



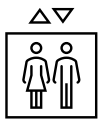
Forward in Faith

June 21, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am

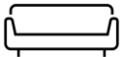
WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



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
9:30 am — June 21, 2026 — Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE Hymn Medley for Father's Day.....Arranged by Kirsten Olson
God of Our Fathers, This is My Father's World, Faith of Our Fathers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to worship God in our need,

Bringing with us the needs of the world.

We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus,

And who knows by experience what human life is like.

We come with our faith and with our doubts,

We come with our hopes and with our fears.

We come as we are because it is God who invites us to come,

And God who has promised never to turn us away.

*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 #24 The God of Abraham Praise

CONFESSION

Listening God, we acknowledge that you know us.

You are familiar with our attitudes, behavior, and character.

You ground us in the fertile soil of your love.

Yet, we confess that at times, we feel rooted in sand.

**We observe our life circumstances, and hope may collapse under despair,
fear may overcome courage, and uncertainty drives out faith.**

Help us, O God, when we cry out and when we don't.

**Speak to us so that your messages drown out any other voice,
including our own, that believes less for us than your promises offer.**

Do a new thing in us, for us, and through us.

Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 21:8-21.....Pew Bible Page 16

Galatians 3:25-29.....Pew Bible Page 175

CHILDREN'S SONG Rooted and Grounded 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 "Being Both/And in an Either/Or World"Rev. Elaine Ely

*HYMN #438 When Peace, Like a River
The refrain may be sung in harmony.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS.

For online giving, please use the QR code.



Offertory All Good

Gifts.....Schwartz

*Offertory Response Praise God, the Giver and the Gift



***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Holy One, thank you for the privilege of giving. Bless these gifts and those who give. Enable us to trust and participate in your abundance. Extend wisdom and discernment as we allocate these offerings. Expand our reach and impact for your kindom and glory.
Amen.**

***HYMN #419** Now Thank We All Our God
Stanza 2 may be sung in harmony.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Now Thank We All Our
God.....Karg-Elert

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. Elaine Ely
Kirsten Olson, Guest Organist
Armin Fernando, Liturgist

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And God Heard: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.*

This Week at St. John's



Sun	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	
June 21	9:30 AM	Worship
	10:45 AM	Fellowship
Mon	VBS Begins	
June 22	9:30 AM	VBS at Trinity Lutheran
	7:00 PM	Fireside Group (CA)
Tues	9:30 AM	VBS at Trinity Lutheran
June 23	7:00 PM	AA
Wed	9:30 AM	VBS at Trinity Lutheran
Thurs	9:30 AM	VBS at Trinity Lutheran
Fri	9:30 AM	VBS at Trinity Lutheran
June 26	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club
Sun	Anniversary Sunday	
June 28	9:30 AM	Worship
	10:45 AM	Fellowship

Chancel Flowers:

In memory of **Charlotte Yocum's June 22** birthday from her family

In honor of their **June 24 wedding anniversary and in memory of their granddaughter, Caitlyn Jade Liebel**, by Grace and Gerald Linderman, Jr.

In memory of **Thomas Timko, husband & father**, from Vada Timko and son, Tim, and family

In memory of **Tobi Timko, daughter & sister**, from Vada Timko and brother, Tim, and family

Worship Assistants

Hospitality: Team Bruen

Umbrella Ministry: Judy Koenig

Elder: Margie Jewell

Audio Tech: Scott Cunningham

Chancel Flowers: Shelly Longcoy

Driver: Scott Vanderburg

Deacon: Sumiko Booraem

Social Host: Grace Bruen



Hearts, Minds, & Voices Children's Music Camp

Monday, July 13 through
Thursday, July 16
from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm



Music Camp is a joint venture between two vibrant faith communities in Lansdale: Trinity Lutheran Church and St. John's UCC. Music camp will take place from July 13-16, 2026 at Trinity Lutheran Church and features Dr. Michael Burkhardt and his curriculum, Hearts, Hands and Voices.

Age: Children entering 2nd through 7th grade in the fall

There will be a closing time when children will share what they've learned on Thursday evening at 7:00



We Love the Anniversary Booklets!

