



Jesus Heals the Man with a Withered Hand by Ilyas Basim Khuri Bazzi Rahib (1684)

Stretch Out Your Hand

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 2, 2024

9:30 am

Order of Worship

St. John's United Church of Christ

500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446

9:30 am—June 2, 2024—Second Sunday after Pentecost

*You are invited to stand when indicated by an *asterisk and **speak or sing the words in bold** if able.*

PRELUDE

Today's prelude time will be used rehearse the hymn *O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come*.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

When we call upon the Lord, God comes to us to save us.

God's amazing love endures forever.

When our hearts are troubled, God comes to us with blessings.

God's extravagant love endures forever.

When our spirits struggle and are discouraged, God comes to us with healing.

God's generous love endures forever.

When our lives are overwhelmed, God comes as a courageous spirit.

God's forgiving love endures forever.

*OPENING HYMN

Come, Labor On.....532

*CONFESSION


Creating God, in love you moved over the waters of chaos and separated sea from dry land. And yet, we cling tightly to rigid boundaries of our own making. You claim us in the waters of baptism and declare us dead to sin and alive in Christ. But too often we deny that call, conforming ourselves to the whims of culture. At Pentecost, you released your wild and transforming spirit to flow through church and world. But we want to tame that wildness, channeling your spirit through banks of ordered safety. Transform us, we pray. Soften the unyielding edges of our hearts. Loosen our grip on "the way it's always been" and prepare us for the joy of "the way it still can be," through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*ASSURANCE

Friends, hear this Good News. Jesus Christ is our ark! His power is unequalled, his grace is unrestrained, his strength is steadfast, and his embrace is sufficient to carry all that we are and hope to be. Friends, believe the Good News! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

*SUNG RESPONSE



I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and free,
The life of Je - sus to re-call, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

Scripture
Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18

*Sung in an arrangement by
Kiran Young Wimberly and The McGraths.*

You have searched me and know me, holy Lord; know when I sit and rise. You're acquainted with my ways, where I go and where I lie.

You know each word completely before I speak it, Lord. You lay your hand upon me; hem me in, behind, before.

For you formed my inmost being within my mother's womb; when I dwelt within that secret place, I was not hid from you.

You ordained that the days before me be filled with love and grace, made beautiful and wonderful; for this I give you praise.

How precious is your ev'ry thought, how vast the sum of them! Though I try to count them, they are more than ev'ry grain of sand.

Focus Scripture
Mark 2:23-3:6

23 One Sabbath he was going through the grain fields, and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. 24 The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" 25 And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food, 26 how he entered the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions?" 27 Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for humankind and not humankind for the Sabbath, 28 so the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

3 Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. 2 They were watching him to see whether he would cure him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. 3 And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." 4 Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. 5 He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. 6 The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

"When To Break the Rules"Rev. Kevin McLemore

*HYMN

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 2: All in Canon; Lectern Side Begins

Stanza 3: All in Canon, Pulpit Side Begins

Stanza 4: All



1. O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
2. From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed.
3. In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
4. Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find.



How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
Yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
Our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
The whole-ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach and pros - per hu - man - kind.

JOYS & CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/SUNG RESPONSE



Grant us wis - dom to per - ceive you, hearts a - wak - ened to re - ceive you,



minds a - lert to thoughts that grieve you, God of mer - cy, hear us.

OFFERING & OFFERTORY MUSIC

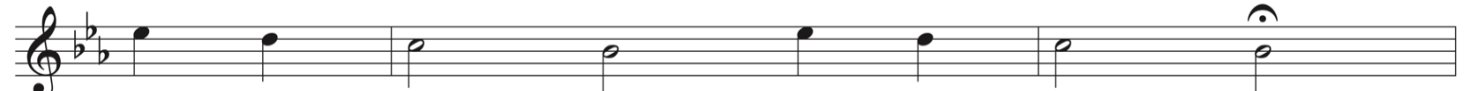
There Is a Balm in Gilead.....Setting by Robert J. Powell

Offering plates will be passed to the congregation in the pews during the Offertory music. The plates will then be dedicated during the Offertory Sung Response. You may also donate by scanning the QR code found in the bulletin and on laminated cards in the pews.

