



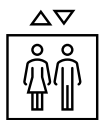
# Witness

World Communion Sunday

October 5, 2025

10:15 am

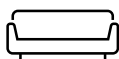
# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S UCC LANSDALE



**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.



Our **Soft Worship Space**, the front right of the Sanctuary, is available for all ages to engage their bodies in a way that allows them to be more present in worship. 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.



**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](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), Connect3 Director

Kay Peebles (she/her), Church Office Manager

Grace Marchione (she/her), Communications Coordinator

Anthony Ottaviano III (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 — October 5, 2025 — World Communion Sunday

*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 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart.....Setting by Jeffrey Honoré

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

From north and south, from east and west, we come:

**People called to the table where simple grace nourishes us all.**

From Main Street to Philadelphia to Portland and Palestine:

**God's people are called to love and serve one another  
in beloved community.**

From every class, every race, every status;

from little ones with sippy cups to elders with overflowing hearts;

**As God's people, we seek to increase our faith,  
to offer peace and bread to a shattered and hungry world,  
and to feast together at one table in unity.  
Come, let us worship!**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

*If you prefer a "no-contact" greeting, you are invited to place your hand over your heart  
as you acknowledge your neighbor.*

\*HYMN #337 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

CONFESSION

**God of all,  
Our sins are so heavy to carry,  
and we aren't always sure if what we think or know or have done is right.  
We look at a world undone by strife, torn by violence, and separated by hatred.  
Yet you call us to walk the way of peace.  
Forgive us, O Lord, for refusing to follow you on this path  
because the risk makes us uncomfortable,  
the direction seems confusing, or we don't know what others will think of us.  
Forgive us our complacency.  
Grant us clarity of vision to see the light,  
and the strength to walk behind you.  
In the power of your Spirit we pray, Amen.**

ASSURANCE

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

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Lamentations 1:1-6.....Pew Bible Page 719

John 17:18-24

As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

## CHILDREN'S SONG Gathered in God's Name



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

## 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    "Making Room at the Table"..... Rev. Dr. Linda Noonan

\* HYMN    #332 As We Gather at Your Table

*Stanza 1: All*

*Stanza 2: Choir in canon (Higher Voices followed by Lower Voices).*

*Stanza 3: All in canon (Higher Voices followed by Lower Voices).*

*Stanza 4 (Below): All*

**As we gather at your table, there are many without bread.  
Those who hunger, yes for justice, but who also must be fed.  
"Feed my sheep," Jesus commands us, may we listen and obey.  
May our prayer turn into action, may we never turn away.**

## COMMUNION

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger;  
you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**Christ is risen! He lives, and presides at this Feast!**

Let us gather to share in the Bread of New Life!

**Jesus is with us! Nothing can separate us from God's love.**

Let us drink together the Cup of Gladness!

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

Let us prepare our hearts to come to the table set before us.

**Eternal One, Silence from whom our words come;**

**Questioner from who our questions arise;**

**Mystery in whose depths we find healing and ourselves:**

**enfold us now in your presence;**

**restore to us your peace;**

**renew us through your power;**

**and ground us in your grace.**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Therefore, with the entire company of saints in heaven and earth,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy #793 *The hymn is sung twice in Spanish, and may be sung in harmony.*

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

## 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 Pilgrims' Hymn.....Stephen Paulus

Even before we call on Your name

To ask You, O God,

When we seek for the words to glorify You,

You hear our prayer;

Unceasing love, O unceasing love,

Surpassing all we know.

Glory to the Father,

And to the Son,

And to the Holy Spirit.

Even with darkness sealing us in,

We breathe Your name,

And through all the days that follow so fast,

We trust in You;

Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace,

Beyond all mortal dream.

Both now and for ever,

And unto ages and ages,

Amen.

-Michael Dennis Browne

Offertory 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 #389 *Un mandamiento nuevo*

*The first refrain is sung by the choir; All following refrains are sung by all in Spanish.*

*The stanzas are sung by the soloist.*

## \*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Little Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 557.....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  
Grace Bruen, Liturgist

Andrew Paulson, Minister of Music  
Chancel Choir

### **Worship Assistants**

<b>Hospitality:</b>	Team 3: Methlie
<b>Elder of the Morning:</b>	All
<b>Deacon of the Morning:</b>	Rickie Lee Sands
<b>Audio Technician:</b>	Robin MacMullen
<b>Chancel Flowers:</b>	Marcia Stacey
<b>Driver:</b>	Scott Vanderburg

### **Copyright Acknowledgments**

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*"Palestinian Bread," October 4,  
2023, Linda Noonan*

*Gathered in God's Name  
Text and Music: Michael Burkhardt  
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*Pilgrims' Hymn  
Text: Michael Dennis Browne  
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and Michael Dennis Browne*

*Praise God, the Giver and the Gift  
Text: Brian Wren  
© 1989 Hope Publishing Co.*

Weekly Current Income Need:	\$7,884.62	Weekly OCWM Needed:	\$826.92
<b>The Week of September 21, 2025</b>		<b>The Week of September 28, 2025</b>	
Attendance: 8:00 AM	N/A	Attendance: 8:00 AM	26
Attendance: 10:15 AM	105	Attendance: 10:15 AM	108
Offering For Current:	\$8,271.00	Offering For Current:	\$6,389.00
Offering For OCWM:	\$490.00	Offering For OCWM:	\$271.00

A note on "Israel" language in worship: In our music and scriptures, "Israel" and "Israelites" refer to ancient Israel and its people, not the modern political state. At various times in history, it meant the collective name of the twelve tribes descended from Jacob, the Hebrew people, "the people of Israel," the nation of Israel as a whole, or the Northern Kingdom. We want to be faithful hearers and interpreters of scripture, and pray fervently for the day when Palestinians and Israelis may live in mutual peace, security, and dignity.



