

**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**

March 15, 2026

11:00am

Tower Chimes

Janet Cook

Music to Gather: "Be Thou My Vision"

Edward Broughton

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Welcome

Call to Worship based on Psalm 19

One: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

All: Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

One: In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

All: It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

One: The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul.

All: The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy... The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

One: They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold.

Hymn #469.....“ O Grant Us Light”

Lawrence Tuttiett, 1864; alt.

1. O grant us light, that we may know
wis-dom that you a-lone can give,
That truth may guide us as we go,
and vir-tue bless the lives we live.

2. O grant us light that we may find
where er-ror lurks in hu-man lore,
And turn to you our seek-ing minds,
and love your ho-ly Word the more.

3. O grant us light, that we may learn
how dead is life from you a-part,
How sure is joy for all who turn
to you an un-di-vid-ed heart.

4. O grant us light, when soon or late,
all earth-ly scenes shall pass a-way,
In you to find the o-pen gate,
to death-less home and end-less day.

Ps. 43:3

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! This week we celebrate that the light of Christ surrounds us! Let us profess that we need Christ always!

All: Triune God, Creator, Son, and Spirit One, we praise you! We have come to this place of worship to profess that you are holy. Our journey walking in this world has left us weary and anxious, but when we come to this holy place we can have a few moments to bask in the peace and serenity of your light. Bless us with rest and rejuvenate us so that we might go forth from this place as a renewed people. Amen.

Confession Response 🎵 Hymn #202, Verse 3

O God of all the living, both banished and restored,

Compassionate, forgiving, our peace and hope assured.

Grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.

Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.

Assurance of Grace

One: Receive this assurance today. Even when it feels like we are walking in darkness, we have seen a great light! The light of the world, Jesus Christ!

All: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” -Isaiah 9:6

Response to Words of Assurance 🎵 Hymn

#208 V 4

Be of good cheer, for God in Christ

Forgives the flock, by sin enticed,

And justified by Jesus’ blood,

Your baptism grants the highest good.

Scriptures

Judy Garrigan

Reading: John 9:1-41

(Page 867-868)

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: "Golden Glow" Rev. Becky Sausser

Hymn#451....." Be Now My Vision"

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

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be

Ancient Irish text, c. 8th century; transl. Mary E. Byrne, 1905
Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; adapt.

1. Be now my vi-sion, O God of my heart;
noth-ing sur-pass-es the love you im-part—
You my best thought, by day or by night,
wak-ing or sleep-ing, your pres-ence my light.

2. Be now my wis-dom, and be my true word;
ev-er with-in me, my soul is as-sured;
Moth-er and Fa-ther, you are both to me,
now and for-ev-er your child I will be.

3. Rich-es I need not, nor life's emp-ty praise,
you, my in-her-i-tance, now and al-ways;
You and you on-ly are first in my heart,
great God, my trea-sure, may we nev-er part.

4. Sov-ereign of heav-en, my vic-to-ry won,
may I reach heav-en's joys, O bright heav-en's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, what-ev-er be-fall,
still be my vi-sion, O Rul-er of all.

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 #204, verse 2

**Take up your cross, let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength will bear your spirit up
and brace your heart, support your arm.**

Chancel Choir "Love Divine" R. H.
Prichard

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Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

Offertory "Ah Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou
Offended" Helmut Walcha

Copyright 1954 C. F. Peters

Danny Collier, organ

* 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 #547.... "Amazing Grace, How
Sweet the Sound"

* Commission and Blessing

* **Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to Go Forth

"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

547

St. 1–4, John Newton, 1779; alt.

St. 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790

1. A-maz-ing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re-
lieved;
How pre-cious did that grace ap-pear the hour I first be-lieved!
3. Through man-y dan-gers, toils, and snares, I have al-read-y come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me
home.
4. My God has prom-ised good to me, whose word my hope se-cures;
God will my shield and por-tion be as long as life en-dures.
5. When we've been there ten thou-sand years, bright shin-ing as the
sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first be-gun.

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

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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 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

Jim Saylor.....Sunday Sexton

And too many volunteers to list!