

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

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

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

September 14, 2025

11:00am

Tower Chimes

Janet Cook

Music to Gather:

“Now the Silence” Charles W. Ore

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*** Welcome**

Call to Worship by Becky Bronfenbrenner

One: God breathes the breath of life into us.

Many: Let God's breath be our breath.

One: The Holy Spirit surrounds us and fills us with the love of God.

Many: Let God's love be our love.

One: Our faith is in the Holy Word of God.

Many: Our hope is in God's blessings.

One: Praise to God for the blessings of God's Holy Word!

All: Praise to God for the Power of the Holy Spirit!

Hymn #441..... "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! Today we gather in the presence of our Mighty God, resting in the promises that God is with us always.

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

Edward Hopper, 1871; alt.

1. Je-sus, Sav-ior, pi-lot me
o-ver life's tem-pes-tuous sea;
Un-known waves be-fore me roll,
hid-ing rock and treach-erous shoal;
Chart and com-pass ev-er be;
Je-sus, Sav-ior, pi-lot me.
2. As a moth-er stills her child,
you can hush the o-cean wild;
Bois-terous waves o-bey your will
when you say to them, "Be still."
Won-drous Sov-ereign of the sea,
Je-sus, Sav-ior, pi-lot me.
3. When at last I near the shore,
and the fear-ful break-ers roar,
Keep-ing me from peace-ful rest,
then, while lean-ing on your breast,
May I hear your words so true,
"Fear not, I will pi-lot you."

Mark 4:35-41

All: God of all seasons, we thank you for the mysteries of the earth in which we live. As you have balanced day and night, the storm and the streaming sunlight, we have faith that you will guide us through the changes in our lives. We believe in the teachings of your son, Jesus. We trust in the steadfast promise of eternal love from you. We ask for the blessing of hope for all that is possible and good in our future. Encourage us to find and *be* the light in times of doubt. Help us to be examples of your love and mercy. You are the wind at our backs. Amen.

Confession Response 🎵 Hymn #290,
Verse 1

**Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Sean it from earth, through all its pulses
move;**


Stoop to my weakness, mighty as you are,

And make me love you as I ought to love.

Assurance of Grace

One: Buffeted by winds, we find shelter in the love of God.

All: We raise our hands to you in praise, with palms of supplication, open to receiving. Join our spirits in offering our hands to one another in Christian community, sharing the gifts you have given us. May our hearts and our arms serve as the comforting arms of God.

Response to Words of Assurance:  Hymn #55, v 5

**Praise God who rules all worlds,
The risen Christ adore,**

**Praise God the Spirit, Holy Fire,
One God for evermore!**

**Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and
sing.**

Scriptures

Dana Delorey

Reading 1: Jeremiah 4:11&12, 22-28
(pages 606-607)

Reading 2: 1st Timothy 1:12-17
(page 963)

Congregational Response 🎵 (aka 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.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

292

Edwin Hatch, 1886; alt.

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a-new
That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, un-til my heart is pure,
Un-til with you I will one will, to do and to en-dure.
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one de-sire:
That ev-ery earth-ly part of me may glow with ho-ly fire.
4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev-er die,
But live with you the per-fect life of your e-ter-ni-ty.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Children's Moment

Sermon: "Breath of Life"

Becky Bronfenbrenner

Hymn #292 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

(Note: Ushers will collect "Prayer Cards" during this time. Prayer cards are in the pews.)

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 🎵 #520 Verse 2

**Come, pray in me the prayer I need this
day;**

**Help me to see your purpose and your will,
Where I have failed, what I have done a
miss;**

Held in forgiving love, let me be still.

Chancel Choir “Jesus, Name Above All
Names” Naida Hearn

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Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

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.

* **Hymn #293.....“ Sweet, Sweet Spirit”**

* Commission and Blessing

* **Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

**Music to Go Forth “Little Prelude in G
Minor”**

J. S. Bach

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Doris Akers, 1962; alt.

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spir-it in this place,
and I know that it's the Spir-it of the Lord;
there are sweet ex-pres-sions on each face,
and I know they feel the pres-ence of the Lord.

Refrain:

Sweet Ho-ly Spir-it, sweet heav-en-ly Dove,
stay right here with us, fill-ing us with your love;
And for these bless-ings we lift our hearts in praise.
With-out a doubt we'll know that we have been re-vived
when we shall leave this place.

2. There are bless-ings you can-not re-ceive
till you know that Spir-it's full-ness and be-lieve;
you're the one to prof-it when you say,
"I am going to stay with Je-sus all the way."

Refrain:

2 Cor. 3:17-5:5

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***The Altar flowers are in loving memory
of Tom Heinze by Esther Heinze.***

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

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

Closed on Fridays and Saturdays

