

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

St Johns UCC Allentown

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

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

August 25, 2024

10:00am

Tower Chimes

Janet Cook

Music to Gather:

“Voluntary”

William Russell

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* **Welcome**

Call to Worship is a Native American

Prayer translated by *Lakota Sioux Chief*

Yellow Lark in 1887

One: Oh, Great Spirit, Whose voice I hear
in the winds and whose breath gives life to
all the world.

**All: Hear me! I need your strength and
wisdom. Let me walk in beauty, and
make my eyes
ever hold the red and purple sunset.**

One: Make my hands respect the things
you have made and my ears sharp to hear
your voice.

**All: Make me wise so that I may
understand the things you have taught
my people.**

One: Let me learn the lessons you have
hidden in every leaf and rock.

**All: Help me remain calm and strong in
the face of all that comes towards me.**

One: Help me find compassion without empathy overwhelming me.

All: I seek strength, not to be greater than my brother, but to fight my greatest enemy: myself.

One: Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes.

All: So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame.

Hymn #305 “You Servants of God”

Confession of Faith

No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here! Let us come before the God of every blessing to profess our unending need for God’s presence in our lives!

All: Holy Spirit, come fill this place! Holy Spirit, come fill my life! Every day I experience new and exciting things; I

You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim **305**

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.

1. You ser-vants of God, your Sov-ereign pro-claim,
and pub-lish a-broad that won-der-ful name:
The name, all vic-to-rious, of Je-sus ex-tol,
who, sov-ereign and glo-rious, now rules o-ver all.

2. God rules from on high, al-might-y to save,
and still God is nigh, whose pres-ence we have.
The great con-gre-ga-tion God's tri-umphs shall praise,
as-crib-ing sal-va-tion to Je-sus al-ways.

3. Sal-va-tion to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry a-loud for what God has done.
The prais-es of Je-sus the an-gels pro-claim,
still veil-ing their fac-es, they wor-ship the Lamb.

4. Then let us a-dore and ren-der God's right,
all glo-ry and power, all wis-dom and might,
All hon-or and bless-ing with an-gels a-bove,
and thanks nev-er ceas-ing and in-fin-ite love.

Rev. 4:9–11; 5:11–14

meet new people in familiar places, and I experience a day I am never promised to experience again. On this journey, help me to show respect to everyone I meet. Help me to show love to everyone who crosses my path, as I hope that they show respect and love to me in return. Help me to share your love and light with the world. Amen.

Confession Response♪ Hymn #407, Verse 2

**“Fear not, I am with you,
oh, be not dismayed,
For I am your God,
I will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you,
and cause you to stand
Upheld by my gracious,
omnipotent hand.”**

Assurance of Grace

One: When we come before God with humble hearts and spirits, we receive grace and love abounding!

All: "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." -Romans 8:38-39

Response to Words of Assurance

♪ Hymn #489, Verse 4

**I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I am redeemed.**

Scriptures

Julius Pyle

John 14:1-7 (Page 873)

Revelation 7:9-17 (Page 1005)

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: *“What about other religions?”*
Rev. Becky Sausser

Hymn #331 “Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

(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.

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

331

George Herbert, 1633; alt.

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
Such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as con-quers death.

2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
Such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes a guest.

3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move;
Such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

John 8:12; 14:1-7; 15:11

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 # 521, Verse 2
**When-e'er the world is troubling me,
and stress is all around,
I seek the presence of my God, and
healing light is found.**

Announcements
Offering

Jeff Rissell

Offertory

“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”

Roger C. Wilson

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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 #80** "Savior, Again to Your Dear
Name"

* Commission and Blessing

***Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to go forth:

"Postlude"

Felix Mendelssohn

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Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

80

John Ellerton, 1866; alt.

1. Sav-ior, a-gain to your dear name we raise
with one ac-cord our part-ing hymn of praise;
We join to bless you ere our wor-ship cease,
then, in the si-lence, wait your word of peace.
2. Grant us your peace up-on our home-ward way;
with you be-gan, with you shall end the day;
Guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called up-on your name.
3. Grant us your peace, as day turns in-to night;
stay with us till the com-ing of the light;
Keep safe all those who call up-on your name,
for dark and light to you are both the same.
4. Grant us your peace through-out our earth-ly life,
our balm in sor-row, and our stay in strife;
Then, when your voice shall bid our con-flict cease,
call us, O God, to your e-ter-nal peace.

Ps. 141:3–4a; 139:11–12; John 14:27

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***The Altar flowers are in honor of the St
John's UCC staff!***

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.

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!

Office Hours

Sunday: 9am-2pm
Monday-Thursday: 9am-3pm
Friday: 9am-2pm
Closed on Saturdays