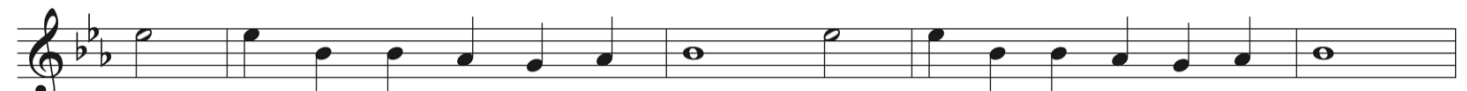
*SUNG RESPONSE



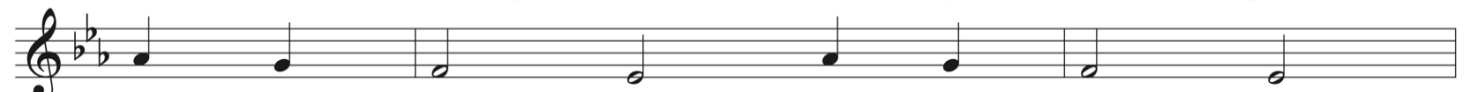
Praise God, the Gi - ver and the Gift. Hands, hearts, and voi - ces now up - lift:



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

*CLOSING HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand.....472
The hymn may be sung in harmony.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Christ the Healer, We Have Come.....Setting by Walter Pelz

Following worship, you are invited to join us for fellowship in Assembly Hall.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Tom Adil, Bridge Support Pastor
Rev. Kevin McLemore, Guest Preacher

Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music
Kathleen Siddall, Soprano Soloist

Copyright Information

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I Come with Joy
Text: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1982, 1994, © 1971, Hope Publishing Company
O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come
Text: Fred Pratt Green, © 1969 Hope Publishing Company
Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You
Text: Rae Whitney, 1991; rev. 1994, © 1994, Selah Publishing Co., Inc.
Praise God, the Giver and the Gift
Text: Brian Wren, 1989, © 1989, Hope Publishing Company

May 26, 2024

- The Nursery will be open for you to use mindfully, if your little one needs a break. No volunteers will be on duty, so a parent, grandparent, or responsible adult must stay with their child.
- Today’s Sermon can be found on **Spotify** following the service, search “**St. John’s UCC Lansdale Sermons**”
- Today’s worship audio will be available later online on St. John’s Facebook Page, Website or YouTube: **youtube.com/stjohnsucclansdalepa**
- Please ask a Hospitality Team member 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.
- 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

Hospitality:

Robin MacMullen, Peter Conner, Griff Francis,
Stefanie Giampa, Carol Luehrs, Jenn Moyer, Matt Rivett

Elder of the Morning:

Anne Kinsey

CD Technician:

Robin MacMullen

Chancel Flower Ministry:

Tracey & Mark O'Neill

Driver:

Jo-Ann Sine

Greeters:

Judy Johnston

Chancel Flowers

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

 In memory of Mr. Robert M. Jenkinson and Mrs. Emma Kemp Jenkinson from Joan Jenkinson Haag Beiter

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2024	\$7,884.62
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2024	\$798.00
A Look at the Week of May 19, 2024	
Attendance: 10:15 am, May 19, Pentecost	171
Offering For Current Income	\$9,910.50
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$717.50
A Look at the Week of May 26, 2024	
Attendance: 10:15 am, May 26, Trinity Sunday	78
Offering For Current Income	\$3,574.50
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$323.50

To give online through our secure platform,
visit <https://app.easytithethe.com/app/giving/stjohnsucc>

Scan here for online giving



St. John's United Church of Christ

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 contact the office.

Rev. Adelaide L. Stong, M. Div., Acting Lead Pastor	Rev. Tom Adil, M.Div, LPC, Bridge Support Pastor
Andrew Paulson, M.M., M.A., Minister of Music	Abbie Lampe, Minister of Music for Children & Youth
Kay Peebles, Church Administrator	Grace Marchione, Communications Coordinator
Leroy Horst, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor	Bill Bergey, Custodian Mark Bruen, Council President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



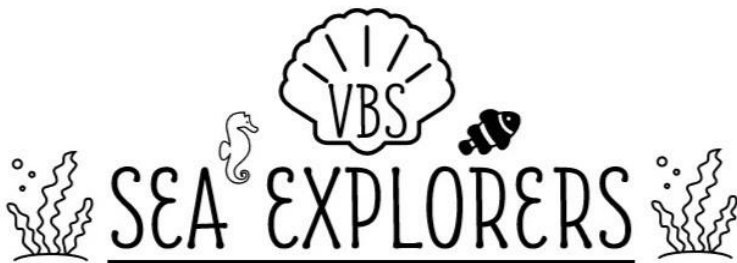
Volunteers Needed!

