



Rooted and Rising

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 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. Prayer requests will go to our prayer chain and pastors. These will not be read during service. **Visitors**, we are so glad you are here! Completed cards can be placed in the offering plates.



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 **Prayers of the People**, 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!



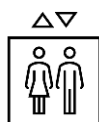
Hearing Assistance Devices are available in a basket at the back of the sanctuary if you are having trouble hearing the service. If the service is too loud, you may spend worship in the **Library**, which is to the right of the front of the Sanctuary, through the wall door.



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 — May 4, 2025 — Third Sunday of Easter

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit when indicated by an *asterisk
and **speak the words in bold.***

PRELUDE Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!.....Setting by Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

"After these things, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way...." John 21:1

You'd think, by now, we would get used to him showing up like this.

Lectern Side: **Inviting us to cast the net deeper and wider**

Pulpit Side: **Showing us the way to abundance is leaning into new possibilities.**

We are starting to open ourselves to these hauntings,

Lectern Side: **Encouraging us to share what we have and watch it multiply**

Pulpit side: **Showing us the way to flourishing is together**

We are learning to recognize this ghost asking about love

Lectern Side: **Calling us to tend and nourish each other.**

Pulpit Side: **Showing us the way to new life is now solidarities.**

You'd think, by now we would get used to Jesus in our midst

Lectern Side: **Welcoming us to the worship that is love in action**

Pulpit Side: **Showing us the way to transformation is mutual belovedness**

All: **Let us worship God, because we know in our bones;
Everywhere we turn, it is the Lord!**

***OPENING HYMN** Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re - sound-ing in glo - ri - ous light!
2. Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
3. Weep-ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent: death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
4. Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,
Splendor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
break-ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry: Je - sus our bless-ing, our con-stant sur - prise.
Cher - u - bim sing, O grave, be o - pen! Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels, sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!
Refrain:
Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise. Give God the glo - ry! Al-le - lu - ia!

CONFESSION

Generous Creator, forgive us when we believe the lies that scarcity tells us:

If I just worked harder.... I've earned everything I have.... There won't be enough if I share.... I have to protect what's mine.... Safety comes from holding on to what I have.... There's a lot of bad people out there... I can't count on anyone but myself; Gracious Redeemer, teach us to cast our nets differently.

ASSURANCE

The Abundant Spirit opens before us the ways of flourishing:

The impulse to share is our birthright. Dignity and Justice belong to us all. There is more when we contribute to each other's wholeness together. We keep us safe. Flourishing for all is possible together.

Praise God who loves us into thriving new life!

SUNG RESPONSE Halleluja

The response is sung twice.



SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 21:1-19.....Pew Bible Page 108

Acts 9:1-20

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got

up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

OUR TIME WITH CHILDREN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Praise God, the Giver and the Gift. Hands, hearts, and voices, now up - lift: Al - le - lu - ia!

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 God Gave Me a Song.....Paul J. Rauscher, arr. Alan Malachowski

God gave me a song. Gave me a sweet, sweet song.
To sing when all around me was confusion
He'll give you a song. Give you a sweet, sweet song.
To turn your darkness into shining light.

Jesus is my song, when all is going wrong.
Jesus is my song, when the days are long.
He took my darkest night, and turned it into light.
Oh praise the Lord, He is my wondrous song.

Jesus is the light. He took away my darkest night.
When he died there on that cruel tree at Calvary.
Oh, accept him now! And make a solemn vow.
To follow Him with every passing day.

Jesus is my song, when all is going wrong.
Jesus is my song, when the days are long.
He took my darkest night, and turned it into light.
Oh praise the Lord, He is my wondrous song

SERMON "Unrecognizable Jesus"Rev. Tom Adil

*HYMN Rooted and Grounded in Love
See insert for hymn

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SUNG RESPONSE Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

O Je - sus, Sav - ior, Gen - tle One, come take our hearts to be your own,

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offering plates will be passed to the congregation in the pews.

That we may give you all our days the will - ing trib - f our praise.



