

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**
June 21, 2026, 10:00am
Tower Chimes Janet Cook

Music to Gather: "This Is My Father's World"
Robert Lau
Copyright 1992 Harold Flammer Music

Welcome

Call to Worship from UMC of Jersey

One: We come to worship the God who created us.
We are people made in the image of God! And
what is God like?

All: God is gentle and wise, full of peace and overflowing with mercy.

One: We come to worship the God who is actively creating us. What is God doing in our lives?

All: God is making us gentle and wise, full of peace and full of mercy.

One: Let us come boldly before God, for He is compassionate and gracious. There is no God like Him!

All: Thanks be to God in Jesus Christ! Amen

Hymn #16 “Let Us with a Joyful Mind”

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! As we gather together to profess our faith and explore our relationship with God let us come with joy and curiosity!

All: Holy God, we gathering together in this beloved community so that we can spend some time noticing you in our lives! God shows up in so many ways throughout our day, and we don't always recognize God at first. God is like the wind, and like the smile of a stranger. God

Let Us with a Joyful Mind

John Milton, 1624

Adapt. Thomas H. Troeger, 1993

1. Let us with a joy-ful mind
praise our God for-ev-er kind,
Rich with mer-cies that en-dure,
ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.
2. New-made earth was filled with light
through God's all com-mand-ing might,
Rich with mer-cies that en-dure,
ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.
3. Daz-zling bright the sun o-beys
God who shines with bright-er rays,
Rich with mer-cies that en-dure,
ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.
4. Stars and moon that span-gle night
all de-pend on heav-en's light,
Rich with mer-cies that en-dure,
ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.
5. Crea-tures of the sea and land
all are fed by God's own hand,
Rich with mer-cies that en-dure,
ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.

GOD

6. There-fore with a joy-ful mind,
praise our God for-ev-er kind,
Rich with mer-cies that en-dure
ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.

Ps. 136

is like sliding into home plate or receiving a tender hug. Holy God, help us to begin to notice you more, and help us to share your love with the world. Amen.

Response to prayer of confession 🎵 Hymn #493,
V3

O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you

That where you are in glory your servant shall be, too;

And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;

O give me grace to follow my Savior and my Friend!

Words of Reassurance

One: When we gather together it is so good to see each other and to see the way that God's love shows up in one another!

All: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me" -Matthew

25:35

Response to Words of Assurance 🎵 Hymn #476,
V2

**What though my joys and comforts die? My
Savior still is living.**

**What though the shadows gather 'round? A
new song Christ is giving.**

**No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to
that Rock I'm clinging;**

**Since Love commands both heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?**

Scriptures

Sarah Collier

Reading: Various Texts

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: "What is God like?"

Rev. Becky Sausser

Hymn #443 “How Like a Gentle Spirit”

(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 #292 Verse 1

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew
That I may love the way you love
And do what you would do.**

Special Music

"How Great is our God" by Chris Tomlin

Performed on Guitar by Becky Sausser

Announcements

Jeff Rissell

How Like a Gentle Spirit

443

C. Eric Lincoln, 1987; alt.

1. How like a gen-tle spir-it deep with-in
God reins our fer-vent pas-sions day by day,
and gives us strength to chal-lenge and to win
de-spite the per-ils of our cho-sen way.
2. Let God be God wher-ev-er life may be;
let ev-ery tongue bear wit-ness to the call;
all hu-man-kind is one by God's de-cree;
let God be God, let God be God for all.
3. God like a moth-er ea-gle hov-ers near
on might-y wings of pow-er man-i-fest;
God like a gen-tle shep-herd stills our fear,
and com-forts us a-gainst a peace-ful breast.
4. When in our vain pre-ten-sions we con-spire
to shape God's im-age as we see our own,
hark to the voice a-bove our base de-sire;
God is the sculp-tor, we the fash-ioned stone.
5. Through all our fret-ful claims of sex and race
the un-i-ver-sal love of God shines through,
for God is love tran-scend-ing style and place
and all the i-dle op-tions we pur-sue.

1 John 4:16

Offering

Offertory "Now We Pray Unto Thee"

Dietrich Buxtehude

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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 #593 "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

* Commission and Blessing

* Sing Amen #760

(Sing amen:) Amen, we praise your name, O God.

(Sing Amen:) Amen, we praise your name, O God.

(Sing Amen:) Amen, amen, amen, amen,

Amen, we praise your name, O God.

Music to Go Forth "Largo" G. F. Handel

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Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson, 1921; alt.

1. Lift ev-ery voice and sing, till earth and heav-en ring,
ring with the har-mo-nies of lib-er-ty;
Let our re-joic-ing rise, high as the lis-tening skies,
let it re-sound loud as the roll-ing sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the harsh past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the pres-ent has brought us;
Fac-ing the ris-ing sun of our new day be-gun,
let us march on till vic-to-ry is won.
2. Ston-y the road we trod, bit-ter the chas-tening rod,
felt in the days when hope un-born had died;
Yet with a stead-y beat, have not our wea-ry feet,
come to the place for which our peo-ple sighed?
We have come o-ver a way that with tears has been wa-tered,
We have come, tread-ing our path through the blood of the
slaugh-tered,
Out from the gloom-y past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
3. God of our wea-ry years, God of our si-lent tears,
God who has brought us thus far on the way;
God, who by your might, led us in-to the light,
keep us for-ev-er in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the plac-es, our God, where we met you,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, for-get you;
Shad-owed be-neath your hand, may we for-ev-er stand,
true to our God, true to our na-tive land.

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 it from the Apple and Google Play store. The church's name is - **stjohnsuccallentown** - exactly as shown. You can also give on our homepage by clicking the "**Donate**" button **www.stjohnsuccallentown.org**

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
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