

St. John's United Church of Christ
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St Johns UCC Allentown

**Personal hearing devices available are
available from an usher.**

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

January 14, 2024

11:00am

Tower Chimes

Janet Cook

Music to Gather:

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

David H. Hegarty

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Welcome

Call to Worship based on Psalm 33

One: Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous!

All: Praise the LORD with the lyre; make melody to God with the harp of ten strings.

One: Sing to God a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

All: For the word of the LORD is upright, and all God's work is done in faithfulness.

One: God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

All: By the word of the LORD the heavens were made and all their host by the breath of God's mouth.

All: Rejoice in the Lord!

Hymn #423 “Great Is Your Faithfulness”

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 Creator to profess the places where we are still learning and growing!

All: God who crafted the heavens, we praise you, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made! We can only imagine what it was like to watch you sing creation into existence and craft the stars and planets. Forgive us when we are prideful and act as though you have no claim on us. Bless us as we ponder creation and help us to grow closer to you on this journey of self-discovery. Amen.

Great Is Your Faithfulness

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.

1. Great is your faith-ful-ness, O God, Cre-a-tor,*
with you no shad-ow of turn-ing we see.
You do not change, your com-pas-sions they fail not;
all of your good-ness for-ev-er will be.

Refrain:

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness!
Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see;
All I have need-ed your hand has pro-vid-ed,
Great is your faith-ful-ness, God, un-to me!

2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest,
sun, moon, and stars in their cours-es a-bove,
Join with all na-ture in man-i-fold wit-ness
to your great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.

Refrain:

3. Par-don for sin and a peace so en-dur-ing,
your own dear pres-ence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for to-day and bright hope for to-mor-row,
bless-ings all mine with ten thou-sand be-side.

Refrain:

* originally "My Father."

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Lam. 3:22-23

Confession Response 🎵

Hymn #292, Verse 1

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew
That I may love the way you love
And do what you would do.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: When we come before God and own our growing edges, we are met with grace upon grace!

All: “I praise God because I am *fearfully and wonderfully made*; God’s works are wonderful, I know that full well.”

-Psalm 139:14

Response to Words of Assurance 🎵

Hymn #558, Verse 4

**O how wondrous, O how glorious
is your name in every land.**

**God, whose purpose shines before us
toward the goal that you have planned**

**Yours the will our hearts are seeking,
conscious of our human need.
Spirit in our spirit speaking,
make us yours, O God, indeed.**

Scriptures

Barney Cook

Job 38:1-21

Job 40:15-24

Congregational Response 

***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

Sermon: “*Creation Song*”

Rev. Becky Sausser

Hymn #425 “For the Fruit of All Creation”

For the Fruit of All Creation

Fred Pratt Green, 1970

1. For the fruit of all cre-a-tion, thanks be to God.
For God's gifts to ev-ery na-tion, thanks be to God.
For the plow-ing, sow-ing, reap-ing,
si-lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
Fu-ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, thanks be to God.
2. In the just re-ward of la-bor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done.
In our world-wide task of car-ing
for the hun-gry and de-spair-ing,
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.
3. For the har-vests of the Spir-it, thanks be to God.
For the good we all in-her-it, thanks be to God.
For the won-ders that as-tound us,
for the truths that still con-found us,
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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(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 & 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 #28, Verse 2

**For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise**

This our hymn of grateful praise.

Chancel Choir Anthem:

“Song for Worship” Stan Pethel

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Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

Offertory

“At the Name of Jesus” Richard Wienhorst

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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.

Hymn #31 “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

* Commission and Blessing

***Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to go forth:

“God Who Madest Earth and Heaven”

Robert Lau

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The Altar flowers are in honor of St John's UCC

Special Announcements/Reminders:

You can give ELECTRONICALLY from
your mobile device using the VancoMobile
app. You can download this app from the

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; alt.

Refrain:

All things bright and beau-ti-ful,
all crea-tures great and small,
All things wise and won-der-ful,
our dear God made them all.

1. Each lit-tle flower that o-pens,
each lit-tle bird that sings,
God made their glow-ing col-ors,
and made their ti-ny wings.

Refrain:

2. The pur-ple-head-ed moun-tain,
the riv-er run-ning by,
The sun-set, and the morn-ing
that bright-ens up the sky.

Refrain:

3. The cold wind in the win-ter,
the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
The ripe fruits in the gar-den,
God made them ev-ery one.

Refrain:

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.

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

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

Serving St. John's...

Rev. Becky Sausser.....Pastor
Andrea Williams...Administrative Assistant
Lois Mease... Music Director and Organist
April Riddick.....Custodian
Jim Saylor.....Sunday Sexton
And too many volunteers to list!