



"Sometimes the most scenic roads in life are the
detours you didn't mean to take."

— Angela N. Blount

The Greatest of These Is Love

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 29, 2025

9:30 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
9:30 am — June 29, 2025 — Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE Von Himmel hoch, da komm ich her.....F.W. Zachau

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?

You work wonders and display your glory. How great is our God!

Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so merciful as our God?

You redeem your people from generation to generation. How merciful is our God!

Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so just as our God?

You hear the cries of the troubled and move in righteousness. How just is our God!

***OPENING HYMN #23 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

CONFESSION

God of Grace, sometimes the call to follow you comes softly and gently. At other times, your call rushes in with urgency and may even overwhelm us as we balance the obligations of the day with the needs of the day. Gift us with discernment to know what needs our attention, focus, and energy. Free us of distractions, even and especially the ones we create for ourselves. At the same time remind us how to breathe and to be gracious toward one another. We travel a road we have not built and have not journeyed before. We rely upon you to demonstrate the way and lead us into the fullness of life and your community of love.

ASSURANCE

Beloved, the grace of God companions with you along the road. We journey this life in Christ, through Christ, and with Christ. Trust and rely upon the wisdom of the Everlasting One who knows you, the gifts you bring, and the burdens you bear. New life and transformation, as all things, are possible with God. Receive God's grace to free you from fear in order to embrace the journey.

SUNG RESPONSE Love Is of God



**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF JULIETE LUNA CARSON
INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION**

BAPTISM QUESTIONS
THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER
BAPTISM
TAKING A SHELL
CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Members of the household of God, please pause in silence to affirm your willingness to be present to this person/these persons in times of need and special joy. Pray for them now in silence as you confirm before God your openness to this person/these persons.

Silent Prayer

Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

As members of Christ's church, we promise this child and family our love, support, and care. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

And now, with great joy, I invite you to repeat after me: You belong to us.

You belong to us.

We belong to you.

We belong to you.

Along with the entire universe, we all belong to God.

Along with the entire universe, we all belong to God. Amen!

BAPTISM HYMN #524 This Little Light

The hymn may be sung in harmony.

UPDATES & UNFOLDINGS: Accessibility and Technology

Grace Marchione,
Communications Coordinator

SCRIPTURE READINGS

II Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14.....Pew Bible Page 326

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 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.....Arr. Chris Rice

SERMON "Joy Unspeakable"Rev. Tom Adil

*HYMN #50 I Sing the Praise of Love Almighty

Stanzas 2 and 3 may be sung in harmony.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SUNG RESPONSE #772 Nothing Can Trouble (Nada te turbe)

The response is sung twice; first in English, second in Spanish.

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

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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION
God our Provider, receive these gifts for your creation, for your realm, and for your glory.
Amen. One-ness, love com-mun - ing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*CLOSING HYMN #82 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

*BENEDICTION

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
The rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of God's hand.

POSTLUDE Prelude in C Major.....J.S. Bach

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

Ihna Cho, Guest Organist
Kay Peebles, Scripture Reader

Worship Assistants

Hospitality:	Robin MacMullen, Peter Conver, Griff Francis, Stefanie Giampa, Carol Luehrs, Jenn Moyer, Matt Rivett
Elder of the Morning:	Chriss Bodde
Deacon of the Morning:	Sumiko Booraem
Audio Technician:	Griff Francis
Chancel Flowers:	Kay Peebles & Grace Marchione
Driver:	Jo-Ann Sine
Social Host:	Stewardship

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Love Is of God

Text: 1 John 4:7-12 Music: Davis Giersch
© 1997 Davis Giersch

Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

Text: Brian Wren
© 1989, Hope Publishing Company

Weekly Current Income Needed:	\$7,884.62
Weekly OCWM Needed:	\$826.92
A Look at the Week of June 15, 2025	
Attendance: June 15, Trinity Sunday	85
Offering For Current Income	\$5,050.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$437.00
A Look at the Week of June 22, 2025	
Attendance: June 22, Pride Sunday	124
Offering For Current Income	\$3,957.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$511.00

Acknowledgements



In memory of Eric Kirk

To the Chancel Flower fund
from his mother, Barbara Kirk

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

29-Jun	Sun	9:30 AM 10:00 AM 10:30 AM	Third Sunday after Pentecost Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall
1-July	Tues	7:00 PM	AA, Assembly Hall
4-July	Fri		Office Closed – Independence Day
5-July	Sat	9:30 AM	Art of Living Foundation, Assembly Hall
6-July	Sun	8:30 AM 9:30 AM 9:45 AM 10:30 AM 10:45 AM 7:00 PM	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Praying Hands Stitchers, Library Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall Listening Session: Accessibility, Library Gathered In God's Name: Community Hymn Festival, Sanctuary

Upcoming Listening Sessions

Join our pastors in a discussion about your experiences and needs:

Accessibility

Sunday, July 6
10:45 am | Library

Tell us what is making St. John's feel available to you, and where we need to make improvements so worship and community are accessible to as many people as possible.

(This includes physical needs such as wheelchair access and amplification, as well as other forms of accessibility like communications, accessing worship online, neurodivergent needs, etc.)

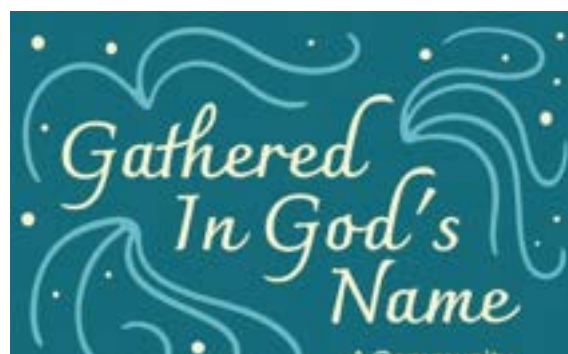
Save the Date: Family Vacation Bible School

Saturday, August 23
9 am - noon



The Summer Stitch

Join the Praying Hands Stitchers at their summer time every first Sunday!



Announcing the 2026 St. John's Printed Calendar!

Sponsor a month for \$185 and choose that month's image from a wonderful collection of photos taken by the St. John's community.

Act quickly!
Only a few slots remain.

Contact the office to claim your month. Deadline to sponsor is **Friday, August 15.**



JOINTLY HOSTED BY
ST. JOHN'S
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST 


Water Sunday

September 7th at 10:15 am

Please collect some water from a place over the summer where you experience refreshment, grace, or joy. Bottles available in the sanctuary!

Water will be purified and used for baptisms throughout the year.

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as

Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water. He said, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah? Where is he?" He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.