

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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m.

August 29, 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:

God is active in our world and in our lives,

We gather in awe of our God.

Christ calls us into the way of love and justice,

We gather to follow Jesus our Savior.

The Spirit moves us in compassion and kindness,

We gather as one people of God.

Come, join your hearts in worship,

And ponder the awesomeness of God.

Hymn #516 "O Grant Us, God, a Little Space"

Prayer of Brokenness - Dear God, You call us to be doers of the Word, not hearers only. You call us to love the world with Your passion, and to let that love be expressed in justice, forgiveness, peace. Forgive us when our hearts are constricted with fear and do not let Your transforming grace open us to the world You cherish. Forgive us when we honor You only with our lips and not with our actions. Amen.

Response: #188 "Give Me a Clean Heart"

Assurance of Forgiveness - *In Christ we have been shown the into the Beloved Community of mercy, love and peace, in which God is making all things new. We can affirm our covenant and sacred promise to be in loving relationship with God and one another. Thanks be to God for giving us life. We can ask God to fill us with grace so we can fall in love with God's world and offer-and experience-forgiveness, reconciliation, and hope.*

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: *Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

Special Music

Message ***“Sanitizer”***

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: - Loving God, we present now our gifts; things that are both visible and invisible. May our offerings express in a clear and visible way our love and thanks. But we also bring as an offering the fragile dreams and hopes that we have. These invisible gifts are what sustain our lives. Receive all that we have brought in love, O God.

Hymn #329 ***“Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts”*** (Stanzas 1, 2, 4, & 5)

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 in loving memory of my parents Lois and Richard Hummel, by the Hummel, Kauwell and Latsha families.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers This Morning

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

Ongoing Needs- Oliver Auman, Betty Hackenberg, Janet & Richard Heaton, Ingrid, Christine Sartwell, Karin Shawver, 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 - Marv Border, Scott Bower, Joyce, Maryjane H., Michelle L., Katelynn Mattison, Alice Savidge, Barbara Smith, Peg Swinehart.

THIS WEEK

Monday, August 30	6 pm - 8 pm	Equity Group (SANCT.) Boy Scout Leaders (PAV)
Tuesday, August 31	6:00 pm 7:30 - 9:30 pm	BVS Board Meeting (PAR) Men's Westbranch Chorus (FH)
Wednesday, Sept. 1	7 am - 3 pm 7 am - 8:30 am	YARD SALE Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary (FH)
Thursday Sept. 2	9:00-10:30 am 7:00 pm	TOPS 1158 (CR.) BUILDINGS/GROUNDS (PAR)
Friday, Sept. 3		
Saturday Sept. 4		
Sunday, Sept. 5	10:00 am	WORSHIP - COMMUNION

YARD SALE - The wait is over! The Yard Sale, is happening **THIS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021, 8am - 3pm**. Much help is needed on Monday the 30th, Tuesday the 31st, and of course Wednesday, the day of the sale. If can provide some much-needed help, please contact Linda Sartwell, 570-966-1101.

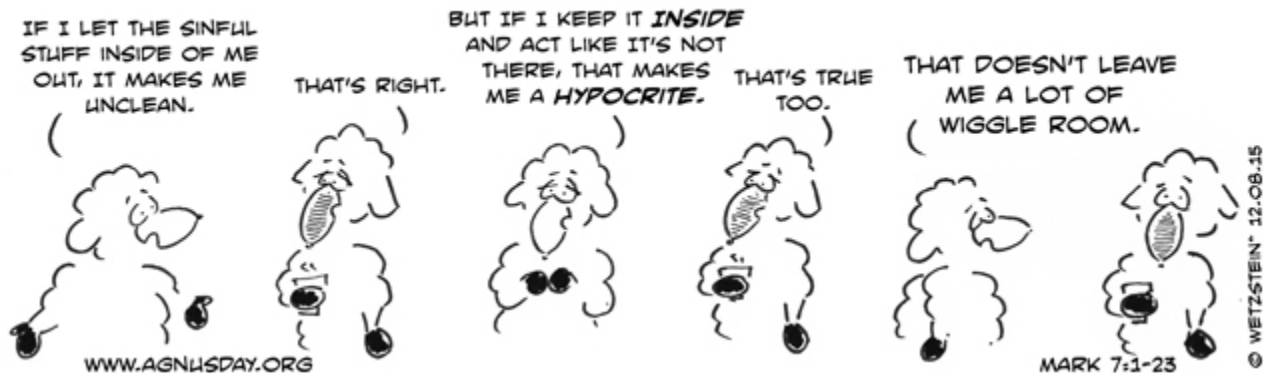
FUTURE

GATE HOUSE PROJECT - We will be collecting necessities for The 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!

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.



"Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org"

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

Sunday, August 22, 2021

Building Use - \$25.00; Current Expenses - \$2,033.00; Giant Gift Cards - \$550.00;
Improvements/Maintenance - \$15.00; Loose Offering - \$11.78; OCWM - \$306.00;
Recycling - \$74.50; Weis Gift Cards - \$200.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$3,215.28 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*

Terri Groover, *Greeter*

Acolyte

Barry Catherman, *Video Technician*

CCLI #20796546 One License #738455-A

Be Love

In the United Church of Christ, we rely on testimonies, not tests of faith. So, unlike other faith communities you may have experienced, most UCC churches do not regularly recite creeds during worship. In keeping with that philosophy, the UCC's Statement of Faith (here reprinted in the form of a doxology) is not a doctrine of beliefs that must be adhered to, but instead is the beginning of a conversation. What about the statement of faith resonates with your understanding of the work of God in the world? What seems true to you? What makes you uncomfortable? What do you have questions about? Being willing to enter into conversation with the Statement of Faith is one more way that "God is still speaking" in our church.

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the form of a doxology

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

Amen.



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

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