



Shaping



Community

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

August 8, 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

Moment of Meditation

Call to Worship: (from Psalm 38:1, 3-50)

We will bless the Lord at all times;

God's praise shall continually be on our lips.

O magnify the Lord with me,

Let us exalt God's name together.

When we seek God, God will answer us,

And deliver us from all our fears.

Look to God with radiance,

May we never be ashamed of worshipping God.

Hymn #491

"Awake My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve"

Prayer of Brokenness - Lord of Life, we confess that we have sought to save ourselves first. We claim to follow Your ways, to follow Jesus who laid down his life for us, but at the first sign of conflict, we become defensive, we look to shore up our possessions, and we hold on to our pride. Forgive us for not understanding sacrifice. Forgive us for not becoming last of all and servant of all. Call us into accountability for our own actions of self-preservation, instead of living into Your ways of love, mercy, and justice. In the name of Jesus, who gave over his life for us, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness - We have all fallen short, and we've all been selfish at times. God knows this because God knows you and loves you despite your faults and shortcomings. God made us all a bit imperfect, and that's okay. We learn, we grow, we fail, we forgive. Continue to grow with God, to learn to do better, strive to do good, and know that you are not alone on this journey of faith. Forgive one another, and it shall go well with you. Amen.

Affirming the Peace Among Us

The peace of 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 *Ephesians 4:25-5:2*

Message *"Membership"*

Morning Prayer

Let us continue to pray in the words that Jesus taught 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:

**God of love, we give thanks and ask for blessings on all our gifts.
May they be pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

Hymn (see next page) *"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"*

Benediction

Postlude

THIS MORNING

St. John's is pleased you have joined with us today. We hope that you have found this time to be a blessing. **Please sign** the attendance book located in the Narthex (and kindly include your mailing address/telephone number and/or email) and introduce yourself to the persons who are worshipping around you. If you are looking for a new church family and are interested in knowing more about St. John's, please indicate that following worship to the Pastor or one of the ushers.

Available to you, if needed, is a Quiet Room for adults and children, where the service can be seen and heard. Also available are phonic-ear hearing units, large print bulletins, and large-print Bibles. Ask any usher.

Chancel Flowers - are given by Rick and Lauren Rautzhan in memory of Rick's mother Catherine Rautzhan.

PASTOR ALICE AWAY - Pastor Alice will be leading HC Spirit camp this coming week. If anything is needed during this week, please call the Church office. If there's no answer, PLEASE leave a message, and your need will be taken care of.
570-523-0162

"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love
2. We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love

3. **We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand**
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love

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, Ingrid, Christine Sartwell, Joanne & Bill Stahley, Leanne Trout (Dee Ledgerwood's Mother), 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, Marv Border, Scott Bower, Charlie Dreese, Joyce, Maryjane H., Katelynn Mattison, Karin Shawver, Barbara Smith, Peg Swinehart, Logan Williams, The Family of Landyn Zerby.

THIS WEEK

Monday, August 9	8:30 am 10:00 am 7:00 pm	Kinder Music (PAV) ST. JOHN'S QUILTERS (CR) CHRISTIAN ED. COMM. (ZOOM)
Tuesday, August 10	8:30 am 6:30-8:30 pm 7:30 - 9:30 pm	Kinder Music (PAV) Girl Scout Troop 60006 (PAV) Men's Westbranch Chorus (FH)
Wednesday, August 11	8:30 am 7:00 pm	Kinder Music (PAV) BVS Rehearsal (FH)
Thursday August 12	8:30 am 9:00-1030 am 7:00-9:15 pm	Kinder Music (PAV) TOPS 1158 (CR.) H.O.P. Heart of Pa Women's Chorus(CH.RM.)
Friday, August 13	8:30 am	Kinder Music (PAV)
Saturday August 14		
Sunday, August 15	10:00 am	WORSHIP - Pastor Jan Garinger, Guest Pastor

FUTURE

GATE HOUSE PROJECT - We will be collecting basic necessities for Gate House, in Danville, Pa., i.e.: Toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bars of soap, dishwashing detergent, garbage bags, etc.

