



Rooted and Rising

Second Sunday in Easter / Earth Day

April 27, 2025

10:15 am

Welcome to St. John's UCC Lansdale!



Prayer Request and Information Cards are in pews for visitors, or anyone who would like to share information or a prayer request. **Visitors**, we are so glad you are here! Completed cards can be placed in the offering plates when they are passed.



The **Book of Joys & Concerns** is a green binder on the podium at the front of the sanctuary on the right. 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. **Large Print Hymns** are available for those who need them.



For **Our Time with Children**, children and youth are invited to sit up front on the chancel steps for conversation and an age-appropriate message. They will then 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!



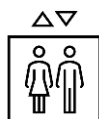
Hearing Assistance Devices are available in a basket at the back of the sanctuary if you are having trouble hearing the service. If the service is too loud, you may spend worship in the **Library**, which is to the right of the front of the Sanctuary, through the wall door.



Wheelchairs & First Aid Kit are stored in the labeled "First Aid Closet" near the Main Street entrance to the sanctuary. **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 services can be found online on St. John's Website, Facebook Page, or YouTube. Sermons are available on Spotify at "St John's UCC Lansdale Sermons."



The Elevator can be found at the end of the hall, through the door on the right front side of the sanctuary. **Accessible Bathrooms** are on the basement level. Once within the elevator, press "B". Exit and go left down the ramp. Once in the hallway, turn left, go the length, and turn right. The bathrooms are to the left at the top of a small ramp.



The Nursery is open for you to use mindfully, and the service is audible from there. The Nursery is past the elevator, through the double doors, on the right hand side, before the steps. No volunteers will be on duty. A responsible adult **must** stay with their child.

St. John's United Church of Christ

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

Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan (she/her), M.Div., PhD., Senior Pastor

Pastor Tom Adil (he/him), M. Div., LPC, Support Pastor

Andrew Paulson (he/him), M.M., M.A., Minister of Music

Abbie Lampe (she/her), Minister of Music for Children

Kay Peebles (she/her), Church Office Manager

Grace Marchione (she/her), Communications Coordinator

Bill Bergey (he/him), Custodian ~ Deborah Dayton (she/her), Council President

Order of worship

St. John's United Church of Christ
500 W. Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446
10:15 am — April 27, 2025 — Second Sunday of Easter



***CALL TO WORSHIP**

"The heavens are telling your glory, O God; and the firmament proclaims your handiwork.

**Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares your Word."**

The land holds us.

Sky breathes in us.

Trees stand around us like ancestors.

Birds sing to us like friends.

Rivers flow with tears of joy.

Living beings feed us and walk with us.

In the end the earth receives us.

**All Creation is God's love poured out;
we receive it with joy, care for it with gratitude,
and in unity with all Creation, we worship God. Alleluia!**

***OPENING HYMN #28 For the Beauty of the Earth**

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 2: All in Harmony

Stanza 3: All in Canon; Lectern Side Begins, Pulpit Side Follows

Stanza 4: All

CONFESSION

**Jesus told the Pharisees that if the people were silenced, even the stones would cry out.
We confess our silence, O God, when it comes to speaking out about things that matter.
We confess our silence about atrocities in Gaza and across the Holy Land,
in so many other hurting places in the world, and the very earth itself.
And yet, even now, the stones do cry out –
your living stones – people of resilience and faith.
Grant us the courage to lift our voices with theirs, to guide our feet alongside theirs,
walking together along the path toward a just peace in your world.**

ASSURANCE

Know this – by the grace of God, you are loved. You are forgiven. You are free to turn in a new direction, consider a new commitment, and trust that you are held in Love. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE Halleluja
The response is sung twice.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalms 150.....Pew Bible Page 557

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

OUR TIME WITH CHILDREN

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 The Word of God Is Source and Seed.....David Hurd, Setting by Sherri Hansen

*The Word of God is source and seed; it comes to die and sprout and grow.
So make your dark earth welcome warm; root deep the grain God bent to sow.
In the Lord let us rejoice, in the Lord let us rejoice, in the Lord let us rejoice!*

*The Word of God is breath and life; it comes to heal and wake and save.
So let the Spirit touch and mend and rouse your dry bones from their grave.
In the Lord let us rejoice, in the Lord let us rejoice, in the Lord let us rejoice!*

*The Word of God is flesh and grace, who comes to sing, to laugh and cry.
So dare to be as Jesus was, who came to live and love and die.
In the Lord let us rejoice, in the Lord let us rejoice, in the Lord let us rejoice!*

-Delores Dufner, OSB

SERMON "Waymaker"Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

*HYMN Rooted and Grounded in Love



1. In a time of dis-ease, we are called to be heal-ers em-bo-dy-ing Love's ho-ly care.
2. In a time of dis-trust, we are called to be teach-ers em-bo-dy-ing Love's ho-ly grace.
3. In a time of des-pair, we are called to be pro-phets, pro-claim-ing all peo-ple as one.

We fol-low the heal-er who tend-ed the suf-f'ring,
We fol-low the teach-er who wel-comed the strang-er,
We fol-low the pro-phet who cried out for jus-tice

re-stor-ing the wound-ed our work and our pray'r.
en-larg-ing love's realm with each sa-cred em-brace.
our lives of-fered up so Love's will can be done.

Refrain:

We are joy-ful and strong as our faith is re-vealed in the rich-est a-bun-dance of fruit that we yield.

We are root-ed and ground-ed in love. Like a tree by the ri-ver, we're plant-ed so deep.

