

Shaping Community

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 11, 2024

9:30 am

Order of Worship

St. John's United Church of Christ

500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446

9:30 am—August 11, 2024— Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE

Improvisation on “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”.....Andrew Paulson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ's call for us is not easy.

We are called to goodness, kindness, compassion, and mercy in a world that doesn't always encourage or reward these values.

We need this time of worship to inspire us, to challenge us, to strengthen us to imitate Christ in all we say and do.

May our worship now and our lives always glorify God, who created us as individuals and as community.

Come, let us be re-shaped once more into Christ's image.

Come, let us worship!

*OPENING HYMN

O Savior, Let Me Walk with You.....503

Stanzas 2 and 3 may be sung in harmony.

*CONFESSION

Loving God, you spend every day re-shaping us to become more like Jesus, but we confess that we often resist this work in us. We cling to our old selves and our old ways, opting for what is familiar, comfortable, convenient, and popular over what is right and good and faithful. We are reluctant to speak the truth to each other out of fear. Our anger gets the best of us and we lash out and spew hate. We let cruel words slip out of our mouths, disguised as humor or opinion. We abandon our call to compassion. We forget that we are all beloved children of God who are called to treat one another as such. Forgive us, O God, for all that we have done, thought, and said, that has hurt others and grieved you. Don't give up on us, God. Help us to imitate you in all your ways: kindness, tenderness, graciousness, and forgiveness. Continue to mold our hearts, that we might embrace the new and renewed life that you promise to us.

Amen.

*ASSURANCE

The promises of God are sure: forgiveness of sins and fullness of life. When we ask for God's help and accept God's grace, we are set free from all that binds us and separates us from the love of God. You are forgiven. Receive these priceless gifts and live differently in this world because of them! **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 130

- 1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
2 **Lord, hear my voice!**
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!
- 3 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
4 **But there is forgiveness with you,**
so that you may be revered.
- 5 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
6 **my soul waits for the Lord**
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.
- 7 O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.
8 **It is he who will redeem Israel**
from all its iniquities.

Focus Scripture
Ephesians 4:25-5:2

25 So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another. 26 Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and do not make room for the devil. 28 Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. 29 Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. 31 Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

5¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, 2 and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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.

ANTHEM

Just a Closer Walk with Thee.....African American Spiritual, arr. Larry Schackley

SERMON

"The Ultimate To-Do List"Rev. Addie Stong

*HYMN

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian.....454

The hymn may be sung in harmony at the refrain.

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

Nearer, My God, to Thee.....Setting by Robert A. Hobby

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



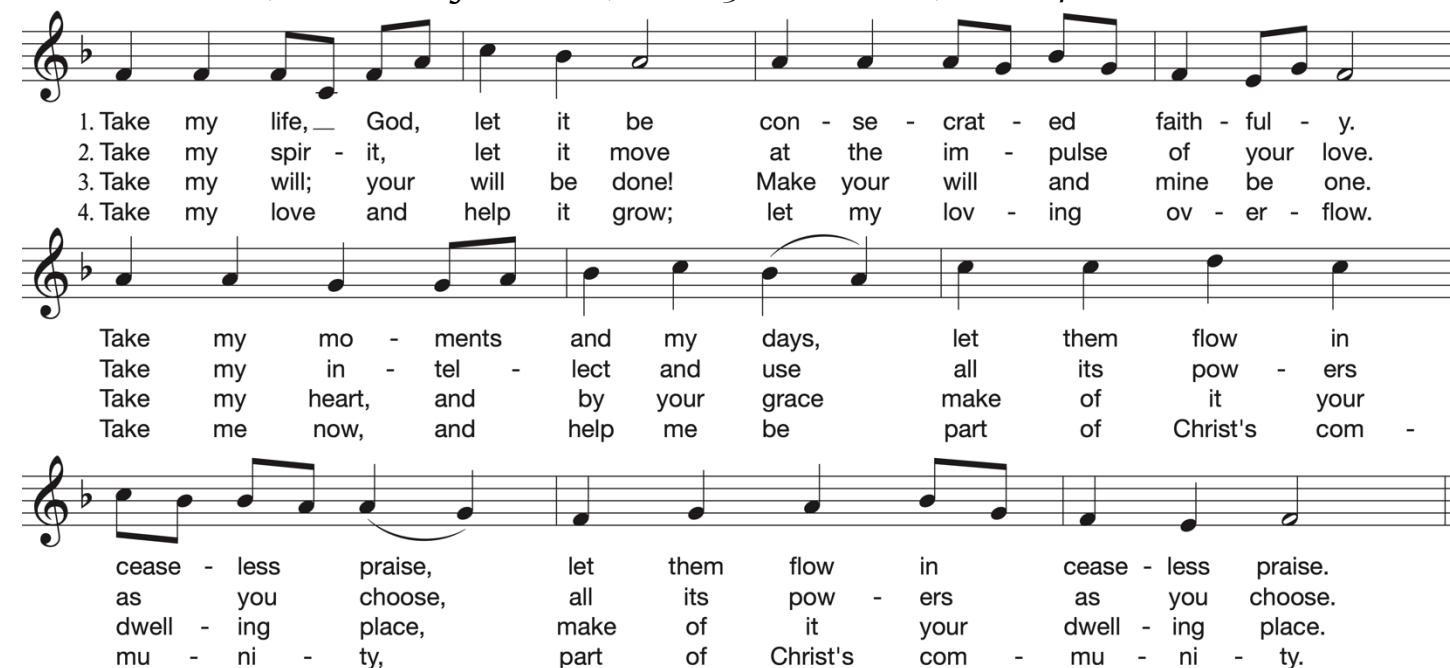
Praise God, the Gi - ver and the Gift. Hands, hearts, and voi - ces now up - lift:
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise, praise the Breath of glad sur - prise, free - ing our spir - its, op'n - ing eyes.
Three in One - ness, love com - mun - ing,
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