Might you have one you do not need? We would like to make them available to our homebound members and a few folks who were away on May 31st. If your family took more than one home, it would save the church significant money if you are willing to donate your extra for those who didn't get one. In addition, the booklet is now on our website, so if that meets your booklet needs we welcome your donation of extra copies. The collection box is in the library.

Is our Transportation Ministry for You?



One of our St. John's ministries that is part of our Helping Hands ministry does the important service of providing a ride to and from church each Sunday for those no longer able to drive. We also have drivers who volunteer upon request during the week for those needing a ride to doctor's appointments and treatments. Our driver pool has dwindled recently. Having 2 or 3 more drivers would be a blessing. And if you or someone you know needs the help of this ministry, please contact the office so we can make arrangements.

Audio Ministry Volunteers Needed!



As part of our continued accessibility efforts, we provide a recording of the church service each week on youtube, and the sermon on Spotify. These audio recordings are only available thanks to the work of our Audio Ministry!

We are looking for one or two individuals to help with recording the Sunday church service.

If you are interested, please contact Robin MacMullen.



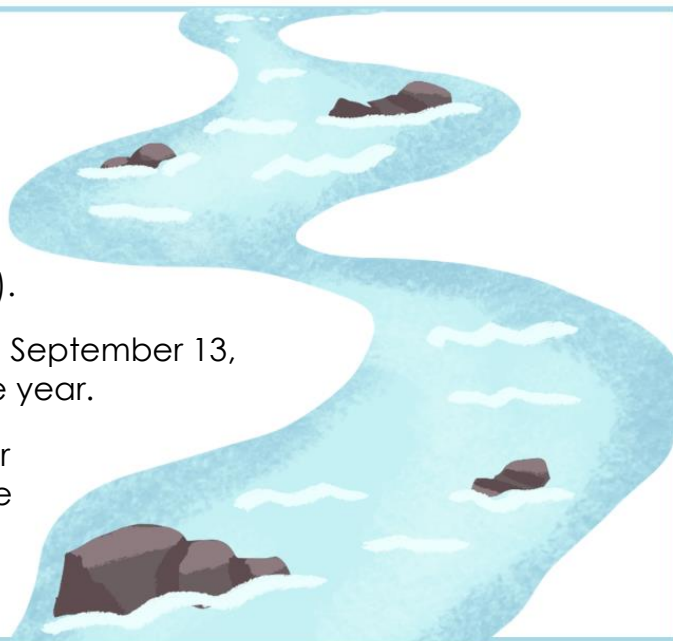
With cuts to benefits for the food-insecure, let us recommit to helping stock Manna's pantry. Food donations are accepted each week and can be put in the Narthex (main entrance to the Sanctuary). Thank you!

*"He leads me beside still waters."
-Psalm 23*

We invite you to collect a small amount of water from a special place that brings you rest, (the ocean, the lake, the garden hose...).

The water will be combined during worship on September 13, purified, and used for baptisms throughout the year.

There are bottles available in the Sanctuary, or you can use your own. Please label your bottle with your name and the location where you collected the water.



Vacation Bible School June 22-26, 9:30-noon



REGISTER FOR VBS TODAY!

Kids as young as 4 and entering Pre-K (potty trained, please) to kids entering 5th grade are invited to join us as we discover creation and all that God has wonderfully made.

VBS is co-created by
St. John's UCC and
Trinity LC in Lansdale.

Announcements:

Today:

- Water Sunday bottles are available for you to take with you on your summer travels

This Week:

- VBS at Trinity Lutheran kicks off this week. Thank you to all of our wonderful Educators and volunteers who made this possible!

Joys:

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Concerns:

- Erren Gayle MacKinstry, the daughter of Jean MacKinstry Roberts, passed away this week.

Genesis 21:8-21

⁸The child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac.^[a] ¹⁰So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." ¹¹The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹²But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. ¹³As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." ¹⁴So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

¹⁵When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. ¹⁶Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷And God heard the voice of the boy, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. ¹⁸Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." ¹⁹Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness and became an expert with the bow. ²¹He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Galatians 3:25-29

²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.