



*Masafar Yatta, West Bank, Palestine. October 2023*

# *From Ashes to Resurrection*

**First Sunday in Lent**

**March 9, 2025**

**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.

The **Book of Joys & Concerns** is a green binder on the podium at the front of the chancel. If you have an Announcement, Joy or Concern you'd like stated, celebrated or prayed about during the service, 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.



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 Assistance Devices** 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

Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan, Lead Pastor  
Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music  
Chancel Choir

Abbie Lampe, Minister of Music  
for Children & Youth

## Copyright Acknowledgments

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Masafer Yatta,  
West Bank, Palestine.  
October 2023  
Linda Noonan

*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*  
Text: Sigismund von Birken;  
tr. Lutheran Book of Worship,  
alt. © 1978, Lutheran Book of  
Worship, admin. Augsburg  
Fortress

*Hear My Prayer*  
Text: Moses Hogan  
© 2001, Hal Leonard  
Corporation

*O Lord, Hear My Prayer*  
Text and Music: Taizé  
© 1982, Les Presses de Taizé,  
GIA Publications, Inc.

**Order of Worship**  
St. John's United Church of Christ  
500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446  
10:15 am—March 9, 2025— First Sunday in Lent

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

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PRELUDE

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus.....Setting by Paul Manz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather together ~  
**the seekers, the dreamers, and the shooting-star wishers**  
**in hopes of seeing God.**

We gather together ~  
**the curious, the hungry, and the loving**  
**in hopes of finding peace.**

We gather together ~  
**the isolated, the anxious, the skeptical, and the lonely**  
**in hopes of belonging.**

We gather together ~  
**those who are thirsty and those with water to spare**  
**in hopes of finding justice.**

So come to the well. Come to the circle.  
**Come, let us worship God. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN

Forty Days and Forty Nights.....Hymn 205

*Stanza 1: All*

*Stanza 4: Lower Voices*

*Stanza 2: Higher Voices*

*Stanza 5: All*

*Stanza 3: All in Harmony*

\*CONFESSION – *written by Rev. Dr. Sue Bertolette during Lent, March 2010*

Gracious and Loving God,  
Day in and day out you seek to invite us into your presence,  
to draw us under your wing.

**With open arms, you welcome us and claim us as your friends.**

Your invitations are far-reaching and exclude no one -  
unlike our invitations, which are often selective  
and intended only for those who are just like us.

**Forgive us, O God, for our sense of entitlement –**  
**for excluding rather than including,**  
**for passing judgment rather than demonstrating compassion,**  
**and for failing to see you in each of our neighbors.**

Grant us the grace and strength, the courage and desire,  
to make the circle wide so that we might welcome all whom you would welcome.

**In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE

Hear the good news! We will fall and we will falter and we will fail – over and over and over again.  
When we dare to embrace love, we experience the wideness of God's mercy, the depth of compassion,  
and grace. Know you are forgiven. Know you are held.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*SUNG RESPONSE

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

Let us ev-er walk with Je-sus, fol-low his ex-am-ple pure, through a world that would de-ceive us and to sin our spir-its lure. On-ward in his foot-steps tread-ing, trav-'lers here, our home a-bove, full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav-ior's bid-ding. Faith-ful Lord, with me a-bide; I shall fol-low where you guide.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16.....Pew Bible Page 526

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’ ”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’ ”

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,’

and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE .....Abbie Lampe

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

Hear My Prayer.....Moses Hogan

*O Lord, please hear my prayer,  
In the mornin' when I rise.  
It's Your servant bound for glory.  
O dear Lord, please hear my prayer*

*O Lord, please hear my prayer,  
Keep me safe within Your arms.  
It's Your servant bound for glory.  
O dear Lord, please hear my prayer*

*When my work on earth is done,  
And You come to take me home.  
Just to know I'm bound for glory.  
And to hear You say well done.*

*Done with sin and sorrow,  
have mercy, mercy.  
Amen.*

-Moses Hogan

SERMON

"We Were Made for These Wilderness Times" .....Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

\*HYMN

We Were Made for These Times

**We were made for these times.  
We were made for these times.  
And like gold we'll keep on shining.  
We were made for these times.  
We will pray in these times...  
We will sing in these times...  
We will rise in these times...**

JOYS & CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/SUNG RESPONSE

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O Lord, Hear My Prayer'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.'

