



# Forward in Faith

May 24, 2026

Pentecost

10:15 am

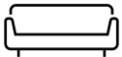
# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



**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.



**Children** are invited to come to the steps during **Time with Children** for a conversation with the pastor. The **Nursery** is available and staffed for babies and toddlers. The Nursery is past the elevator, through the double doors, on the right. We believe the sound of children in worship is not a distraction – it is evidence of life, growth, and the future of the church. If your child makes noise, it is not a bother. It is a blessing!



**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 24, 2026 — Pentecost

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

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PRELUDE Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist.....Dieterich Buxtehude  
*(We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit)*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *Adapted from Acts 2*

On the festival day, the followers of Jesus were huddled together.

**The city was filled with pilgrims —  
Parthians, Medes, people from Phrygia and Pamphilia  
and other places we have trouble pronouncing.**

Suddenly the house was filled with the sound of rushing wind.

**We have felt the urgency of movement.**

What looked like tongues of fire descended upon their heads.

**We, too, feel the fire of passion, of anger, of love, for justice.**

The disciples all started speaking in different languages.

**We, too, speak in different languages:**

we speak the languages of our workplaces;

**we recall the tongues of our ancestors;**

we chasten or encourage leaders in the language of the common good;

**we sing our common tongue of hope for a better world.**

Roiling God of visions and dreams, pour out your Spirit on us now.

**Blow in us. Dance among us. Speak through us. Move us forward in faith. Amen.**

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*You are invited to greet your neighbor with a sign of peace. If you prefer a "no-contact greeting, you can place your hand over your heart as you acknowledge your neighbor.*

\*HYMN #267 Come, O Spirit, Dwell among Us

CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we know that the fruit of the Spirit consists of  
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

**Yet, so often we put conditions on our love—**

**and joy and peace are difficult to discern**

**when our words and actions deny their presence.**

**We seek instant results and forget what it's like to be patient.**

**In an aggressive world, we tell ourselves that we can't get anywhere  
by exercising a spirit of gentleness or even self-control.**

**Grant us your forgiveness and your love**

**so that we may truly love you and care for one another.**

WORDS OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Numbers 11:24-25a.....Pew Bible Page 128

Acts 2:1-21.....Pew Bible Page 107

Scripture readers: Prime Castro and David Furniss

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 "Forward in Faith".....Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

\*HYMN #286 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

The refrain is sung by all.

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 3: Higher Voices

Stanza 2: Lower Voices

Stanza 4: All

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.

Today we collect a special offering for the UCC Strengthen the Church Fund.  
For online giving, please use the QR code.



Offertory            Come, Holy Spirit.....Davis Giersch  
Come, Holy Spirit. Fill the hearts of Thy faithful. Ignite in them the fire of Thy love.  
May we always be wise. May we be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation.  
Alleluia. Amen.

\*Offertory Response Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

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

**God of flame and faith, Spirit of wind and grace, receive our offerings this day. Help us to carry forward the wisdom and gifts of the past, and move us boldly into the work and the future you set before us. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**Christ is risen! He lives, and presides at this Feast!**

Let us gather to share in the Bread of New Life!

**Jesus is with us! Nothing can separate us from God's love.**

Let us drink together the Cup of Gladness!

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust by the breath of your being. We bless you for your love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and calling us to be your people.

We give you thanks for Jesus, the way, the truth, and the life. We thank you for the Holy Spirit, who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and gathers us from every people to unite us in one church. Therefore, with the entire company of saints in heaven and earth, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy #793  
*The hymn is sung in Spanish.*

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*HYMN #57 O Holy Spirit, Root of Life  
*Stanza 2 may be sung in harmony.*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Toccata Brevis.....Daniel Gawthrop

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 Andrew Paulson Prime Castro David Furniss Chancel Choir