Stanza 1: All; Stanza 2: Higher Voices; Stanza 3: Lower Voices; Stanza 4: All



1. Take my life, — God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - y.
2. Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.
3. Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
4. Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow.
Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in
Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's com -
cease - less praise, let them flow in cease - less praise.
as you choose, all its pow - ers as you choose.
dwell - ing place, make of it your dwell - ing place.
mu - ni - ty, part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in F Major, BuxWV 157.....Dieterich Buxtehude

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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Addie Stong, Acting Lead Pastor
Deb Dayton, Liturgist

Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music

Copyright Information

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I Come with Joy

Text: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1982, 1994, © 1971, 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

Take My Life and Let It Be

Text: Brian Wren, 1989, © 1989, Hope Publishing Company

- 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:

Mark Methlie, Jen Gilbert, Sarah Hogan,
Bonnie & Walt Weber

Elder of the Morning:

Bill Cagney

Deacon of the Morning:

Judy Johnston

CD Technician:

David Douglass

Chancel Flower Ministry:

Lisa Thim

Driver:

Jo-Ann Sine


Greeters:

Joyce Huisenga

Social Host:

Ken & Bonnie Hales



 In memory of Rev. Sue on what would be her 69th birthday on August 13 from her loving family

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2024	\$7,884.62
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2024	\$798.00
A Look at the Week of July 28, 2024	
Attendance: 9:30 am, July 28, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	108
Offering For Current Income	\$3,786.14
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$400.00
A Look at the Week of August 4, 2024	
Attendance: 9:30 am, August 4, Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	96
Offering For Current Income	\$7,132.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$612.00

To give online through our secure platform, visit <https://app.easytithe.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 Pastor 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 Admin. Leroy Horst, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor Bill Berguey, Custodian
 Grace Marchione, Communications Coordinator Mark Bruen, Council President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recently, the Lansdale Fire Marshall conducted their annual inspection of our church and while none of the deficiencies were serious in nature, there were several.

As your Chair of the Trustees, I need help from church volunteers to correct the one deficiency involving all storage and closet areas throughout the church including common space (classrooms, kitchen, etc.). The code states that all **“storage shall be at least 24” below the ceiling of the interior space.**” Therefore, not knowing who they are, I am putting out a request to volunteers who are responsible for certain storage areas to remove anything within the 24” zone from the ceiling.

I understand that this may be a challenge as our storage space throughout the church is limited. May I suggest that this may be a good time to remove and discard any items not needed to make room for the items within the 24” zone.

Please note that all deficiencies must be corrected no later than August 16 as the follow-up inspection will take place on Monday, August 19.

I ask that you communicate with Kay Peebles on your progress and reach out to her if you have any questions regarding this fire code. Also, don't hesitate to connect with Leroy Horst if you need assistance discarding or moving any items. I am also available via cell phone at 610-505-4094 . The Trustees will be conducting our own internal inspection to make sure we are compliant.

Thank you for your service to our amazing church,

Bob Bertollette, Chair of Trustees Committee



Summer Pop Up Choir

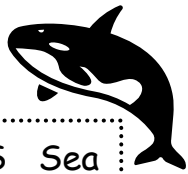


August 18



You are invited to join the Chancel Choir in singing an anthem this summer! We will meet at 8:45am in the choir room to rehearse the anthem for the 9:30am worship service. No evening rehearsal required – come and make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Contact Minister of Music Andrew Paulson at andrew@st-johns-ucc.org for additional info.



In person meeting for VBS Sea Explorers will be **Wednesday, August 21st** at 7pm outside by the playground.

Remember to bring in your pictures of helping keep our waters cleaned during vacation!

The Summer Stitch

The Praying Hands Stitchers will meet this summer before service!

8:30 – 9:15 am

September 1st

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

Aug	11	Sun	9:30 am 11:00 am	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Enlightener Due Date Morning Worship, Sanctuary Fellowship, Assembly Hall
Aug	12	Mon	7:00 pm	Council, Zoom
Aug	13	Tues	7:00 pm	AA, Assembly Hall
Aug	16	Fri	6:00 pm	Trustee Building Inspection Chess, Assembly Hall
Aug	18	Sun	8:45 am 9:30 am 11:00 am	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Summer Pop-Up Choir Rehearsal Morning Worship, Sanctuary Fellowship, Assembly Hall

Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

2 **Lord, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!**

3 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

4 **But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.**

5 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

6 **my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**

7 O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.

8 **It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.**

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

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