OFFERING & OFFERTORY MUSIC

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me.....African American Spiritual

Offering plates will be passed to the congregation in the pews during I Want Jesus to Walk with Me.

You may also donate by scanning the QR code found in the bulletin and on laminated cards in the pews.

\*SUNG RESPONSE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a pres - ent far too small;  
 Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.....Hymn 439

Stanza 2 may be sung in harmony.

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.....Setting by Charles Ore

**Following worship, you are invited to join us  
for Fellowship in the Assembly Hall**

***Worship Assistants***

**Hospitality:**

Robin MacMullen, Peter Conver,  
Griff Francis, Stefania Giampa,  
Carol Luehrs, Jenn Moyer, Matt Rivett

**Elder of the Morning:**

Chriss Bodde

**Deacon of the Morning:**

Rickie Lee Sands

**Audio Technician:**

Griff Francis

**Chancel Flowers:**

Tracey & Mark O'Neill

**Driver:**

Jo-Ann Sine

**Social Host:**

Search & Call Committee

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2025	\$7,884.62
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2025	\$826.92
<b>A Look at the Week of February 23, 2025</b>	
Attendance: February 23, 7th Sunday after Epiphany	129
Attendance: February 26, Holden Evening Prayer	19
Offering For Current Income	\$4,544.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$430.00
<b>A Look at the Week of March 2, 2025</b>	
Attendance: March 2, Transfiguration Sunday	132
Attendance: March 5, Ash Wednesday	90
Offering For Current Income	\$9,479.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$1,205.00

To give online through our secure platform, visit [https://app.easytithethe.com/ app/giving/stjohnsucc](https://app.easytithethe.com/app/giving/stjohnsucc)

Scan here for online giving:



THE  
**Artist Series**  
AT ST. JOHN'S  
**Riverview**  
Early Music

St. John's UCC Sanctuary  
**TODAY at 4 PM**

*Free Entry / No Ticket Required*

Riverview Early Music members include soprano Abigail Chapman, multi-instrumentalists John Lacombe and Bill Thatcher, and percussionist Peter Gregory. Songs will be accompanied and dances played on period instruments, with an emphasis on the early plucked string family (lutes, theorbo, and early guitar) as well as viola da gamba, recorder, and a plethora of percussion instruments.

Come on down to the next meeting of  
**the St. John's Stampers**

and learn how to make  
hand-made cards!

When: Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Where: the Activity Room!

**Frozen Soup for Sale**  
during Fellowship!

**\$9 /quart**

*All proceeds go to Exterior Restoration.*

## The Artist Series Gala

PineCrest Country Club

Friday, March 14, 7 PM

Registration Required

Final Day to Register Online:

**TODAY** Sunday, March 9

*Scan the QR code to visit our website for  
additional information and to register for  
The Artist Series Gala:*



## 2025 Easter Lilies!

If you wish to donate Easter Lilies in honor or in memory of a loved one, forms can be found in the Narthex and Elevator lobbies with instructions.

A donation form will also be mailed out with each copy of the April Enlightener this week.

The last day to donate is

Palm Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.



*All donations will be posted in  
the Easter Sunday bulletin.*



From the Elders Desk:

## Name Tag

## Ministry Progress

The name tag badges have arrived and are available in the narthex for those who have already signed up.

If you have not yet signed up for a name badge, sign-up sheets are available on the narthex table and in fellowship hall by the water fountain.

We encourage Visitors to obtain a name badge so we may welcome them to St. John's.

Join Us for our NEW

Monthly Community Event

# Family Game Night at St. John's UCC

Thursday, March 20th

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

*Join the Board of Educators for  
Family Game night!*

*All are welcome.*

*There will be a selection of games available. Feel free to bring some of your favorites to share. Meet some new friends  
★ and enjoy a fun night of gaming!*

*Beverages will be provided.  
Bring a snack to share.*

*St. John's UCC*

*in the Assembly Hall*

**Please RSVP via our Facebook Event Page, the sign-up sheets in the elevator lobby or Narthex OR by contacting the church office so we have enough tables available.**

500 West Main St.  
Lansdale, PA 19446

215-855-5489  
[office@st-johns-ucc.org](mailto:office@st-johns-ucc.org)

