

St. John's United Church of Christ
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Like us on Facebook at St Johns UCC Allentown

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

May 28, 2023

11:00am

Pentecost

Tower Chimes

Music to gather

“We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit”

Dietrich Buxtehude

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Welcome

Call To Worship: Pentecost by
Rev. Nancy Townley

One: We are the Easter people!

**Many: We have witnessed the
Resurrection of our Lord.**

One: We are now called to be people of the
Pentecost.

**Many: We are called to boldly share the
good news of God's love.**

One: Open your hearts, O people, to God's
great power and love.

**Many: We open our hearts to hear God's
word for us and to joyfully proclaim
Jesus Christ as our Savior!**

Hymn#267.....

“Come, O Spirit, Dwell among Us”

Call to Confession and

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 our Triune God, Creator, Son, and Spirit One, that we might profess the places where we are still learning and growing.

Many: Lord Jesus, on this holy day of Pentecost we remember when you appeared to the disciples in the locked room, and you breathed on them, filling them with your spirit, and offering them peace. Open our hearts and our minds that we might receive your Holy Spirit outpoured upon us once again! Renew our baptism in the Spirit, and forgive us for the places that we miss the mark, and the places where we act unjustly. Grant us new life and new insight,

renew us, and fill us with your Holy Spirit to guide us. Amen!

Confession Response 🎵 Hymn #57,
Verse 1

O Holy Spirit, Root of life,
Creator, cleanser of all things,
Anoint our wounds, awaken us
With lustrous movement of your wings.

Assurance of Pardon:

One: Today we remember when the Spirit of the Lord came down and filled the place where the disciples were! When we profess our growing edges and proclaim our need for Jesus, we are filled with that same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead!

Many: “Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

-John 20:21-22

Assurance Response Hymn #59, Verse 3

Holy Spirit, ever working
through the church's ministry –
Quickening, strengthening, and absolving,
setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding
age to age and soul to soul,
In community unending,
you we worship and extol.

Scriptures:

Felicia Knerr

Acts 2:1-21

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Prayer for Grace 

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 Sausser

Sermon: "Wind & Breath"
Pastor Becky Sausser

Hymn #264...

"Holy, Spirit, Come, Confirm Us"

(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#261, Verse 1

Let every Christian pray,
this day and every day,
Come, Holy Spirit, come!
Was not the church we love
commissioned from above?
Come Holy Spirit, come!

Pick Up Choir Anthem

“Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”
arranged by Lois Mease, 2023

Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offertory

“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”
David H. Hegarty
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Doxology

***Praise God from whom all blessings
flow;***

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn#272..“On Pentecost They Gathered”

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** **Threefold Amen**  #812**

Amen, amen, amen.

Music to go forth

“God of Our Fathers”

Robert J. Hughes

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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: www.stjohnsuccallentown.org by clicking on the "Donate" button.



Parking Passes! If you come to St John's during the week, we ask that you park in the lower lot, which is reserved for St John's church members. If you regularly

come and use the upper parking lot, please contact Pastor Becky with your license plate number, make, model, and color of your vehicle and she will give you an updated parking pass. This is not required for Sunday mornings. **On Sundays you can also use the lot a half block west of the church at the southeast corner of Church and Walnut St.**

*The altar flower is in honor of
Ralph and Doris Todd's
50th wedding anniversary.*

*A special thanks to Lynn Cloak, Trudi Egan,
and Claudia Ewald for their help assembling
the pinwheels for our service today!*



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

Summer Dates

- **June 25-** Annual Church Picnic at Bucky Boyle Park
 - Begins after the 10am church service, arrive for 11am, bring swim suits!
- **July 15-** Castle Quest Vacation Bible School
 - VBS begins with a hotdog cook-out in the parking lot; the event is 5-7:30pm at the church.
- **August 12-** St. John's Movie Night
 - Join us for a family friendly movie, popcorn and fun! Then join us again on Sunday for a sermon about the movie.
- **August 20-** Lehigh Valley PRIDE
 - This year St. John's UCC Allentown will join other congregations at the Penn Northeast Conference table!



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.....Choir Director/Organist
April Riddick.....Custodian
Jim Saylor.....Sunday Sexton
Claudia Ewald.....Administrative Assistant

And too many volunteers to list!