



Tough Love from a Loving God

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2024

10:15 am

Welcome to St. John's UCC Lansdale!

Visitors, please complete the ivory visitor's card found in the pew pocket so we can thank you for joining us this Sunday!

Completed cards go in the basket by the narthex.

Hymnals are on the back of the pew in front of you.

Bibles are on a shelf beneath the pew in front of you.



For **The Children's Message**, youth are invited to sit up front on the chancel steps for a direct and intentional age-appropriate message.



After the Children's Message, children will be dismissed and escorted downstairs for our youth programming; **Connect 3**. Connect 3 is aimed at ages 3 through 12, but all youth are welcome!

Hearing Aids are available if you are having trouble hearing the service.

Please ask a Hospitality Team Member.



Wheelchairs & First Aid Kit are stored in the labeled "First Aid Closet" in the narthex.



AED (Defibrillator) is in the church library on the wall closest to the Sanctuary by the window. When entering from the Sanctuary, turn left.

Audio Recordings of service can be found online on St. John's Facebook Page, Website, or Youtube. Sermons are available on Spotify; "St John's UCC Lansdale Sermons".

If you would like a physical copy, contact the church office.

The Nursery will be open for you to use mindfully. No volunteers will be on duty.

A parent, grandparent, or responsible adult **must** stay with their child.



Worship Leaders

Pastor Tom Adil, Acting Lead Bridge Pastor

Susan Fitzpatrick, Liturgist

Abbie Lampe, Children's Message

Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music

Chancel Choir

Andrea Baxter, Director for Worship Renewal*

Trinity Lutheran Choir*

**We welcome Trinity Lutheran Choir and their director Andrea Baxter today in worship! The combined ensemble of the St. John's Chancel Choir and Trinity Lutheran Choir led worship earlier this morning at Trinity Lutheran and look forward to leading worship with you today!*

Copyright Information

All texts and music are reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE A-721709 or are in the public domain.

The Servant Song

Text: Richard Gillard, © 1997 Scripture in Song (c/o Maranatha Music)

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

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Text: Gerhard M. Cartford, © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

Order of Worship

St. John's United Church of Christ

500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446

10:15 am—October 20, 2024—Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE

The Servant Song.....David Schwoebel (based on BEACH SPRING)

If anyone would be first, they shall be the last of all, be the servant of all.

*We are trav'lers on a journey, fellow pilgrims on the road;
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*

*Sister, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.
Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.*

If anyone would be first, they shall be the last of all, be the servant of all.

*I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow, 'till we've seen this journey through.
When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

If anyone would be first, they shall be the last of all, be the servant of all.

-Mark 9:35 and Richard Gillard

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (INSPIRED BY PSALM 104)

Today we gather to worship, with all our hopes, weariness, joys, and concerns swirling within us.
We gather to worship One who both ascends above our condition
and descends to meet us in the midst of them.

Bless the Holy One, O my soul. O Creator, my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty.

We are humbled and grateful that the Majestic God knows our names and seeks our presence.

Bless the Holy One, O my soul. O Creator, my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty.

We raise our spirits as one body, strengthening, fortifying, and encouraging one another
as we honor The Holy One's glorious and precious name.

Bless the Holy One, O my soul. O Creator, my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty.

*OPENING HYMN

You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim.....Hymn 305

Stanzas 2 and 3 may be sung in harmony.

*CONFESSION

We want honor, we want credit for our hard work, but that isn't what the kingdom of God needs. We know that, but it goes against everything that is within us. Even if we can manage to be humble, we want people to acknowledge it! Lord, take from us our pride. Help us humble ourselves and become a servant to the least. Amen.

ASSURANCE

Beloved, even now, the Holy One supplies the means to rewrite your story. God will strengthen you in your weakness, direct you in your uncertainty, and encourage you in your weariness. God has formed you, sustains you, and will be with you through it all.

*SUNG RESPONSE



Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heav'n, on earth be found, Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing,
 all your faith-ful mer-cies crown; Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
 Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 53:4-12.....Bible Page 646

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

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

Teach Me, O Lord.....Thomas Attwood
Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end.
 -Psalm 119:33

SERMON

“A Spiritual Path in the Darkness”Pastor Tom Adil

***HYMN**

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love.....Hymn 498

The refrain may be sung by all.

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 4: Lower Voices

Stanza 2: Higher Voices

Stanza 5: All

Stanza 3: All

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.

STEWARDSHIP SPEAKER

OFFERING & OFFERTORY MUSIC

God Has Work for Us to Do.....Mark Miller

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**

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

The hymn is sung twice: first by the choir and second by all.

