



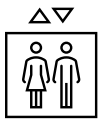
Forward in Faith

August 2, 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am

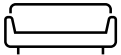
WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



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 — August 2, 2026 — Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE Holy, Holy, Holy.....Setting by Lloyd Larson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Spirit of Love and of Life, we come before you this morning,
asking you for our every need.

God, you urge us toward prayer. You draw us to you.

You give us the strength to live.

Like Jacob wrestling with the angel, let us struggle until the struggle
calls us by a new name.

God, you urge us toward prayer. You draw us to you.

You bless us and call us by name. 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 #277 Holy, Holy, Holy

Stanzas 2 and 3 may be sung in harmony.

The descant is not sung.

CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you are with us as we wrestle with our messy and human struggles—
our fractured relationships, family differences, and complicated situations with people
we love. Yet we confess that too often we hold on to the wrong things because we do
not want to loosen our grip on our possessions and our desires.**

Lord, we often hold tightly because we are afraid of not being right.

**Help us to wrestle with the conflicting values and pressures that confront us daily
so that we can unclench our hands and open ourselves to the transforming power
of the Holy Spirit. Teach us to release our grip and trust in you.**

WORDS OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 32:22-31.....Pew Bible Page 29

Romans 8:35-39.....Pew Bible Page 146

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 "Walking Away with a Limp and Name".....Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

*HYMN Will You Come and Follow Me

1. Will you come and fol - low Me if I but call your name?
 2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
 5. Lord, Your sum - mons ech - oes true when You but call my name.

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - 'ners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low You and nev - er be the same.

(continued on next page)



Will you let My love be shown, will you let My name be known,
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
 In Your com - pa - ny I'll go where Your love and foot - steps show.

Will you let My life be grown in you and you in Me?
 Will you let Me an - swer pray'r in you and you in Me?
 And ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in Me?
 Through My sight and touch and sound in you and you in Me?
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in You and You in me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS.

For online giving, please use the QR code.



Offertory Song of Peace.....Vincent Persichetti
 Peace, O Lord.
 Alleluia.
 These tears are the night.
 O God let us walk in Thy Light.
 Alleluia.
 O God give us Peace.
 Fear not my soul.
 Alleluia.
 Peace, O Lord.

*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 who calls us be new names and offers us a fresh start each day, receive our offerings this day. Transform them – and us – to bring about the world you imagine for us all. Amen.

*HYMN #439 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Stanza 2 may be sung in harmony.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.....Setting by Charles Ore

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 Bill Leslie Summer Tenor/Bass Ensemble

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

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Bill Bergey (he/him), Custodian

Alan Malachowski (he/him), Council President

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Song of Peace: Text-Vincent Persichetti © Theodore Presser Co.

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

Weekly Current Needed:	\$8,700.00	Weekly OCWM Needed:	\$865.38
The Week of July 19		The Week of July 26	
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost		Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	
Attendance: 9:30 AM	100	Attendance: 9:30 AM	116
Offering For Current:	\$3,965.00	Offering For Current:	\$3,089.15
Offering For OCWM:	\$105.00	Offering For OCWM:	\$545.00

This Week at St. John's

Sun	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	
Aug 2	9:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Fellowship
Mon	7:00 PM	Fireside Group (CA)
Tues	7:00 PM	AA
Fri Aug 7	5:00 PM	Lansdale First Friday
	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club
Sat Aug 8	9:30 AM	Visitation
	11:00 AM	Bob Tanis Memorial
Sun	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	
Aug 9	9:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Fellowship

Acknowledgements:

In memory of **Shirley Hale** to the Memorial Fund from Anne Scheffler, Kathy Rohall, and L.J. Eckman

In memory of **Shirley Hale** to the GEM Fund from Phyllis Richardson

Worship Assistants

Hospitality: Team Leslie

Umbrella Ministry: OPEN

Elder: Sue Clemens

Audio Ministry: Robin MacMullen

Chancel Flowers: Cindy Reese

Driver: Scott Vanderburg

Deacon: Rickie Lee Sands

Social Hosts: Amy Faga

Chancel Flower Donations

Do you have a person or event you would like to honor and remember in worship?



The fresh flowers that adorn the Chancel area each Sunday are made possible through donations. The names of the people, special occasions, or dates being honored and their donors are listed in our publications and the bulletin closest to the requested date.



There are purple forms available in the pews, by the bulletins, and in the Elevator lobby. Please fill out a form and submit it in the offering plate, email, or mail to the office. You may donate using check, cash, or digitally using the QR code below.



A Note from the Office

Blessings! St. John's has implemented a new policy on donations given to honor loved ones and special events, including Chancel Flowers. Donors from June 2026 onward can expect a letter from the office as proof of payment. This continues our tradition of financial transparency.

Please allow three weeks from your donation for the letter to be delivered by USPS.

All donations will be published in the following Sunday bulletin, eHerald, and Enlightener.

The Enlightener is published the month before. **If you would like your donation listed in the Enlightener for that month, it will have to be donated by the 15th of the previous month.** A donation given on the 16th of August will miss the September deadline and be published in the October Enlightener.

If there are any questions, please contact the office!

Water Sunday September 13th



We invite you to collect a small amount of water from a special place that brings you rest. The water will be combined during worship, blessed, purified, and used for baptisms throughout the year.

Bottles are available in the Sanctuary or you can use your own. Please label your bottle with your name and the location the water was collected from.



Ending Hunger, Building Community, Transforming Lives

With cuts to benefits for the food-insecure, let us continue our commitment 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!

St. John's Stampers



**Thursday, August 13
1 pm | Activity Room**

No talent needed, we'll show you how!
We design, create, and stamp all kinds of greeting, condolence, and birthday cards and send them to our congregation and community. The Stampers also sell their cards periodically during Fellowship.



**St. John's
Evening
Book Club!**

**Thursday, August 13th
6:00 pm | Church Library**

This month, we are discussing **Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers** by **Jesse Q Sutanto**. Bring a book recommendation and stay to chat!

We meet on the second Thursday of each month. Leave the kiddos at home and enjoy a good book with friends!