### Copyright Acknowledgments

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# This Week at St. John's



Sun	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	
May 24	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:00 AM	Listening Session: How Are We Doing?
	10:15 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Fellowship
Mon	<b>Memorial Day – Office Closed</b>	
May 25	7:00 PM	Fireside Group (CA)
Tues	7:00 PM	AA
Wed	6:30 PM	United Ringers
	May 27	7:30 PM
Thurs	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club
Sat	9:00 AM	Anniversary Choir Rehearsal
	May 30	11:00 AM – 3 PM
Sun	<b>Anniversary Sunday</b>	
May 31	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:45 AM	Prelude Begins
	10:15 AM	Worship
	11:30 AM	Fellowship

## Chancel Flowers:

In memory of **Michelle Lee Snyder on her birthday, May 29.** Always in our hearts. Love, Mom, Dad, Jackie, and the family

In memory of **June Hendricks' June 1st birthday** from her nephew, John, and Susan Hendricks

In memory of **Scott Harmon** from dear friend Barbara Kirk

In memory of **The Rev. Herman and Mrs. Ella Ahrens** from Lorene Ahrens

## Acknowledgements:

In memory of **Joan Haag-Beiter** to the Memorial fund from the Haag family

In honor of **St. John's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** to the Technology fund by Bill & Sue Morris

## Worship Assistants

**Hospitality:** Team Bruen

**Umbrella Ministry:** Judy Koenig

**Elder:** Bill Cagney

**Connect3 Helper:** Kim Sands

**Audio Ministry:** Scott Cunningham

**Chancel Flowers:** Peter Conver

**Driver:** Scott Vanderburg

**Deacon:** Scott Vanderburg

**Social Hosts:** The Hendricks

## Anniversary Items for Sale!

**THEY'RE HERE! TODAY is your first opportunity to purchase your official St. John's 150th Anniversary Collectables!**

We have a high-quality canvas tote bag \$20, sturdy water bottle \$5 and a car (or anywhere) magnet \$5! Show your support for St. John's UCC and help fund our anniversary celebration!

**Sale begins this Sunday in the Library after both services!** This is your chance to buy before they go on sale to the public at the Community Day on May 30. All items were carefully chosen and approved by the 150th anniversary committee members!

## It's Basket Raffle Time!

The baskets are 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.**

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



150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Community Day  
& Block Party

Saturday, May 30  
11am – 3pm



GET INVOLVED AND SPREAD THE WORD!

**Volunteers Needed!** — Info available in the Elevator Lobby & Narthex.

**Bakers Wanted for Bake Sale.** — Contact Sally Atkiss if you'd like to contribute.

**Share Your Talents!** — We'll be showcasing a number of groups from the community for presentations/demonstrations. Think dance, cheer, etc. If you know of a local organization that might like to participate, contact Debby Hendricks.

## Listening Session: How Are We Doing?

May 24 | 9:00 AM

Pastor Linda has now been here one year and is inviting your feedback.

**How are things going, what do you long for, what's working?**

Come and share your thoughts, hopes, and experiences.



## **Announcements:**

Today:

- Anniversary Merch Sale after each service in library
- Basket Raffle sale!!!
  - o Check out the St. John's Historical basket, which has anniversary merch and other great goodies!

This Week:

- Office closed for Memorial Day
- Memorial Day Parade that ends at the Lansdale VFW, where there will be a luncheon to follow – speak to Rickie Lee for more info
- Birthday Bash is Saturday from 11 am to 3 pm
  - o Set up starts at 8 am! Please help!
  - o Dunk tank with Linda, Kay, Andrew, & Lansdale Mayor
- 

Next Sunday:

- Anniversary Sunday!
  - o Special musical prelude starts at 9:45 am
  - o Special Guests
  - o Commemorative Booklet

Joys:

-

Concerns:

- Mary Ellen Synder, wife of Gerry Snyder, passed away

## Numbers 11:24-25a

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. <sup>25</sup> Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied.

## Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

<sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews<sup>[a]</sup> and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be  
saved.'