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, to make of all the earth a bet-ter place to live.
 The an-gels are not sent in - to our world of pain to do what we were meant to do in Je-sus' name;
 that falls on you and me and all who are made free. Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"Andrew Paulson (*inspired by Widor*)

***Following worship, there is a Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary and a Confirmation Interest Meeting in the Associate Pastor's Office.
Afterward, you are invited to join us for the Congregational Dinner in the Assembly Hall.***

Worship Assistants

Hospitality:

Team MacMullen

Elder of the Morning:

Chriss Bodde

Deacon of the Morning:

Judy Leslie

Audio Technician:

Robin MacMullen

Chancel Flower Ministry:

Tracey & Mark O'Neill

Driver:

Jo-Ann Sine

Greeters:

OPEN

Social Host:

Grace & Mark Bruen

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2024	\$7,884.62
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2024	\$798.00
A Look at the Week of October 6, 2024	
Attendance: October 6, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	167
Offering For Current Income	\$14,541.50
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$1,013.50
A Look at the Week of October 13, 2024	
Attendance: October 13, Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	97
Offering For Current Income	\$8,092.63
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$587.50

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.

Pastor Tom Adil, M. Div., LPC, Acting Bridge Lead 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

Bill Bergey, Custodian Mark Bruen, Council President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking for help to fill our Trunks with TREATS for Family Game Night. If you are able to DONATE wrapped candy to hand out, please drop off in the donation box located in the library.
-Board of Educators

Lansdale-Hatfield
National Giving Alliance
Fall Ingathering!
Monday, Oct 28th

Last year we donated **over 13,000 items** to **10 local agencies!** We collect:

clothing (infant-adult)
linens & toiletries

You can give donations to Suzanne Franks or Sally Atkiss, or drop them off at the church office.
Thank you!

Support the UCC's Hurricane Helene Appeal

The impact of Hurricane Helene is widespread and devastating, as more than 100 people have been confirmed dead, over 2 million people are without power, and damages are estimated to be over \$140 billion. Two UCC congregations on Florida's Gulf Coast have buildings with significant flood damage, and another experienced structural damage from high winds. The UCC has a long history of supporting communities as they recover from disaster well after their plight fades from the headlines. As we continue to pray for and respond to those who have experienced unimaginable loss this past week, please consider a gift to the Hurricane Helene Recovery Appeal. Gifts can be made through PSEC here:



St. John's Soup Sale!



Sunday,
October 27th

After service

Featuring:

Vegetable with Beef
Vegetarian Vegetable
Chicken Noodle
with Corn
Chicken Noodle
without Corn

\$9

per Quart

All proceeds go to the Exterior
Restoration Fund

Order forms in Elevator
Lobby & Narthex

This Week at St. John's

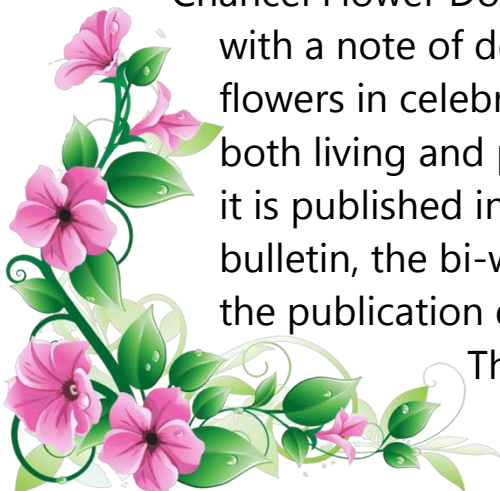
If you would like more information about St. John's, please speak with one of the staff or contact the church office at 215.855.5489 or office@st-johns-ucc.org

Oct	20	Sun	10:15 am 10:45 am 11:30 am 12:30 pm	Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost Congregational Meeting Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary Confirmation Interest Meeting, Associate Pastor's Office Congregational Dinner, Assembly Hall
Oct	22	Tues	7:00 pm	AA, Assembly Hall
Oct	23	Weds	9:00 am 5:45-6:45 pm 6:15-6:45 pm 7:00-7:20 pm 7:30-8:30 pm 8:30-9:30 pm	Soup Sale Prep, Kitchen Wednesday Night Live! Community Meal, Activity Room Adult Education, Library United Ringers, Sanctuary Children's Choir, Music Room Holden Evening Prayer, Sanctuary Artist Series Chorus Rehearsal Chancel Choir, Music Room
Oct	24	Thurs	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Enlightener Folding, Library Trunk or Treat , Assembly Hall
Oct	25	Fri	8:00 am 6:00 pm	Soup Sale Prep, Kitchen North Penn Chess Club, Activity Hall
Oct	27	Sun	10:15 am 10:45 am 11:30 am	Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Soup Sale , Assembly Hall Fellowship, Assembly Hall

Chancel Flowers

Chancel Flower Donations can be given during offering, along with a note of dedication and a date. Many parishioners dedicate flowers in celebration of anniversaries, birthdays, and loved ones, both living and passed. Once the office receives the dedication, it is published in all three St. John's publications – the weekly bulletin, the bi-weekly Herald, and the monthly Enlightener – on the publication date closest to the requested date.

The current cost of Chancel Flower donations is \$40.



Isaiah 53:4-12

Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases,

yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with affliction.

When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

Out of his anguish he shall see;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,

and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,

because he poured out himself to death

and was numbered with the transgressors,

yet he bore the sin of many

and made intercession for the transgressors.

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

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