The Gate House was founded in 1997 to provide safe shelter to homeless families. We provide a secure environment to residents of Pennsylvania in Montour and Columbia Counties. Our support and emergency services are a direct solution to families who are facing personal crises to include but are not limited to; abandonment, divorce, illness, accidents such as fire, flood, rent increases, or evictions. Our focus is to treat families with dignity and respect and to provide the resident and avenue to self-sufficiency.

WIRED WORD - The monthly Wired Word Study, held on the 4th Thursday of the month, will be on a brief pause until September 23rd, 2021. Have a great Summer!

SAVE THE DATE - On **Saturday, August 21st at 5:00 p.m.**, we will hold a Vespers Service in the Pavilion. A cookout is also in the plans for the event! Come join us!

RALLY DAY 2021 - Please join us on **Sunday, September 12th at 10:00 am** for our celebration of Rally Day. This year, our guest musicians will be **THE RE-CREATION SINGERS**. Please join us in worship and then a covered dish dinner to follow.

YARD SALE - The wait is over! You can now bring in your items for the Yard Sale, which is scheduled for **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021, 8am - 3pm**. For all of those with slightly used items for the yard sale, we will be accepting them in the Fellowship Hall starting in Aug. We will be using the hall for the sale of clothing, shoes, books, puzzles etc. The garage/pavilion will be used to sell the bigger items, household goods, furniture, etc. Linda Sartwell will be available from 10-12 every Monday in August to help sort and organize and we will set up the Fellowship Hall Monday Aug 30 and the garage Tues Aug 31. If you can help, please call Linda Sartwell at 570-966-1101.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

Sunday, August 1, 2021

Chancel Flowers - \$50.00; Current Expenses - \$1,755.00;
Giant Gift Cards - \$25.00; Heiter Center - \$342.00;
Improvements/Maintenance - \$15.00; Loose Offering - \$15.00;
Memorial Fund - \$400.00; OCWM - \$50.00; UCC Cornerstone Fund - \$117.20

GRAND TOTAL - \$2,769.20 THANK YOU!

St. John's United Church of Christ

1050 Buffalo Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837 -- (570) 523-0162
Worship 10:00 a.m. Office: Mon.- Fri. 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Website: www.stjohnslewisburg.org Email: stjohnsucc@ptd.net

It is a privilege to serve you today . . .

Rev. Alice Rauch, *Pastor*

Rev. James E. Johnson, *Pastor Emeritus*

Todd R. Hummel, *Dir. of Music/Organist*

Todd R. Hummel, *Bell Choir Director*

Linda Sartwell / Sue Baish, *Sound Technician*

Todd Hummel, *Administrative Assistant*

Brenda & Don Adams, *Greeters*

Acolyte

Barry Catherman, *Video Technician*

CCLI #20796546 One License #738455-A

August 8, 2021

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Shaping Community

What is the Adese Fellowship? According to the website, adesefellowship.org, The Adese Fellowship is a catalytic experience for emerging entrepreneurs who renew the Church's mission to create a just world for all.

The Adese (from the Amharic language to renew, pronounced ah-deh-say) Fellowship is a year-long, ecumenical program that engages participants in self-discovery, theological reflection and business development as they create enterprises that help their communities follow the way of Jesus and live into God's economy.

This groundbreaking fellowship maximizes the business acumen and entrepreneurial capacity of participants to launch scalable and sustainable ventures that counter systemic poverty.

Adese Fellows fashion a faithful approach to economics as they critique the dominant system and create another way. Participants apply to the program to advance a concept or early-stage venture, at the heart of which is the biblical call to bring good news to the poor. Adese Fellows reform and reinvigorate the church through their innovation.

Adese Fellows welcome and leverage difference. The cohort of participants are laity and clergy. They come from rural and urban locations and are different in age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, and ability. What they share in common is a passion to engage at intersections, most especially faith and enterprise.

From peer learning to partnerships, the program is thoroughly collaborative. Adese Fellows confer with leaders in church, academy, and business to explore how the church can create social and economic value and how enterprise can create spiritual value. Along the way, fellows receive business coaching and expert counsel in the legal, financial, and human resource aspects of launching and growing an enterprise. Sponsored by the United Church of Christ Church Building & Loan Fund (CB&LF) and the United Church of Christ National Setting, the ecumenical program welcomes participants from all traditions who are committed to a just world for all.

If you or someone you know is interested in applying to be an Adese Fellow, check out their website at adesefellowship.org.



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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