From the  
Service Outreach & Witness Team:

Join St. John's UCC 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](http://www.st-johns-ucc.org), or mail a check to:



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

## Living Our Faith Together Care For the Caregiver

Taught by Rev. Tom Adil



Sundays at 9 AM Oct 12 – Nov 2

Welcome to a journey of hope, hardship and the heart's resilient capacity to get through it all with love. This class offers an in-depth look at the many complex issues that being a caregiver brings. The class will develop provides tips, strategies and offer a biblical rationale for creating a sustainable path for those caring for family members or others needing help with daily living. **See the LOFT bulletin board for more info.**

### Fall Goodie Box

Item Deadline  
Oct. 12



### Youth Group Gathering

Sunday, October 12  
After 10:15 Service

### Congregational Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, October 19  
12:00 pm



Community Game Night

### Trunk or Treat

Thursday, Oct 23 at 6:30 pm

Join the Board of Educators for a Halloween-themed Community Game Night! All are welcome! Come in costume, bring some games to share, and enjoy a fun night of gaming with your family and ours. **Beverages will be provided. Bring a snack to share. There will be Halloween goodies at themed "Trunk or Treat" tables for ghouls and goblins of all ages!**

## Lansdale-Hatfield **nga** national giving alliance

### Donations Needed

The Lansdale-Hatfield branch of the National Giving Alliance (NGA) is having their annual Ingathering on October 27. We give to 9 local agencies. **For donation items, please see the list on the community bulletin board.** Contributions may be given to Sally Atkiss, Suzanne Franks, or dropped off at the church office.

## THANK YOU!!

Thanks to your Book Rummage Sale donations, we were able to add a new shelf and revamp the kid's kornor of the library!



Andrew at



### A Longwood Christmas!

December 14 – bus leaves at 2 pm!



Join us on a bus trip to Longwood Gardens on Sunday, December 14 as Andrew performs classic carols, favorites from The Nutcracker, and other holiday hits on the Longwood organ! The bus leaves St. John's at 2pm and will return at approximately 9:15pm. If interested, please contact Debby Hendricks at [ds Hendricks111@gmail.com](mailto:ds Hendricks111@gmail.com) 267-664-5490. Additional information can also be found on the community bulletin board and in the office.



## 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)

Oct 5	Sun	World Communion Sunday	
		<b>8:00 AM</b> 9:00 AM	Morning Worship LOFTy Potluck, Assembly Hall Praying Hands Stitchers, Library
		<b>10:15 AM</b> 10:45 AM 11:30 AM	Morning Worship Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall Book Rummage Sale
Oct 6	Mon	7:00 PM	Fireside CA 12 Step, Fireside Room
Oct 7	Tues	7:00 PM	AA, Assembly Hall
Oct 8	Wed	6:30 PM	United Ringers Rehearsal
		7:30 PM	Artist Series Chorus: Christmas Rehearsal
		8:30 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Oct 9	Thurs	1:00 PM	Stampers, Activity Room
		6:30 PM	Girl Scouts, Activity Room
Oct 10	Fri	6:00 PM	North Penn Chess Club, Assembly Hall
Oct 11	Sat	9:00 AM	Choir Retreat with Trinity Lutheran
		9:30 AM	Art of Living Foundation, Assembly Hall
Oct 12	Sun	Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	
		<b>8:00 AM</b> 9:00 AM <b>10:15 AM</b> 10:45 AM 11:30 AM	Morning Worship Living Our Faith Together, Fireside Room Morning Worship Connect3, Activity Room Fellowship, Assembly Hall Youth Group Gathering

### Acknowledgements



#### **In Memory of Loved Ones**

To the Chancel Flower fund  
From Doris Latta

#### **In Memory of Madeline Bruen**

To the Chancel Flower Fund  
From her son, Mark, and Grace, Ben, and Allison Bruen

## Lamentations 1:1-6

How deserted lies the city,  
once so full of people!  
How like a widow is she,  
who once was great among  
the nations!  
She who was queen among the  
provinces  
has now become a slave.

Bitterly she weeps at night,  
tears are on her cheeks.  
Among all her lovers  
there is no one to comfort her.  
All her friends have betrayed her;  
they have become her  
enemies.

After affliction and harsh labor,  
Judah has gone into exile.  
She dwells among the nations;  
she finds no resting place.  
All who pursue her have  
overtaken her  
in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn,  
for no one comes to her  
appointed festivals.  
All her gateways are desolate,  
her priests groan,  
her young women grieve,  
and she is in bitter anguish.

Her foes have become her  
masters;  
her enemies are at ease.  
The Lord has brought her grief  
because of her many sins.  
Her children have gone into  
exile,  
captive before the foe.

All the splendor has departed  
from Daughter Zion.  
Her princes are like deer  
that find no pasture;  
in weakness they have fled  
before the pursuer.

## John 17:18-24

As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.