



# Practicing Faith

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 13, 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!



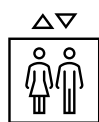
**Hearing Assistance Devices** are available in a basket at the back of the sanctuary if you are having trouble hearing the service. If the service is too loud, you may spend worship in the **Library**, which is to the right of the front of the Sanctuary, through the wall door.



**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](mailto: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 — July 13, 2025 — Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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PRELUDE Three Ayres from Gloucester.....Hugh Stuart, arr. Robert Longfield  
I. The Jolly Earl of Cholmondeley

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God: Welcome!

**We have come to this place of love and grace,  
and to this place of hope and perseverance.**

God has set this day before us,

**A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.**

God has set our lives before us,

**A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.**

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community.

**We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.**

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

\*OPENING HYMN #459 Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 2: Higher Voices

Stanza 3: All

CONFESSION

**God of tender mercies, we admit that sometimes we don't know what to do with  
ourselves. We anger at the slightest insult and imagine great vengeance upon those  
who wronged us. We laze about in the good news of God and do not consider the deep  
commitment of faith. We care for ourselves but not for others. Forgive us, we pray.  
Forgive us, help us to repent, and make us whole. Amen.**

ASSURANCE

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting,  
and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
Alleluia! Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE Love Is of God



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Amos 7:7-17.....Pew Bible Page 807

Luke 10:25-37

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

## 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 Three Ayres from Gloucester.....Hugh Stuart, arr. Robert Longfield  
II. Ayre for Eventide

SERMON "A Plumb-Bob People" .....Deborah Dayton, President

\*HYMN #588 Let Justice Flow like Streams

*Stanza 1: All*

*Stanza 2: Lower Voices*

*Stanza 3: All*

## 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



\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious and holy God, accept what we offer today: our gifts and our service,  
our faltering steps, our brokenness, our leftovers, our hope, our risking, our lives.  
Bless and transform all that we offer and all that we hold back,  
that new life may be ours, to celebrate and share in Jesus' name. Amen**

\*CLOSING HYMN #76 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Three Ayres from Gloucester.....Hugh Stuart, arr. Robert Longfield  
III. The Fiefs of Wembley

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**

Deborah Dayton, Preacher  
Marge Jewell, Liturgist

Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music  
Wind Ensemble

### **Worship Assistants**

#### **Hospitality:**

Mark Methlie, Bob Bausman, Jen Gilbert,  
Sarah Hogan, Bonnie & Walt Weber

#### **Elder of the Morning:**

Anne Kinsey

#### **Deacon of the Morning:**

Rickie Lee Sands

#### **Audio Technician:**

Robin MacMullen

#### **Chancel Flowers:**

Kay Peebles

#### **Driver:**

Gale Linderman

#### **Social Host:**

Salmon Family

A message from **Karl Jones**, the Disaster Response Coordinator of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ:



## HELP IS NEEDED IN CENTRAL TEXAS

(image credit: Jim Vondruska / Getty Images)

Last week heavy rainfall and catastrophic flash flooding devastated areas of Texas. More than 100 people were killed or remain missing, including dozens of children. The flooding displaced many people, destroying homes and severely damaging critical infrastructure, including roads and river crossings.

When a humanitarian crisis of this magnitude strikes, United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries is ready to help. The Disaster Ministry Team at the National Ministry of the United Church of Christ has been in contact with the Conference Disaster Response Coordinator and the Conference Minister for the South Central Conference to monitor the situation and determine how best to support communities. **We need your help to empower our churches and members in the impacted areas to help their communities recover. Your donations can make a difference.**

To donate, visit [support.ucc.org/global-HOPE](https://support.ucc.org/global-HOPE), use an offering envelope or scan here: and designate your gift to "Severe Storms".



Your generous donation to UCC Global HOPE's Disaster Ministries, specifically reserved for this event, helps our church continue to serve! UCC Global HOPE has posted a prayer you can use as we pray for those who have been affected:

Gracious God,

We find ourselves in difficult times as we sit in solidarity with our family in Christ that has been affected by the significant flooding in Kerr County, Texas and beyond. We thank you for always being beside us as we continue to learn more about the devastation caused by this storm.

