

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 8, 2026

11:00am

Tower Chimes

Janet Cook

**Music to Gather: Theme and Variations
on "Canterbury" June Nixon**

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Welcome

Call to Worship based by Irene Borne

One: Come to the water, all you who thirst,

All: come drink deeply from the river of life.

One: Come to the water, all you who are weary,

All: come rest in the quiet pools of God's love.

One: Come to the water, all you who long for justice,

All: come be renewed in God's ever-flowing stream.

One: For God is here among us, washing away the dust and grime of our lives, and pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst.

All: Let us worship God together.

Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt.

1. Just as I am, with-out one plea
but that your blood was shed for me,
And that you called in-vit-ing me,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

2. Just as I am, though tossed a-bout
with man-y a con-flict, many a doubt,
Fight-ings and fears with-in, with-out,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

3. Just as I am, you will re-ceive,
will wel-come, par-don, cleanse, re-lieve;
Be-cause your prom-ise I be-lieve,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

4. Just as I am, your love un-known
has bro-ken ev-ery bar-rier down;
Now to be yours, and yours a-lone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

John 6:37; Eph. 2:14

Hymn #207.....“Just as I am”

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! This week we profess our need for the living water that refreshes our minds and our spirits.

All: Holy Jesus, we gather in this place for a taste of the living water from the spring of eternal life. We come today parched and in seek of justice, mercy, and love. We come today longing for your presence to be interwoven throughout our lives like a tapestry. We come today with hope! Hope is a powerful and wonderful thing. Our hope rests in you, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Confession Response 🎵 Hymn #202, V 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: When we come before Jesus we are
refreshed! We are renewed! And we are
prepared for the work that lays ahead!

**All: “Praise be to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great
mercy he has given us new birth into a
living hope through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead”**

-1Peter 1:3

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.**

Mission Moment

Bill Falla

Scriptures

Janet Cook

Reading: John 4:5-30, 39-42 (page 860-861)

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.

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

489

Horatius Bonar, 1846; alt.

1. I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Come un-to me and rest;
Lay down, O wea-ry one, lay down your head up-on my breast."
2. I came to Je-sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn, and sad,
And there I found a rest-ing place, where Je-sus made me glad!
3. I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Be-hold, I free-ly give
The liv-ing wa-ter; thirst-y one, draw near, and drink, and live."
4. I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv-ing stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I am re-deemed.
5. I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "I am this lost world's Light,
Look un-to me; your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
6. I looked to Je-sus, and I found my guid-ing Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I'll go till trav-eling days are done.

Matt. 11:28-30; John 4:7-15; 8:12

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Children's Moment

Sermon: "Blue Rivers of Living Water"

Rev. Becky Sausser

**Hymn#489....." I Heard the Voice of
Jesus Say"**

*(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
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 "My Savior" Don Besig

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Announcements Jeff Rissell

Offering

Offertory "Christ the Life of All the Living"

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow

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House

* 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 #63... "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"**

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to Go Forth

**"Abide With Me" Rick Parks and Harold
DeCou**

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Samuel Longfellow, 1864; alt.

1. Ho-ly Spir-it, truth di-vine,
dawn up-on this soul of mine.
Voice of God and in-ward light,
wake my spir-it from its night.

2. Ho-ly Spir-it, love di-vine,
glow with-in this heart of mine.
Kin-dle ev-ery high de-sire,
pu-ri-fy me with your fire.

3. Ho-ly Spir-it, power di-vine,
fill and nerve this will of mine.
Bold-ly may I al-ways live,
brave-ly serve, and glad-ly give.

4. Ho-ly Spir-it, law di-vine,
reign with-in this soul of mine.
Be my law, and I shall be
firm-ly bound, for-ev-er free.

***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!

Office Hours

Sunday: 9am-2pm

Monday-Thursday: 9am-3pm

Closed on Fridays and Saturdays