

Order of Worship
 St. John's United Church of Christ
 500 West Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446
 10:15 AM – March 8, 2020

We Gather For Worship
“Bold Blessing”

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Canon of Grace – arr. Linda R. Lamb
 St. John's United Ringers

INTROIT The God of Abraham Praise

*OPENING HYMN O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing.....#42

*REFLECTION ON THEME

*WE CONFESS OUR SINS

Loving God, you are **BOLD**: undaunted, courageous, audacious, and risk-taking in the ways you bless us. Like **bold** print on a page, your love for us stands out and your compassion is hard to miss...except we do miss it. Forgive us when we read right over and look beyond your bold presence, especially when it appears in the quiet, the small, and the subtle. Even as we, with good intentions, seek to be bold followers, help us when we confuse true boldness with being loud, outspoken, and overpowering. May we offer a thoughtful, grace-filled, bold witness to all whom we meet. Amen.

*WE ASK FOR MERCY If I Have Been the Source of Pain, O God #544
 If I have been the source of pain, O God;
 If to the weak I have refused my strength;
 If, in rebellion, I have strayed away;
 Forgive me, God.

*WE RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT OF GRACE

*WE OFFER OUR PRAISE AND THANKS Bless God, O My Soul #549
 Bless God, O my soul! All within me bless God's name!
 Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ever be the same!

This Week At St. John's

If you would like more information please contact the church office 215.855.5489 or office@st-johns-ucc.org

Mar	8	Sun	8:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Second Sunday in Lent Daylight Saving Time begins Morning Worship, Sanctuary Sunday School for all ages Morning Worship, Sanctuary Girl Scout Sunday, Manna Sunday, Enlightener Due Date
Mar	9	Mon	7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Boards Council
Mar	10	Tue	9:00 AM 1:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Men's Breakfast Quilters Girl Scouts AA
Mar	11	Wed	12:00 PM 12:30 PM 5:30 PM 6:00 PM 7:30 PM	Communion Communion United Voices Children's Choir Lenten Study
Mar	12	Thu	7:00 AM 1:00 PM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Prayer Walk Stampers United Ringers Yoga Chancel Choir
Mar	13	Fri	6:00 PM	Chess Club
Mar	14	Sat	9:00 AM	Women's Retreat
Mar	15	Sun	8:00 AM 8:30-10:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:15 AM 11:30-12:30 PM	Third Sunday in Lent Morning Worship, Sanctuary Member Appreciation Breakfast Sunday School for all ages Morning Worship, Sanctuary Fairly Traded Coffee Sales, Goodie Box Items Due Member Appreciation Breakfast

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 500 West Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446
 Office: 215.855.5489 email: office@st-johns-ucc.org
 If you would like more information about St. John's please speak with one of the staff
 or visit our **website** at <http://www.st-johns-ucc.org>
 Susan C. Bertolette, D. Min., Senior Pastor
 Adelaide L. Stong, M. Div., Associate Pastor
 Lisa Delp, Church Administrator
 David L. Furniss, M.S.M., Minister of Music
 Abbie Lampe, Minister of Music for Children and Youth
 Leroy Horst, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor Bill Bergey, Custodian
 Don Atkiss, Council President

March 8, 2020

- A nursery for children kindergarten age and younger is available. While children are always welcome in worship, this is available for your convenience if they become restless.
- Junior Church is available following the children's message for children 1st through 4th grade. Parents may pick up children downstairs following the 10:15 service.
- If you would benefit from having the worship bulletins or hymns in large print, please see one of our ushers.
- Please ask an usher for an audio device if you are having difficulty hearing the service.
- CD's of this morning's service are available by contacting the church office. Recent sermons can be heard on the Audio-Sermons page of our website <http://st-johns-ucc.org/podcast-audio>
- Reminder: The wheelchairs and first aid kit are stored in the "First Aid Closet" in the narthex (the door is clearly labeled). **The automatic external defibrillator (AED) is located in the church Library on the wall closest to the Sanctuary.**

Worship Assistants

Ushers: Team Leader Thomas Beggs; Richard Boorse, Don Huntsinger, Rickie Sands, Ted Kasander, Ben Kasander, Donna Walter, Jean Parks, Patti Thomas and Dean Meacham

CD Technician: Don Groff

Driver: Ted Kasander

Greeters: Girl Scout Troop #7295

Elder of the Morning: Sue Clemens

Acolytes: Christopher and Andrew DiPlacido

Junior Church: Janet Morton

Chancel Flower Ministry: Dorene Rice

Nursery Staff: Christine & Mike Albano

Social Hosts: Jen Gilbert

Kitchen Monitor: Jessica & Matt Carson

Umbrella Ministry: Marcia Stacy

United Adult Class: Teacher – Tom Collipp, "Blessed to be a Blessing," John 3:1-17

Chancel Flowers

In memory of Sarah Falzone's March 10th birthday from daughter, Pam, Ray, Jessica and Alex Ace

In memory of Robert Clayton's March 5th birthday from his wife, Rose

We Listen For God's Word

SCRIPTURE Psalm 121 (Pg. 547)

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Dr. Sue Bertollette

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

ANTHEM God So Loved the World - John Stainer
Chancel Choir

SERMON "In the Dark of Night"
Rev. Addie Stong

SILENCE

We Respond in Faith

*HYMN As Moses Raised the Serpent Up.....#605

JOYS, CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WE HAND OVER TO GOD OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS (Tune: TALLIS' CANON)

O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored when reached by love that never ends.

INVITATION TO SHARE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY If You But Trust in God to Guide You - J. S. Bach

*WE OFFER UP OUR GIFTS Were the Whole Realm (#224, stanza 4)
Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN If You But Trust in God to Guide You.....#410

* COMMISSION

* POSTLUDE If You But Trust in God to Guide You - J. S. Bach

*Denotes Congregation Standing, if Able

Thank you to Girl Scout Troop #7295 for greeting St. John's members and friends today!

Please join us after worship for fellowship and refreshments in Assembly Hall, the room below the sanctuary. All Are Welcome!!!

Weekly amount needed for Current Income	\$7,902.88
Weekly amount needed for OCWM	\$893.46
A Look at the Week of February 23, 2020	
Attendance 8:00 AM	61
Attendance 10:15 AM	150
Offering For Current Income	\$6,675.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$1,198.00
A Look at the Week of March 1, 2020	
Attendance 8:00 AM	63
Attendance 10:15 AM	152
Offering For Current Income	\$12,580.23
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$1,231.00



**The Member Appreciation
Breakfast**

brought to you by Deacons and
friends

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
&
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

March 15, 2020

The 2020 Contribution Envelopes and St. John's Activity Calendars are available in the Narthex.

You may pick up your 2019 contribution statements Sunday mornings on the round table in Rev. Sue's office and throughout the week in the Church Office.