 at the Church Picnic.

If you have signed up, please drop off your completed basket in the Church Office the week of May 4 through 10.

This fun tradition has been a wonderful fundraiser for special projects over the years, and your participation is much appreciated!



Women's Retreat Saturday, May 9 at 9:30 AM Mark Methlie: Stained Glass

Mark Methlie will share his late father's expertise in the production of stained glass, especially for churches. For example, the stained glass in St. John's is a combination of solid colors and specially painted glass. Mark will explain the art of coming, share examples, and create a small stained-glass piece as part of his presentation.

Light refreshments are served.
ALL women are welcome!

JOIN THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY CHOIR

May 29, 30, 31

Come sing. Make history.

Be part of a one-of-a-kind musical weekend as St. John's celebrates one hundred fifty years of worship, music, and service.

Be the first to sing a newly commissioned setting of "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant" by Michael Burkhardt.

Whether you sing every week or haven't sung in years, you are invited!

SCAN TO SIGN UP



Bakers Wanted!



There will be a bake sale on May 30th at the St. John's 150th Birthday Block Party! If you'd like to bake for the event, let Sally Atkiss know.

Information Update Forms

We are requesting that our St. John's community complete **both sides of the gold information forms** available by the bulletins. These will be used internally to update our records. If you do not wish to be included in the directory, please indicate that on the forms.

Please pay special attention to the publication and envelope section at the bottom of the sheet.

Thank you!

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;

do not let me ever be put to shame;

in your righteousness deliver me.

² Incline your ear to me;

rescue me speedily.

Be a rock of refuge for me,

a strong fortress to save me.

³ You are indeed my rock and my fortress;

for your name's sake lead me and guide me;

⁴ take me out of the net that is hidden for me,

for you are my refuge.

⁵ Into your hand I commit my spirit;

you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

¹⁵ My times are in your hand;

deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;

save me in your steadfast love.

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Announcements:

Today:

- Commemorative Booklet insert. More forms available in Elevator Lobby.
Stories and Sponsorships are due NEXT Sunday, May 10
- Volunteers for the Block Party Needed! – info available in the Elevator Lobby & Narthex

Upcoming:

- Youth Group will be baking dog treats **This Tuesday, May 5th**. Contact Deb Dayton at YouthGroup@st-johns-ucc.org for more info!
- Basket Raffle baskets are **due THIS WEEK**. Please drop them off in the Office. Completed baskets will be displayed in the Fireside Room, during our block party, and at Lansdale Day with **tickets sold on Sundays from May 17 to June 7 and at our outdoor events**. Winners will be drawn at the church picnic on June 14.
- Sign up for the 150th Anniversary Choir! Info in bulletin!

Joys:

-

Concerns:

- Please pray for the Cooleys, Kay's girlfriend's family, as they navigate Mr. Ron's cancer diagnosis and care.
- Shirley Hale
- Trina Bayne
-