



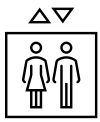
Forward in Faith

August 9, 2026

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am

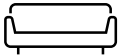
WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



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 9, 2026 — Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE Love Medley.....Arr. Marilyn Ham
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, O How He Loves You and Me, and My Jesus, I Love Thee

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you,

Hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise.

Fill us with your spirit, that we may celebrate your glory

And worship you in spirit and in truth through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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 #43 Love Divine, All Love Excelling

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 3: Lower Voices

Stanza 2: Higher Voices

Stanza 4: All

CONFESSION

You know us, God, better than we know ourselves. You are aware of how often our deeds fail to match the faith we claim. Help us to face ourselves with honesty. Give us the will and courage to change our ways. We give thanks for Christ's intercession for us. We rejoice as the Spirit gives voice to all we cannot express. Save us, O God, that our lives might give expression to your reign. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Kings 3:5-12.....Pew Bible Page 299

Romans 8:26-39.....Pew Bible Page 145

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 "What More Can We Ask For?"Rev. Elaine Ely

*HYMN Come, Spirit of God

Sung to the tune of Away in a Manger.

**Come, Spirit of God, to examine our hearts,
and teach us to value the truth Christ imparts,
for we, in our weakness, know not how to pray,
yet you intercede for us, showing Love's way.**

**Though often your people have misunderstood,
we sense that all things work together for good,
for those who, in love, are committed each day
your way to pursue and your will to obey.**

**You call us to live by your glorious will,
as saints and disciples, Christ's work to fulfill.
We know you are for us though some may oppress,
when others condemn, you are with us to bless.**

**No hardship, distress, persecution, or sword
can separate us from Christ Jesus our Lord,
for we have been loved in high moments and low
by One who is with us wherever we go.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS.

For online giving, please use the QR code.



Offertory Laudamus te (from Gloria)Antonio Vivaldi
Sung in Latin.

*Laudamus te. We praise you.
Benedicimus te. We bless you.
Adoramus te. We worship you.
Glorificamus te. We glorify you.*

*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 wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy.
Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your
love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.**

***HYMN #327 Jesus Loves Me**
The refrain may be sung in harmony.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.....Setting by Charles Callahan

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 Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan Andrew Paulson
Kathleen Siddall and Allison Deratzian, Soprano Duet

St. John's United Church of Christ

500 West Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446 ~ Office: 215.855.5489 ~ email: office@st-johns-ucc.org

Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan (she/her), M.Div., PhD., Senior Pastor – pastorlinda@st-johns-ucc.org
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Bill Bergey (he/him), Custodian
Alan Malachowski (he/him), Council President

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*Cover image from iStock: Connect with Divine Intelligence and All that Is by NikkiZalewski
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Weekly Current Needed:	\$8,700.00	Weekly OCWM Needed:	\$865.38
The Week of July 26		The Week of August 2	
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost		Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	
Attendance: 9:30 AM	116	Attendance: 9:30 AM	93
Offering For Current:	\$3,089.15	Offering For Current:	\$5,071.35
Offering For OCWM:	\$545.00	Offering For OCWM:	\$923.00

This Week at St. John's

Sun Aug 9	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	
	9:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Fellowship
	1:00 PM	Community Sing
Mon	7:00 PM	Fireside Group (CA)
Tues	7:00 PM	AA
Thurs Aug 13	1:00 PM	Stampers
	2:00 PM	Brittany Pointe Cluster
	6:00 PM	Evening Book Club
	7:00 PM	SOW Team Meeting
Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club
Sat	9:30 AM	Art of Living Foundation
Sun Aug 16	Prayer Shawl Sunday	
	9:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Fellowship

Acknowledgements:

In memory of **Bob Tanis** to the Memorial Fund from Rob Ambrosini & Kay Fiala

In memory of **Will Meadzinger** to the Memorial Fund from Kay Fiala

In memory of **Betty Saukaitis** to the Tech Fund from Jo-Ann Sine

September Enlightener

Articles due **today!**

All submissions must include your name and phone number and be typed or printed. Submissions can be emailed to erickinsey46@gmail.com or left in the box on the Church Office door. Questions please

Worship Assistants

Hospitality: Team Methlie

Umbrella Ministry: Marcia Stacy

Elder: Bill Cagney

Audio Tech: Griff Francis

Chancel Flowers: Lisa Thim

Driver: Gale Linderman

Deacon: Paula White

Social Hosts: Armin Fernando

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. After worship, these flowers are taken by our Chancel Flower Ministry volunteers to anyone in the community they wish – the ill, the homebound, or simply neighbors who deserve a smile.



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.





Fundraiser to Support Families
Impacted by the Lansdale Fire

A COMMUNITY SING:

SONGS OF UNITY AND JOY IN HARD TIMES

Donations of gift cards or cash encouraged.

Sunday, August 9 at 1:00 pm

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

500 W. MAIN STREET, LANSDALE



Fundraiser to Support Families Impacted by the Lansdale Fire

A Community Sing: Songs of Unity and Joy in Hard Times

Sunday, August 9
at 1:00 pm



Donations of gift cards or cash encouraged.

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!

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.