

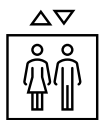
The Goodness of Creation

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

10:15 am

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



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.



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.



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.



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.



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!



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."

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), Connect3 Director

Kay Peebles (she/her), Church Office Manager

Grace Marchione (she/her), Communications Coordinator

Anthony Ottaviano (he/him), Facilities Manager

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 — September 14, 2025 — Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

PRELUDE Children's Medley.....Arr. Marilyn Ham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Calling all children of the Living God: the gospel is good news
for every age and every stage!

Let us worship together, the young and the old.

The good news is proclaimed in God's words, and also with crayons,
music, snacks, computers, science projects, books, and rest time.

Let us worship together, every generation.

We come together with different abilities and disabilities, learning
in a rainbow of ways and styles.

Let us worship together, with our family of faith.

All are welcome in the arms of Christ who proclaimed, "Let the children come!"

Let us worship together, united in our eternal hope. Amen.

*HYMN #327 Jesus Loves Me

Stanzas 2 and 3, and their refrains, may be sung in harmony.

CONFESSION

**Holy and gracious God, at times we feel so frail and fragile,
getting blown about by the latest crisis, by bad news,
by our own short tempers and failings.**

**You call us to hold fast to what is good, but so often we flounder,
unable to find that solid thing that will center us again.**

Help us, we pray, to see you as our center, and cling to the good around us.

**Help us to set aside our jealousies and prejudices,
and all that does harm to ourselves and others.**

Help us to grow more like Christ and bear His love in the world.

We pray this in His name, Amen.

ASSURANCE

To come before God with the truth of our lives is itself an act of faith. Know this – you are
loved. You are forgiven. You are set free in grace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 1:22-2:10Pew Bible Page 48

Luke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins[a] and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

CHILDREN'S SONG Gathered in God's Name

The musical score is written on seven staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, aligned with the syllables. The song has a joyful, hymn-like quality.

Gath - ered in God's name 'round the ta - ble and font.
Gath - ered as one fam - 'ly in the name of love.
Gath - ered from near and far, gath - ered in this ho - ly place,
gath - ered as strang - ers and friends, gath - ered and gift - ed by grace.
Gath - ered in God's name 'round the liv - ing Word.
Gath - ered as one fam - 'ly in the name of love,
in the name of love, in the name of love.

OUR TIME WITH CHILDREN

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS – see insert

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**

CHILDREN'S SONG Gathered in God's Name (*music on page 4*)

SERMON "How Are the Children?"Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

*HYMN 11 Bring Many Names

Stanza 1: All	Stanza 4: All
Stanza 2: Higher Voices	Stanza 5: Organ
Stanza 3: Lower Voices	Stanza 6: All

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

The response is sung twice and may be sung in harmony; first in English, second in Spanish.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*Offering plates will be passed to the congregation in the pews.
For online giving, use the QR code.*



Offertory A Woman and a Coin.....Paul D. Weber

*A woman and a coin: the coin is lost!
How much it means to her, what time and toil,
what part it was to play in her bright dreams!
Am I that treasured coin worth searching for?
I'm found and you rejoice! What love!*

*A parent and a child: the child is lost!
The parent feeds on memories and hope,
the prodigal on husks and one last chance.
Am I that treasured child worth waiting for?
I'm home and you rejoice! What love!*

*A shepherd and a sheep: the sheep is lost!
For from the flock, the one in hundred cries,
then, risking life, the shepherd's voice and staff!
Am I that treasured sheep worth dying for?
I live and you rejoice! What love!*

*Dear God, you sought us when the world was
lost; you gave your only Son at what a cost;
your Spirit welcomes home the tempest-
tossed: now we can be all you were
dreaming of. We're safe and you rejoice!
What love!*

-Jaroslav J. Vajda

*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.

Three in One-ness, love com-mun - ing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Generous God, out of the abundance of our lives and as a response to the blessings we have been given, receive these gifts. Multiply them and use them for the sake of love in a world so in need of it. Amen.