We pray for the families that have lost a loved one, we pray for the families that are facing uncertainty as they await news about their loved ones, and we pray for those who have lost their homes and businesses.

We ask that you provide us with strength as we grieve together, pray together, and rebuild together. We trust in your greatness that you will bring peace to all those affected by this storm.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

## 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)

13-July	Sun	<b>9:30 AM</b> 10:00 AM 10:30 AM 3:00 pm	<b>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall "An Afternoon of Song" with Ruth & David Michel, Sanctuary
15-July	Tues	7:00 PM	AA, Assembly Hall
17-July	Thurs	6:30 PM	Family Game Night, Assembly Hall
18-July	Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club, Assembly Hall
19-July	Sat	9:30 AM	Art of Living Foundation, Assembly Hall
20-July	Sun	<b>9:30 AM</b> 10:00 AM 10:30 AM	<b>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b> Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall VBS Meeting, Library

### Acknowledgements



**In memory of dear friend Scott Harmon's July 15<sup>th</sup> birthday**

To the Chancel Flower fund  
from Barbara Kirk



**In memory of Evaline Cagney**

To the Chancel Flower fund  
from her husband, Bill Cagney



**In memory of Roy Ekberg's July 19<sup>th</sup> birthday**

To the Chancel Flower fund  
from his daughter, Sandy, and Scott Brown

### Copyright Acknowledgments

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Cover Image:

iStock

#477856221

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 Compan



## Family Game Night At St. John's UCC!

Thursday, July 17

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Assembly Hall



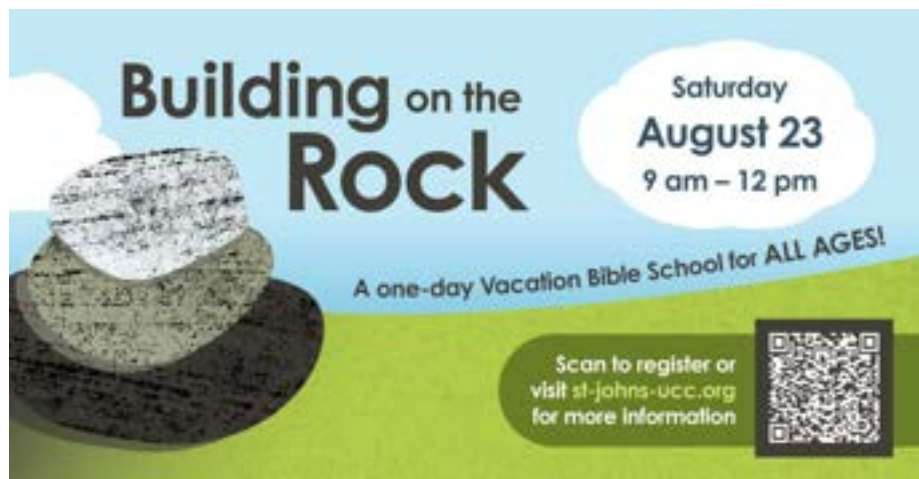
**All are welcome!**



## St. John's officially has a booth at Lansdale First Fridays!

The first Friday of every month, we will be out in the community, making connections and conversations with those around us! We have brochures, small giveaways, and the Official St. John's Bubble Machine!

Interested in volunteering? Contact Mark Bruen or the office!




**Building on the Rock**

Saturday  
**August 23**  
9 am - 12 pm

A one-day Vacation Bible School for **ALL AGES!**

Scan to register or visit [st-johns-ucc.org](http://st-johns-ucc.org) for more information



## 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.**



## 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.

Are you wearing your  
**name tag?**

Printed name tags are located in the narthex and library on magnetic boards.

Don't have one? Write your name on a sign up sheet and it will be ready by next Sunday!



## Amos 7:7-17

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line  
in the midst of my people Israel;  
I will spare them no longer;  
the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,  
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,  
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
and Israel must go into exile  
away from his land.' "

And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet nor a prophet's son, but I am a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

“Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.  
You say, ‘Do not prophesy against Israel,  
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.’  
Therefore thus says the Lord:  
Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,  
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,  
and your land shall be parceled out by line;  
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,  
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.”

## Luke 10:25-37

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

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