

St. John's United Church of Christ
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Visit us at www.stjohnsuccallentown.org

Like us on Facebook at St Johns UCC Allentown

***Indicates that people may stand as they are able.**

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

11:00am

Tower Chimes

Music to gather

Theme and Variations on “Now the Green Blade Rises”
Setting by Wayne L. Wold
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Welcome

Call To Worship: Psalm 148

ONE: Celebrate our God, from the plains to the mountains!

ALL: Celebrate our God, from the waters and hills.

ONE: Sing to our God who designed creation.

ALL: Fill the air with song to the One who painted the world with love.

ONE: Let us praise our God, the author of grace.

ALL: Let us worship our God, the composer of joy.

Hymn#230.....“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

Invocation

Spirit of Joy, basking in your presence, we dance in the knowledge that your presence dwells with us. We celebrate your name, your grace, your love in this space with our siblings. We proclaim our excitement that we, together, can glorify your name through sharing your love. May this minute be the start of a new chapter of our love for you and our love for our neighbors. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

ONE: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Let us come before the Lord of mercy, confessing the places where we are still growing and learning.

ALL: We were given the great commandment to love one another the way you, the Christ, the Spirit loves us. And yet, the way we love becomes conditional. What events have distorted our view of Divine Love? How can we return to a simple but radical way of loving? Transform our hearts as we work to understand one another, creating an earth which reflects God's heaven. Amen.

Confession Response 🎵 Hymn #245, verse 2

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
The Christ who reigns eternal in resurrection light;
We listen for the teachings once heard so calm and plain,
For we, too, want to follow and raise the victor strain.

Assurance of Pardon

The Spirit of God heals our hearts, blessing us with grace as the Divine One works to transform our world into a realm of peace and joy. Amen.

* Gloria 🎵

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.***

Scriptures:

Bill Falla

John 13: 31-35
Revelation 21:1-6

Prayer for Grace (sung)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Children's Moment

Pastor Becky Moyer

Sermon: "A Whole New World"

Pastor Becky Moyer

Hymn #250....."Listen to Your Savior Call"

(Note: Ushers will collect “Prayer Cards” during this time. Prayer cards are in the pews. We invite you to fill one out if you have a joy or prayer request to share.)

Morning Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response 🎵 Hymn #241, Verse 3

O Sovereign One, with us abide
In this our joyful Eastertide;
From every weapon death can wield,
your own redeemed forever shield.

Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Benediction

May we dance as we celebrate God’s presence. May we sing as we proclaim Christ’s love. May we create as we embrace the Spirit’s vision. May we love boldly, care radically, and share courageously to glorify the Spirit of God in our midst. Go in peace and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

(adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-5c-may-15-2022/>)

Hymn#239.....“Christ Rose Up from the Dead”

* Commission and Blessing

* **Threefold Amen** 🎵 #812

Amen, amen, amen

Music to go forth “Christ, the Life of All the Living” Johann Sebastian Bach
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Special Announcements/Reminders:

You can give ELECTRONICALLY from your mobile device using the VancoMobile app. You can download this app from the Apple and Google App stores. The church's name is - stjohnsuccallentown - exactly as shown. You can also give on our homepage at www.stjohnsuccallentown.org by clicking on the "Donate" button.



Graduation News

If you have information about a member who is graduating, please call the church office or let Becky Bronfenbrenner know. We'd like to honor our graduates with a write-up and share this joy.

The altar flowers are in honor of St. John's UCC.



**Our hands.
God's work.**

Multi-Church Picnic Celebration!

Emmanuel UCC, Grace UCC, St John's UCC, and Zion's Liberty Bell UCC are joining together to celebrate and worship at Waldheim Park on June 12th!

The main course and drinks will be provided, we ask that everyone please bring a side dish or snack.

Contact the church office to sign up!

When: June 12th @ 11am

Where: Waldheim Park (2400 S. Hall Street Allentown, PA 18103)

What to bring: A covered dish, side, or snack, contact pastor to sign up

We are asking that you contact the church office to sign up so we have an accurate head count!



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's
journey, you're welcome here.
God is still speaking, ...**

Personal **hearing devices** are available from an usher in rear of church.

Use of **electronic devices** during worship may be distracting to your neighbor. Please refrain unless a personal emergency.

In emergencies, please use exits found to left and right of the altar, to the right of the front pew, and at the rear of the sanctuary.

Follow **EXIT** signs.

Please make sure your name has been added to the church attendance each Sunday. Then if contact tracing is necessary, we will be able to notify you. Thank you.

Please note: If you have a **prayer request**, please fill out a card found in the pew and the **ushers will pick it up during the second hymn.**

Serving St. John's...

Pastor Becky Sausser.....Pastor
Lois Mease..... Music Director and Organist
April Riddick.....Custodian
Jim Saylor.....Sunday Sexton
Claudia Ewald.....Administrative Assistant

And too many volunteers to list!