

St. John's United Church of Christ  
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rev. Dr. Robert S. Stoudt, Interim Minister  
The Service: 10:00 a.m. August 12, 2018

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

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**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.

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

Prelude

\*Passing of Peace

Sharing of Announcements and Joys & Concerns

A Time for Centering

\*Call to Worship

*One: The buzz of the world interrupts our lives and fills our ears.*

**Many: Call us into Your way of life, O God!**

*One: The complaints of others settle in our mind and cloud our vision.*

**Many: Lead us into Your vision of life, O God!**

*One: The cries of the poor, the oppressed and the outcast pierce our hearts.*

**Many: Guide us in Your example of living for others, O God!**

*One: Fill our hearts, fill our eyes, fill our ears with Your love, O God!*

**All: Let us be Your hands and feet in the world, O God! Let us worship You together!**

\*Hymn #172 "Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult"

\*Prayer of Confession (together) - You call us and we ignore Your whisper, listening to the voices of this world. You call us and we choose a different path, following our own devices. You call us to be Your voice in this world, to be Your hands in this world, to be Your feet in this world, to proclaim Your peace, Your comfort, forgiveness, healing, love and grace. Forgive us, open our ears, call us again, and use us. Amen!

*~ written by John Birch*

\*Words of Assurance -

*One: Jesus has come to heal our spirits and our souls. The demons of arrogance, indifference and apathy are being cast out.*

**Many: New life is offered to us in Jesus Christ. Let us rejoice! Let us be glad, for God's love is poured out to us this day! AMEN!**

Scripture: Mark 1:14-20; 2:13-14

Lay Reader: Linda Sartwell

Special Music

Children's Chat

Hymn: #504 "You Walk along Our Shoreline"

Sermon: "Fan, or Follower?"

Time for Reflection

\*Affirmation of Faith (together) - You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God. You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to You. You have revealed and proved Your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God. You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be Your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; You overcame death. You are our God. We worship You. Amen.

\*Pastoral 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.

Offering and Offertory

\*The Offertory Response #785

**We give You but Your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

\*Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self (together): God, accept these gifts, offerings of kindness, generous sharing of what we have and the fruit of our labor, that they might contribute to the building of Your way for all. Amen.

\*Hymn #495 *“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”*

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction - #460 *“God Will Take Care of You”*

Be not dismayed what-e’er betide, God will take care of you;  
Beneath God’s wings of love abide, God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you, through every day, o’er all the way;  
God will take care of you, God will take care of you.

\*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 board (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 Lauren & Rick Rautzhan, in loving memory of Rick’s mother, Catherine Rautzhan.

**In Our Thoughts and Prayers This Morning** (please contact the church office, at 524-7606, with any updates):

**At Home-** Sid Bowersox, Richard Berry(following surgery), Ruth Brouse, Mary Stover, Merdyth Updegraff.

**Shut-In/Homebound-** Ann Beasom, Leona Fertig, Pearl Fisher, Bill & Lola Fuller, Betty Hackenberg (BVLV #245), Gary Hackenberg (Rolling Hills Manor, rm #7), Louise Heistand, Lois Hummel, Evelyn Mabus, Ethel Moser, Shirley Seese, Alda Wagner.

**In our Prayers -** Christine Sartwell, Larissa Young.

**PLEASE PLAN TO REMAIN** - Following worship this morning, in order to share in a time of refreshments and conversation. Our thanks to the Donlins for hosting this Fellowship Hour.

**OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY** - To the family and friends of Fred Brouse, who died last week, at the age of 92. Funeral services for Mr. Brouse occurred this past Monday, the 6th.

**MANY THANKS!** - To all our folks who prepared for and hosted last Sunday's fabulous "Zucchini-Fest Fellowship Hour." The group included Brenda & Don Adams, Liz DeSantis & Erin and Daniel, Sue Miller & Addie Miller, and Sue & Jim Tomlinson. Who knew that zucchini could be served up in so many delicious ways?! (This little "garden project" so far has raised \$208.50 to benefit the local Food Bank.)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO US!** - On last Sunday's unanimous vote in favor of St. John's becoming officially an "Open and Affirming" (ONA) congregation within the United Church of Christ. The formal paperwork has been filed with the denomination!

**THIS WEEK**

Monday, August 13		
Tuesday, August 14	7:30 p.m.	Men’s Westbranch Chorus (FH)
Wednesday, August 15		
Thursday August 16	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	TOPS 1158 (CR.) H.O.P. Heart of Pa Women’s Chorus (SANCT) TOPS (CR) <b>CONSISTORY (PAR)</b>
Friday, August 17	9:00 a.m.	Music Together (FH)
Saturday August 18		
Sunday, August 19	10:00 a.m.	<b>WORSHIP</b>

**ST. JOHN’S “LOCAL CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE”** - Is available now for final review. This Profile--which is the means by which the open pastoral position is “marketed” through the UCC--a year and a half in the making, is currently in the hands of Consistory for any refinements. Members of the congregation have the opportunity to view this 80-page document for themselves and make suggestions as well. If you are interested, call the church office within the next two weeks, after which time it will be forwarded to Penn Central Conference.



*Agnus Day appears with the permission of [www.agnusday.org](http://www.agnusday.org)"*

## FUTURE

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR SIGN-UP SHEET** - has been placed in the Narthex. Please consider sponsoring a month! Still open for sponsorship is the month of December.

**Need a ride to church services or events at St. John's UCC?** Arrangements will be made for we want everyone to be able to attend and participate in events held at the church. **Contact Ron Zug at 523-3987.**

**SEPTEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING** - Is designated to The Eastern Union County Supplemental Food Program distributes food to the needy in eastern Union County the first and third Friday of every month, from 1:30 to 3:30. We are located in the basement of the First Baptist Church at 51 S. 3rd St. in Lewisburg. We need teen and adults volunteers at every distribution to carry groceries to the recipients' cars. If you are able to carry groceries up a flight of steps please just show up to help the first and third Friday of every month from 1:30 to 3:30. For questions, call Cindy at 570-523-6898.

**THE OUTWARD SIGNS**  
Attendance - August 5, 2018 - 72

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### St. John's United Church of Christ

1050 Buffalo Road, Lewisburg, PA 17837 -- (570) 524-7606 or (570) 523-0162  
 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Office: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
 Website: [www.stjohnslewisburg.org](http://www.stjohnslewisburg.org) Email: [stjohnsucc@ptd.net](mailto:stjohnsucc@ptd.net)

***It is a privilege to serve you today . . .***

Rev. Dr. Robert S. Stoudt, *Interim Pastor*  
 Rev. James E. Johnson, *Pastor Emeritus*  
 Todd R. Hummel, *Dir. of Music/Organist*  
 Rita Griffith, *Choral & Bell Choir Director*

Linda Sartwell/Sue Baish, *Sound Technician*  
 Todd Hummel, *Administrative Assistant*  
 Martha & Bruce Rauch, *Greeters*  
 Don Adams, *Children's Church*  
 Addie Miller, *Acolyte*  
 Barry Catherman, *Video Technician*