FB: [St John's UCC Lansdale, PA](https://www.facebook.com/st-johns-ucc)  
<https://st-johns-ucc.org>





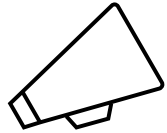


## In Memory of Judy Lederach

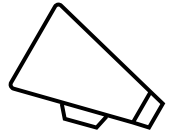


To the Exterior Restoration Fund from:  
*Lyn & Don Huntsinger*  
*Sally & Steve Jarinko*

To the Good Samaritan Fund from:  
*Phyllis Richardson*



## In Honor of Matt Carson



To the Good Samaritan Fund from:  
*Phyllis Richardson*

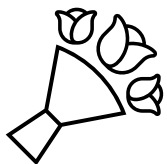
*“Thanks for your dedication and hard work as Treasurer at St. John’s.”*  
– Phyllis Richardson



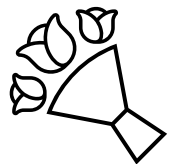
## In Memory of Lesley Brown



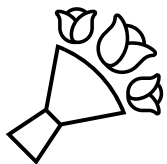
To the Memorial Fund from:  
*Her mother, Vivienne Brown*



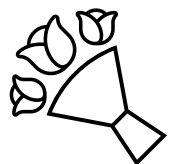
## In Memory of Christian E. Wurster’s March 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday



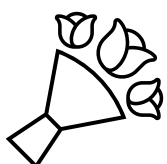
To the Chancel Flowers Fund from:  
*Christine Wiley*



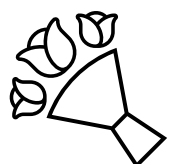
## Remembering with love, Wallace & Kier MacKinstry and Granny’s March 16th birthday



To the Chancel Flowers Fund from:  
*The MacKinstry Rogers Family*



## In Memory Jerry Umstead



To the Chancel Flowers Fund from:  
*His wife, Loretta, and family*

## 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](mailto:office@st-johns-ucc.org)

9-Mar	Sun	10:15 AM 10:45 AM 11:30 AM 4:00 PM	<b>First Sunday in Lent</b> Rev. Linda Noonan's First Sunday <i>Enlightener Due Date</i> Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall The Artist Series at St. John's Presents: Riverview Early Music, Sanctuary
10-Mar	Mon	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Elders, Library Council, Assembly Hall
11-Mar	Tues	7:00 PM	AA, Assembly Hall
12-Mar	Wed	<b>10:00 AM</b>  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	<b>Fire Drill</b> Wednesday Night Live! Community Meal, Assembly Hall Adult Education, Library United Ringers, Sanctuary Children's Choir, Music Room Holden Evening Prayer, Sanctuary Artist Series Chorus, Sanctuary Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
13-Mar	Thurs	1:00 PM 6:30 PM	Stampers, Activity Room Girl Scouts, Activity Room
14-Mar	Fri	6:00 PM 7:00 - 10:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club, Assembly Hall Artist Series Gala, PineCrest Country Club
15-Mar	Sat	9:30 - 11:30 AM	Art of Living Foundation, Library Private Event, Assembly Hall & Kitchen
16-Mar	Sun	10:15 AM 10:45 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 - 4:00 PM	<b>Second Sunday in Lent</b> Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall Artist Series Brahms Rehearsal, Sanctuary

## St. John's United Church of Christ

500 West Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446    Office: 215.855.5489    email: [office@st-johns-ucc.org](mailto:office@st-johns-ucc.org)

If you have any questions about St. John's please speak to a staff member or use a contact method above.

Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan, M.Div., PhD., Senior 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 Office Manager    Grace Marchione, Communications Coordinator

Andy Jay, Facilities Manager    Bill Bergey, Custodian    Deborah Dayton, Council President

# Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,  
will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress;  
my God, in whom I trust.”

Because you have made the Lord your refuge,[a]  
the Most High your dwelling place,  
no evil shall befall you,  
no scourge come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.

On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the adder;  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

Those who love me, I will deliver;

I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them;

I will be with them in trouble;

I will rescue them and honor them.

With long life I will satisfy them

and show them my salvation.

## Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’ ”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’ ”

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,’

and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.