

St. John's United Church of Christ
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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**

August 30, 2026, 10:00am

Tower Chimes Janet Cook

Music to Gather: “Voluntary” Samuel Jackson

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Danny Collier, Organ

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

One: The heavens open, and God's glory is
revealed.

All: We come in awe before the Holy One.

One: The world trembles with fear, struggle, and
uncertainty.

All: Still, we trust in God's presence and power.

One: In every season, God calls us into this sacred moment.

All: We come with open hearts, seeking God's presence, grace, and hope.

One: Let us worship God.

All: With our hearts open to God's presence, we lift our voices in worship and praise.

Hymn #52 "There Is a Name I Love to Hear"

Profession of Faith

One: As we come before God, we remember that no matter who we are or where we are on life's journey, we are welcome here. We come not because we have everything figured out, but because God meets us with grace. Together, let us profess our faith and open our hearts to God's transforming love.

All: Gracious God, we believe you are present in every moment in wonder and uncertainty, in hope and in struggle. We confess that we do not always trust your presence, and we sometimes allow fear, pride, or distraction to

guide us. Still, we believe in your mercy, in the way of Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit who continues to call us toward faithfulness. Help us to live what we believe with courage, compassion, and love. Amen.

Response to prayer of confession 🎵 Hymn #99 V3
**I need your presence every passing hour;
I need your grace to foil the tempter's power.
Give me your love, my guide and stay to be,
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

Words of Assurance

One: God meets us in our uncertainty and remains with us through every struggle. God's mercy is abundant, God's grace is freely given, and God's love never lets us go.

All: We go forth into the world renewed in hope, strengthened by the Spirit, and ready to walk again in the way of Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response to Words of Assurance 🎵 Hymn #606 V1
**Nearer, my God, to you, nearer to you.
I'll bear the cross as Christ calls me to do**

**And pray each day anew: Nearer my God, to you,
Nearer my God, to you, Nearer to you.**

Scriptures

Reading 1: Ezekiel 1:1-3, 28

Reading 2: Revelation 6:1-17

Rick Guhl

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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 questions that plague us.

Rev. Becky Sausser & Amanda Muschett

Hymn #441 “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

(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 2

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart
is pure.**

**Until with you I will one will, to do and to
endure.**

**Special Music “God’s Way” Anne Crosby Gaudet
Copyright 2025 Music Discoveries**

Ann Kunkel, Harp

Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

**Offertory “Reflection” Kerry J. Beaumont
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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 #318**

“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to Go Forth “Entree” Clement Lorat
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Pride Offering

Next week our church will be represented with other Open and Affirming Congregations in the Lehigh Valley at the Pride event to be held at the Steele Stacks. There will be a traveling banner at our church next week! Please consider adding your signature to the mural, and please also consider making a donation to our special collection next week. Thank you!

-Rev. Becky Sausser

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