

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor - Rev. Kurt Nelson, Guest Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m. July 18, 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 our Good Shepherd.

God leads us to places of restoration.

God leads us in the paths of righteousness,

And guards us in the valley of the shadow.

We fear no evil, because God is with us.

God comforts us and leads us to safety.

Goodness and mercy are with us now and always,

For we worship and follow the Good Shepherd.

*Hymn #438 *"When Peace Like a River"*

Prayer of Brokenness - **O God, we live in a diverse community. There are people of different colors, abilities, sexual orientations, political affiliations, and ages. Yet, often our faith communities don't reflect this diversity. We would love others as you do, but we struggle to do so. At times we've erected walls built upon our biases, fears, and insecurities that keep us apart. Forgive us that we cannot love as unconditionally as you. Help us to take down those walls so we may welcome the stranger and truly be one community together. Amen**

Assurance of Forgiveness - *We know we fall short in our discipleship.*

We've confessed our sins before God. We look to God to repent of our sins and transgressions. By God's overflowing steadfast love and mercy, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. 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: *Mark 6:30-34, 53-56*

Special Music - "?????" *Joanna Nelson*

Message *"Rest A While"*

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 - Thank you, God, for the ministries of the people of your church. Thank you, God, for the bounty of your blessings you have poured out upon us. We have taken a portion of our abundance and given it to you in grateful thanksgiving. Consecrate this offering. May it help to support the ministries of this church that will dismantle the walls that divide us so all people will be one in the new family gathered in Christ Jesus. Amen.

*Hymn #488

"Be Still My Soul"

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 - Many open dates for sponsorship of Altar Flowers. \$42.00/2 vases, or \$21.00 for one vase. Please let the office know if you've signed up to sponsor flowers.

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., The Family of Carol Hahn, Barbara Smith, Peg Swinehart, Merdyth Updegraff, Logan Williams, The Family of Landyn Zerby.

THIS WEEK

Monday, July 19	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Evan. Child Loss Support Group (PAV) FINANCE/PERSONNEL (RR)
Tuesday, July 20	6:30-8:30 pm 7:30 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 60006 (PAV) Men's Westbranch Chorus (FH)
Wednesday, July 21	9:00 am	FH PIANO TUNING (FH)
Thursday July 22	9:00-10:30 pm 4:00-6:30 pm 7:00-9:15 pm	TOPS 1158 (CR.) Central Assoc. Ministerium (PAR) H.O.P. Heart of Pa Women's Chorus (CH.RM.)
Friday, July 23	6:00 pm	Girl Scout Movie Night (PAV)
Saturday July 24	10:00 am-1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Girl Scout Troop 60006 (PAV) Girl Scout Movie Night (PAV) rain date
Sunday, July 25	10:00 am 1:00 pm	WORSHIP Piece Makers Quilters (FH)



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 - **August 2nd**, 2021, at noon. There will be a call to care team gathering in the Church Parlor. Please bring a bag lunch.

SAVE THE DATE - **August 6, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.**, we will celebrate the life of Fred Groover, in the Sanctuary.

SAVE ANOTHER 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!

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

Sunday, July 11, 2021

Current Expenses - \$1,726.00; Building Use - \$500.00; Heifer Project - \$105.00;
07/21 House Fire Fund - \$50.00; Loose Offering - \$5.00; Memorial Fund - \$50.00;
OCWM - \$85.00; Strengthen the Church - \$100.00; Stroke Victim Fund - \$221.00;
Weis Gift Card Sales - \$100.00;

GRAND TOTAL - \$2,942.00 THANK YOU!

THANKS - We'd like to thank Joanna Nelson for providing us with such beautiful music this morning!

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*

Dot & Art Bower, *Greeters*

Acolyte

Barry Catherman, *Video Technician*

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