*SUNG RESPONSE Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

For the bread broken and shared, for the nourishment of each other,

We dedicate ourselves and our offerings. Thanks be to God.

For dignity and belovedness, for the blessing of together,

We dedicate ourselves and our offerings. Thanks be to God.

For the abundance of love that the world cannot take away,

We dedicate ourselves and our offerings. Thanks be to God.

***CLOSING HYMN #495** Called as Partners in Christ's Service
Stanzas 2 and 3 may be sung in harmony.

***BENEDICTION**

Beloved community, do you love God?

Yes, you know that we love God.

Feed God's lambs.

Beloved community, will you keep loving God?

Yes, you know that we will keep loving God.

Tend God's sheep. Beloved community, are you blessed by God's love?

The God who knows everything knows that we are blessed by God's love.

Then go forth from this place to live and love abundantly, setting a table for all in the midst of injustice, growing relationships of justice, dignity, and mutual belovedness, sharing what you have so that all may flourish.

Thanks be to our risen and rising up God!

POSTLUDE Postlude on a Tune by Uncle Paul.....Alan Malachowski

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

Support Pastor

Rev. Tom Adil

Andrew Paulson

Chancel Choir

Minister of Music

Worship Assistants

Hospitality:

MacMullen, Peter Conver,
Francis, Stefanie Giampa,

Elder of the Morning:

Deacon of the Morning:

Audio Technician:

Driver:

Social Host:

Carol Luehrs, Jenn Moyer, Matt Rivett

Anne Kinsey

Judy Leslie

Griff Francis

Scott Vanderburg

Mary Billy

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Bible apostles peter and paul,

Painting on oil

Mikhail Zahranichny

Rooted and Grounded in Love

Text and Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler

© 2020, Amanda Udis-Kessler

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Music: David N. Johnson © 1969 Contemporary

Worship I, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

Text: Brian Wren

© 1989, Hope Publishing Company

Weekly amount needed for Current Income 2025	\$7,884.62
Weekly amount needed for OCWM 2025	\$826.92
A Look at the Week of April 20, 2025	
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
A Look at the Week of April 20, 2025	
Attendance: April 27, 2nd Sunday of Easter	139
Offering For Current Income	\$3,961.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$277.00

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 May 11th in the Fireside Room. The baskets will also be featured at the church picnic on June 1st and at Lansdale Day June 7th.
- The winners will be drawn at social hour on June 8th.

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!

For administrative reasons, we are unable to print a complete list of announcements this week.

The full list of announcements and upcoming events can be found on our website's news & events pages.

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

4-May	Sun		Third Sunday of Easter
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7 | May 4, 2025

		9:00 AM 10:15 AM 11:30 AM	Praying Hands Stitchers, Library Confirmation Class, Associate Pastor's Office Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Stewardship, Library Fellowship, Assembly Hall
5-May	Mon		Drop Off For Basket Raffle Begins
6-May	Tues	7:00 PM	AA, Assembly Hall
7-May	Wed	5:45 PM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Wednesday Night Live! Community Meal, Assembly Hall Adult Education Class, Family Spiritual Genograms, Library United Ringers, Sanctuary Children's Choir, Music Room Holden Evening Prayer, Sanctuary Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
8-May	Thurs	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts, Activity Room
9-May	Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club, Assembly Hall
10-May	Sat	9:30 AM	Women's Retreat, Library Art of Living Foundation, Assembly Hall
11-May	Sun	10:15 AM 11:30 AM	Fourth Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Fellowship, Assembly Hall

Acknowledgements



In memory of Betty Focht's April 24th birthday

To the Chancel Flower fund
from her family, Sally, Steve, and Eric Jarinko



In memory of George & Dorothy Knipe, John & Diane Skibbe, & Wendy Hunt

To the Chancel Flower fund
from Phil Hunt, John Skibbe III, & Donavan Thomas



In memory of Mary Franks

To the Chancel Flower fund
from Suzanne Franks

John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this

way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He

said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Acts 9:1-20

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he

might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

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his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

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