

St. John's United Church of Christ
36 S. Sixth Street, Allentown, PA 18101
Phone 610-433-0146

Email: stjohnsucc2@verizon.net

Website: www.stjohnsuccallentown.org

Pastor Rebecca Sausser

Phone: 570 – 581 - 0594

Email: revsausser@gmail.com

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**

April 12, 2026

11:00am

Tower Chimes

Janet Cook

**Music to Gather: "God, Who Stretched the
Spangled Heavens" arr. J. Wayne Kerr**

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Welcome

Call to Worship from the United Church of Canada

One: We gather together in the name of the One who bids us come.

All: We gather together to hear the words of the One who is Love.

One: We gather together to sing praises of the One who teaches peace.

All: Come, let us worship! Amen!

Hymn #292.... “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! Today we revel in the peace of Christ that goes before us and envelops us and comes to its resting place inside us and our world.

All: Precious Jesus, today as we gather in this place of worship, we are overwhelmed with thoughts of our world and our wider community. We hate to admit it, but sometimes we are so broken hearted we

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.

wonder if our prayers make a difference. We shut ourselves away and lock the door, but then, suddenly... you are there! You grant us the peace that goes beyond understanding. You do not chide us when we have questions, instead of wait patiently and comfort us. Be with us now and forever more, amen!

Response to prayer of confession 🎵

Hymn #250, Verse 4

**O my Savior, hear my need:
though my love is faint indeed,
Still I love you and adore –
Oh, for grace to love you more!**

Words of Reassurance

One: In Jesus we find our hope, our love, our joy, and our peace! We find shalom, not just the act of being at peace, but being made whole through the peace of Jesus Christ!

All: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world

**gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid.” -John 14:27**

Response to Words of Assurance 🎵 Hymn
#245 V3

**Now let the heavens be joyful,
Let earth its song begin,
The whole world keep high triumph,
And all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ again has risen,
our joy that has no end.**

Installation of Student Pastor

Pastor: As you enter into this covenant with St. John's United Church of Christ do you promise to move in ways of discernment, prayer, and love?

Amanda: I do, with the help of God.

Pastor: as a representative of this church to our wider community, do you promise to commit yourself to our mission, to share God's ministry in the heart of this city?

Amanda: I do, with the help of God

Pastor: And to you, the congregation of St. John's United Church of Christ, Will you promise to support Amanda as she works to serve our church, our neighborhood, and our world?

All: We will pray for her and support her as she seeks to do the work of the Lord!

One: May she help us build bridges in our wider community as she blesses the people of our congregation with her many talents.

All: Triune God, Creator, Son, and Spirit One, bless Mandy Muschett and be with her on this journey. Amen.

Mission Moment Rev. Dr. Carrie Call

Scriptures Felicia Knerr

Reading 1: John 20:19-31 (page 879)

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: "Peace be with you" Rev. Becky
Sausser

Hymn..... "How Great Thou Art"

Oh Lord, my God

When I, in awesome wonder

Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made

I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder

Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee

How great Thou art, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee

How great Thou art, how great Thou art

And when I think that God, His Son not
sparing

Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in

That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing

He bled and died to take away my sin

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
When Christ shall come, with shout of
acclamation

And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou
art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

*(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.

Response to prayer 🎵 Hymn #241, Verse 3

**O Sovereign One, with us abide
In this our joyful Eastertide;
From every weapon death can wield,
You own redeemed forever shield.**

Chancel Choir "Freedom Song" Arr. Leon Berry
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Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

Offertory "With Peace in My Soul"

David Paxton

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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 #255.... Jesus, Sovereign, Savior**

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to Go Forth

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Edward Broughton

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Patrick M. Kirkland (1857–1943); alt.

1. Je-sus, Sov-ereign, Sav-ior, once for sin-ners slain,
cru-ci-fied in weak-ness, raised in power to reign,
Dwell-ing now im-mor-tal, end-less in your days,
un-to you be glo-ry, hon-or, bless-ing, praise.

2. Faith-ful ones com-mun-ing towards the close of day,
des-o-late and wea-ry, met you on the way.
So, when sun is set-ting, come to us and show
your truth, and with-in us make our hearts to glow.

3. In the up-per cham-ber, fol-low-ers, in fear,
gath-ered sad and trou-bled, there you did ap-pear.
Christ, be pres-ent with us, bid our sor-rows cease;
breath-ing on us, Sav-ior, say, “I give you peace.”

Luke 24:13–48; John 20:19–23

***The Altar flowers are in memory of
Bud Knerr by Felicia Knerr.***

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. Rebecca Sausser.....Pastor
Lucia Guido.....Admin. Assistant
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