***HYMN #569 Touch the Earth Lightly**

Stanza 1: Choir

Stanzas 2-4: All

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Improvisation on *Jesus Loves Me*.....Andrew Paulson

**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

Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music

Rev. Tom Adil, Bridge Support Pastor

Chancel Choir

Nancy Woehrle, Flute

Worship Assistants

Hospitality:

Team 4: Grace & Mark Bruen

Elder of the Morning:

Emilie Truscott

Deacon of the Morning:

Sumiko Booraem

Audio Technician:

Scott Cunningham

Chancel Flowers:

Jen & Matt Harp

Driver:

Gale Linderman

Social Host:

Mark & Karen Methlie

Copyright Acknowledgments

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Gathered in God's Name

A Woman and a Coin

Praise God, the Giver and the Gift

Text and Music: Michael

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda

Text: Brian Wren

Burkhardt

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House

Company

Publications

Weekly Current Income Needed:	\$7,884.62	Weekly OCWM Needed:	\$826.92
A Look at the Week of August 31, 2025		A Look at the Week of September 7, 2025	
Attendance: Sunday, August 31	80	Attendance: Sunday, September 7	150
Offering For Current Income	\$16,123.10	Offering For Current Income	\$12,884.00
Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$192.00	Offering For Our Church's Wider Mission	\$896.00

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

14-Sept	Sun	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	
		8:00 AM	Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary
		10:15 AM	Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary
		10:45 AM	Connect3, Activity Room
		11:30 AM	Fellowship, Assembly Hall Book Rummage Sale
15-Sept	Mon	7:00 PM	Fireside CA 12 Step, Fireside Room
16-Sept	Tues	7:00 PM	AA, Assembly Hall
17-Sept	Wed	6:30 PM	United Ringers Rehearsal
		7:30 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
18-Sept	Thurs	6:30 PM	Community Game Night, Assembly Hall
19-Sept	Fri	1:00 PM	Rev. Dr. Chuck Maxfield Memorial Service
		6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club, Assembly Hall
20-Sept	Sat	9:30 AM	Art of Living Foundation, Assembly Hall
21-Sept	Sun	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	
		8:00 AM	Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary
		10:15 AM	Sunday Morning Worship, Sanctuary
		10:45 AM	Connect3, Activity Room
		11:30 AM	Fellowship, Assembly Hall
		3:00 PM	Installation of Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

From the Service Outreach and Witness Team:
Join St. John's United Church of Christ to
Feed Hope
In
Gaza



Famine is now at unprecedented levels in Gaza. Help us support World Central Kitchen as they seek to scale up production to one million hot meals a day. The church will match the first \$1,000 contributed.

Make a tax-free gift using the QR code, give online at www.st-johns-ucc.org, or mail a check to:

St. John's UCC 500 W Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446.



Blessing of the Backpacks



Sunday, September 14
10:15 am



Students, teachers, educators, & families: bring your backpacks, lunch boxes, or planners to worship & **receive a blessing for the new school year!**



Book Rummage Sale!

THIS SUNDAY at 11:30 am

Books will be displayed downstairs during fellowship, completely free!

In-kind donations are welcomed and will be used to better the St. John's library.

Community Game Night

Thursday, September 18th

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm



Join the Board of Educators for our monthly community event! 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 full night of gaming! Beverages will be provided, bring a snack to share. **Please RSVP via our Facebook Event Page, the Sign Up Sheets in the Elevator Lobby, or by contacting the Office.**



Service of Installation: Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

Sunday, September 21
3:00 pm

On the cusp of St. John's 150th anniversary, we invite our congregation and neighbors to celebrate the church's rich history and pastoral lineage through the formal installation of our new senior pastor.

Mandated Reporter Training

Saturday, September 27
9 am to 12 pm

Join us for this state-approved training course that fulfills requirements for mandated reporters in accordance with Act 31 of 2014 and Act 126 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code. **RSVP:**

victimservicescenter.org/events

Questions? Contact Jess Carson:
Jessica-Carson@vscmontcopa.org



Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, September 28 at 2:00 pm

Special treats for all the animals! All pets welcome – leashed or crated, furry, scaly, and creepy crawly! Pictures also blessed.

Information Needed For

Fall Goodie Boxes for College Students!

Please send the name and complete address of the student(s) to Bonnie Weber at bonweber@gmail.com or church office at office@st-johns-ucc.org by Sunday, October 5. **Goodie Box Items are due Sunday, October 12.**

See posting on Council Bulletin Board for requested items.

Women's Retreat

Saturday, October 6 | 9:30 am | St. John's Library

The October Women's Retreat will meet one week earlier than usual. The presenter will be Luchi Lazares who will speak about her Mother's remarkable legacy and long standing connection with Global Ministries of the United Church of Christ. Light Refreshments will be served.

All women are welcome!

Exodus 1:22-2:10

Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said.

Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?"

"Yes, go," she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."

Luke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins[a] and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."