We are root-ed and ground-ed in love. With each gift that we bring and each pro-mise we keep

as we bring a new world where we all have e-nough. We are root-ed and ground-ed in love.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SUNG RESPONSE Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day



OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD
Offering plates will be passed to the congregation in the pews.

*SUNG RESPONSE Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

O Je-sus Sav-ior Gen-tle One, come take our heart be your own,
That we may give you all our days the will-ing trib-ute of our praise.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy One, as you rise in the world, rise in us. We dedicate our lives and these gifts for the building of your Beloved Community in this world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #238 Now the Green Blade Rises
Stanza 2 may be sung in harmony.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Partita on *Now the Green Blade Rises*.....Setting by Franklin D. Ashdown

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

The Assembly Hall is located downstairs. From the **Narthex** – the room at the back of the Sanctuary – go down the steps on the left as you exit the Sanctuary and straight down the hallway. From the **Elevator**, go to the “B” level, go down the ramp and turn right.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tom Adil, Support Pastor
Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music

Worship Assistants

Hospitality:	Grace & Mark Bruen, Mary Billy, Gerry Linderman Rickie Lee Sands, Ginny Wilkinson
Elder of the Morning:	Bill Cagney
Deacon of the Morning:	Peter Conver
Audio Technician:	Scott Cunningham
Chancel Flowers:	Bonnie & Ken Hales
Driver:	Kay Peebles
Social Host:	Barb & Robin MacMullen

Copyright Acknowledgments

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Church of the Nativity, October 8, 2023 Linda Noonan	<i>The Word of God Is Source and Seed</i> Text: Delores Dufner, OSB © 1983, 1993 Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN	<i>Rooted and Grounded in Love</i> Text and Music: Amanda Udis- Kessler © 2020, Amanda Udis-Kessler	<i>Praise God, the Giver and the Gift</i> Text: Brian Wren © 1989, Hope Publishing Company
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2025 BASKET RAFFLE

BENEFITING THE EXTERIOR RESTORATION PROJECT

- Plan on participating? Please notify one of the deacons ASAP and let us know the theme of your basket.
Baskets are due in the office the week of May 5th - 10th.
- Basket display and ticket sales will take place Sundays starting

It's time for a favorite St. John's tradition!
 Donate a themed basket for a lucky winner
 in the congregation or community to enjoy.
 Have fun and get creative!



Two Listening Sessions
for Those who Previously Attended
the 8 AM Service

TODAY, April 27 | Monday, April 28
Noon – Library | 7:00 PM – Zoom

Pastor Linda and Pastor Tom will be available for conversation with people who were part of the early service to hear about their experiences and needs. Let the pastors or the office know if you would like to attend by Zoom and we will send you a link.



Praying Hands Stitchers
Next Sunday, May 4
9 AM

St. John's Library

We provide yarn, needles, and instruction,
and all are welcome!

Join us every first Sunday before service!

Women's Retreat

May 10 - St. John's Library

Suzan Neiger Gould, Executive Director of Manna on Main Street, will be the speaker at the May 10, Women's Retreat in the Church Library at 9:30 am. Her presentation will include the history of Manna on Main Street from its beginning as a soup kitchen in the basement of St. John's to its present home at North Penn Commons, followed by an interactive group discussion and a time for questions.

Light refreshments will be served.

All women are welcome!

Family Game Night at St. John's UCC

Thursday, May 15th

Time: 6:30-8:30 pm

Wanted: Colors of Ukraine!

1/4" bright yellow and/or
1/4" royal blue ribbon

Please check your craft closet to see if you have any leftover ribbon! Wanted for an upcoming fundraiser to help rebuild Ukraine. Email Amy at amy.faga@gmail.com

Listening Session
Teens & Young Adults
Sunday, May 18 after service
Senior Pastor Study

Rev. Linda would like to hear from our youth! There will be pizza!



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

27-Apr	Sun	9:00 AM	Second Sunday of Easter Confirmation Class, Associate Pastor's Office
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7 | April 27, 2025

		10:15 AM 10:45 AM 11:30 AM 12:00 PM	Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall Listening Session - 8 AM Service, Library
29-Apr	Tues	7:00 PM	AA, Assembly Hall
30-Apr	Wed	5:45 PM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Wednesday Night Live! Community Meal, Assembly Hall Adult Education Class, Library United Ringers, Sanctuary Children's Choir, Music Room Holden Evening Prayer, Sanctuary Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
2-May	Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club, Assembly Hall
3-May	Sat	9:30 AM 2:30 PM	Art of Living Foundation, Library Baby Shower, Assembly Hall & Kitchen
4-May	Sun	9:00 AM 10:15 AM 11:30 AM	Third Sunday of Easter Praying Hands Stitchers, Library Confirmation Class, Associate Pastor's Office Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Stewardship, Library Fellowship, Assembly Hall

Acknowledgements



In memory of Judy Lederach, Linda Horst, & Alan Johnston

To the Exterior Restoration Fund
From Anonymous



In loving memory of Charles W. Lutter's April 29th birthday

To the Chancel Flower fund
from his family

A Look at the Week of April 13, 2025	
Attendance: April 9, Holden Prayer	24
Attendance: April 13, Fifth Sunday in Lent	172
Offering For Current Income	\$6,944.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$485.00

A Look at the Week of April 20, 2025	
Attendance: April 17, Maundy Thursday	38
Attendance: April 20, Easter Sunrise	175
Attendance: April 20, Easter Celebration	176
Offering For Current Income	\$8,299.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$647.00

Psalm 150

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty firmament!

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound;

praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with tambourine and dance;

praise him with strings and pipe!

Praise him with clanging cymbals;

praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

John 20:19-31

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Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

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