There is a stained glass window tour scheduled for June 8 from 10-4 as part of a Norristown Garden Club garden tour. We need volunteer tour guides. All information is written out for the guides. Come help and learn about our beautiful windows.

Interested? Contact **Margie Jewell** (215-272-1599)



VFW Post 32 in Lansdale will be retiring American Flags that are done their useful life. There is a kitchen size trash can in the church library. Please put yours there. Rickie Sands will be taking them to the Post for proper disposal with ceremony and burning to be done on June 14, Flag Day.



Come my children and hear my stories about faith as you become a "Sea Explorer" during our Carry-Out Connections VBS Program. Hear my stories about The Creation, Noah and the Flood, Jonah and the Whale, Fishers of Men, Peter Walks on Water and Jesus Calms the Storms.

Please stop by our table in the Narthex on **Sunday June 2nd, 2024** to pick up your bag to start on your journey.

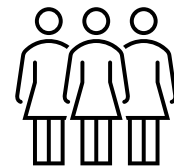
Bags will be available during the week in the church office for pick up. Hope to see you and your family on **June 26, 2024 at 7:00pm** for our in-person gathering outside next to the labyrinth.



Buy your Tickets now!!

The Basket Raffle is on! Baskets are displayed in the Fireside room on Sundays from May 12 through June 2, and will be at Lansdale Day on June 1 and at the Church Picnic on June 9.

If you have questions, please contact Judy Johnston (215) 896-9381 or twostitches@comcast.net



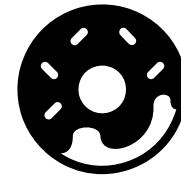
Women's Retreat

When: 10 am to Noon on June 15, 2024

Where: St. John's Church Library

There is no presenter this month as the focus will be discussing programs for the coming year, which begins on September 14. Anyone who would like to contribute a goodie, and has not already signed up, please call or text Sally Jarinko at (215) 421-6678 by June 12.

All women are welcome!



Cliff Kneipp is planning his annual YumYum Donut treat for this Sunday, **June 2nd**, following worship!!

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

June	2	Sun	8:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am	Second Sunday after Pentecost Praying Hands Stitchers, Library Sunday Morning Worship YumYum Donuts from Cliff, Fellowship
June	4	Tues	7:00 pm	AA, Assembly Hall
June	6	Thurs	6:00 pm	Lansdale Montessori Moving Up Ceremony
June	7	Fri	6:00 pm	Chess, Assembly Hall
June	8	Sat	10:00 am – 4:00pm	Norristown Garden Club Stained Glass Window Tour
June	9	Sun	9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm	Third Sunday after Pentecost Laity Sunday Sunday Morning Worship Elders, Library Church Picnic!



Welcome Pastor Tom Adil!

To introduce myself I'll share that probably the most important thing about me is that I am married (38 years this month) to a Spiritual Director/Minister of Christian Spirituality in the UCC! I am also the proud father of a grown daughter who resides near Pittsburgh. In December, I recently ended an almost 30-year career at Reading Hospital where I held various jobs, including the Director of Adolescent Services in the Department of Psychiatry and the Director of the Department of Spiritual Care. All the while I have served part time as an Interim Pastor in around 20 UCC churches in the area. As a Christian and as a Pastor, I have learned how increasingly important it has become to be more comfortable with managing the demands of change. Seeing how Jesus favored the under-privileged, for us in the UCC this often means (as a predominantly white denomination) being more comfortable with being uncomfortable. It also means being more in tune with and dependent on the Spirit, which is alternately (as Pastor Dale said this week in his sermon) amazing, exciting, and terrifying! I look forward to meeting and interacting more with you all -- the wonderful people of St. John's in Lansdale as we work together to serve others in the community in the name of our Lord!

Warm Regards, *Pastor Tom*