

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**

October 19, 2025

11:00am

Tower Chimes

Janet Cook

Music to Gather: : "When Love Is Found"

Emma Lou Diemer

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***Welcome**

Call to Worship from Psalm 121

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

One: God will not let your foot be moved; God who keeps you will not slumber.

All: God watching over Israel doesn't slumber or sleep on the job.

One: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

All: the sun will not strike you by day, nor will the moon at night.

One: The Lord Will protect you from all evil and will protect your life.

All: Praise be to God, for God is with us from this time and forevermore

Hymn #40..... “You Are the Way”

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! Today

You Are the Way

George W. Doane, 1824; alt.

1. You are the way; through you a-lone
can we the true God find;
In you, O Christ, is now re-vealed
God's heart and will and mind.
2. You are the truth; your word a-lone
true wis-dom can im-part;
You on-ly can in-form the mind
and pur-i-fy the heart.
3. You are the life; the o-pen tomb
pro-claims God's love a-new;
And God will ne'er for-sake the one
who trusts, O Christ, in you.
4. You are the way, the truth, the life;
grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win,
whose joys e-ter-nal flow.

John 14:6

we come into the holy presence of the Lord to offer our gratitude and receive grace.

All: Holy Jesus, we praise you above all the Earth! You are greater than any judge or king. You set before us an example of how to love one another. We hear the words of Micah, and we know that what is required of us is to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God. Help us remember that as we journey through this imperfect world, we are called to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly in your name. Amen

Profession Response 🎵 Hymn #510, verse 2

**Grant us faithfulness in praying,
Strength to keep our souls from straying,
Sense to cease from disobeying,
God of mercy, hear us.**

Assurance of Grace

One: Beloved community, when we look to the Lord Jesus Christ, we find our friend that sticks closer than a brother, our all-knowing teacher, and the Savior of the world!

All: “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.” -John 3:17

Response to Words of Assurance: 🎵 Hymn #549, V 1

Bless God, O my soul!

All within me bless God’s name!

Bless God, who was, and is,

And shall ever be the same!

Scriptures

Judie Guhl

Reading 1: Luke 18:1-8 (pages 848)

Reading 2: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 (page 968)

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.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Children's Moment

Sermon: "The Squeaky Wheels of Justice"

Rev. Becky Sausser

Hymn #507... "Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire"

(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

Jesus—The Very Thought to Me

Latin, possibly 12th century

Transl. Edward B. Caswall, 1849; alt.

1. Je-sus—the ver-y thought to me
with sweet-ness fills my breast;
But sweet-er far your face to see,
and in your pres-ence rest.
2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame,
nor can the mem-ory find
A sweet-er sound than your blessed name,
Sav-ior of hu-man-kind.
3. O hope of ev-ery con-trite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
How kind you are to those a-part,
how good to those who seek!
4. But what to those who find? Ah this,
no tongue nor pen can show
Your love, O Je-sus, what it is
none but your loved ones know.
5. Je-sus, our joy, our great-est bliss,
and you our prize will be;
Our glo-ry here and now is this,
and through e-ter-ni-ty.

Phil. 2:1–11; 1 Pet. 1:1–9

**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 #493 Verse 2

**O let me hear you speaking in accents
clear and still,**

**Above the storms of passion, the murmurs
of self-will**

**O speak to reassure me, to hasten or
control!**

**O speak, and make me listen, O guardian of
my soul!**

Chancel Choir “Everlasting Light”

David Shire

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Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

**Offertory “O Lord, Now Let Your
Servant” Sulo Salonen**

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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 #506....“ What a Friend we have in
Jesus”**

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to Go Forth “O Lord, We Praise You”

Benjamin Culli

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Joseph Scriven, 1855; alt.

1. What a friend we have in Je-sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a priv-i-lege to car-ry ev-ery-thing to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we of-ten for-feit, oh, what need-less pain we bear,
All be-cause we do not car-ry ev-ery-thing to God in prayer.
2. Have we tri-als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an-y-where?
We should nev-er be dis-cour-aged; take it to our God in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faith-ful, who will all our sor-rows share?
Je-sus knows our ev-ery weak-ness; take it to our God in prayer!
3. Are we weak and heav-y lad-en, bur-dened with a load of care?
Pre-cious Sav-ior, still our ref-uge, take it to our God in prayer!
Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to our God in prayer!
Je-sus' arms will take and shield you; you will find a sol-ace there.

Phil. 4:6-7

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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.

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

