

A close-up photograph of a branch with several pink, heart-shaped flowers (Corydalis) hanging from it. The flowers are vibrant pink with a white base. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage.

As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

- John 15:9

St. John's United Church of Christ
Welcome Back to In-person Worship
Also on Facebook
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Mothers' Day
May 9, 2021
10:00 a.m.

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - MOTHERS' DAY
Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor
The Service: 10:00 a.m. May 2, 2021

(Let us be silent and prayerful as we prepare ourselves for worship.)

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Remembering that God calls us through Christ to be ministers with each other, St. John's United Church of Christ, as inspired and directed by the Holy Spirit, seeks: To be inclusive and accessible to all people; To provide loving service to all of God's people through mission and ministry; To strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Prelude

Sharing of Announcements and Prayer Concerns

Threshold

Response: **Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again.**

Call to Worship:

The sun breaks through the clouds.

We lift up our heads to meet the day.

We know that God is at work in our lives.

We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.

And when rain comes again, we will open our umbrellas set out anyway.

For we are called to dance again!

Hymn

"Faith of Our Mothers"

1. Faith of our mothers, living still
In cradle song and bedtime prayer;
In nursery lore and fireside love,
Thy presence still pervades the air:
Faith of our mothers, living faith!
We will be true to thee to death.

2. Faith of our mothers, loving faith,
Fount of our childhood's trust and grace,
Oh, may thy consecration prove
Source of a finer, nobler race:
Faith of our mothers, living faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

3. Faith of our mothers, Christian faith,
Is truth beyond our stumbling creeds,
Still serve the home and save the Church,
And breathe thy spirit through our deeds:
Faith of our mothers, Christian faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

Prayer - Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation - Let us be open to learn from the dances of others. Open us to new steps for a new day. Come and dance with us, engage with us, as we seek you - so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ. Be with us now, we pray. Amen.

Affirming the Peace Among Us

*The peace of the risen Christ is with you!
And also with you!*

You are invited to turn to the people around you, and wave as a sign of graceful greetings this day.

Words for All - Especially Children

Scripture: John 15:9, 11-15a

Special Music "Love Divine" - Raney

Message "Wondrous Love"

Morning Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sinned and sinned against us) 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 sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing our Joys and Celebrations

Dedication of Gifts and Offerings: We recognize that the greatest gift is the gift of love. May our offerings distribute this love to the world: the small world we inhabit with the suffering people we know; the larger world where the power of love is sorely needed. Amen.

Hymn #349 "I Come with Joy" (stanzas 1, 4 and 5)

Benediction

Postlude

In Our Thoughts and Prayers This Morning

(please contact the church office, at 570-523-0162, with any updates)

Ongoing Needs- Betty Hackenberg, Janet & Richard Heaton, Christine Sartwell, Joanne & Bill Stahley, Linda Williams, Wayne Williams.

Shut-In/Homebound- Ann Beasom, Richard Berry, Peg Brouse, Bill & Lola Fuller, Jane Hayes, Evelyn Mabus, Ken Moore, Ethel Moser, Loretta Roberson, Mary Stover, Amelia Troutman.

Immediate Concerns -Oliver Auman, Scott Bower, Joyce, Maryjane H., Carol Hahn, Josh Latsha, Joanne Stahley, Peg Swinehart.

THIS WEEK

Monday, May 10	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Piecemakers Quilters Leaders (C.R.) WORSHIP/MUSIC COMM. (LIB) BVS Board Meeting (PAV) CHRISTIAN ED. COMM. (ZOOM)
Tuesday, May 11		
Wednesday, May 12	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	BELL CHOIR (SANCT.) HOLY ENVY BOOK STUDY (ZOOM)
Thursday May 13	1 - 2:30pm 7:00 p.m.	Evan. Hosp. Support Group (PAV) MISSION/SOCIALACTION COMM. (ZOOM)
Friday, May 14	3:00 p.m.	Pavilion rsvd. By member
Saturday May 15		
Sunday, May 16	10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

May 2, 2021

Building Use - \$50.00; Chancel Flowers - \$42.00; Current Expenses - \$3,730.00;
Devitt house - \$365.00; Giant Gift Cards - \$200.00; Improvements/Maintenance - \$150.00;
Loose Offering - \$30.00; OCWM - \$250.00; OGHS - \$400.00; St. John's Quilters - \$100.00;
UCC Cornerstone Fund - \$115.91; Weis Gift Cards - \$350.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$5,782.91 THANK YOU!

CHANCEL FLOWERS - Have been given by Linda Sartwell, in loving memory of Charles and Aletha Crosley.

DEVITT HOUSE - The communion offering for May has been designated to our local, Lewisburg Devitt House. We are getting close to our goal. Devitt House is a part of Phoebe Ministries, founded in 1903 and affiliated with the United Church of Christ, Phoebe Ministries has a rich history of improving the lives of older adults. Please give generously, as our Seniors need care!

CHANCEL FLOWERS - There are MANY dates available on the Chancel Flower Chart. Please consider stopping by the chart and sign up to sponsor a single vase (\$21.00) or both vases (\$42.00).

ACOLYTE HELP NEEDED - We are searching for a few people aged 10 - 99, to be acolytes for our Sunday worship services. If you are someone who feels comfortable attending in-person worship, and think you'd like to help out, please reach out to Pastor Alice or Todd. (570) 523-0162.

CLEAN-UP KITS - Church World Services is in need of clean-up kits for disaster relief. We are accepting monetary donations for Church World Services to complete the kits needed. The cost of one Clean-up Kit is \$75.00. ANY donations will be greatly appreciated.

OUTDOOR MINISTRIES - Hartman Center Spirit Week, **When:** Saturday, August 8 - Saturday, August 14 **Where:** Camp Mount Luther in Mifflinburg, PA. Brochures are available in the Narthex.

Also available, summer camp brochures for camps Kirchenwald & Nawakwa. Penn Central has partnered with the Lutheran Camping Corporation, with a variety of camping options available from mid-June, through August. Scholarship support is available through our congregation, and through Penn Central Conference. Questions? Please talk with Pastor Alice.