

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**
September 20, 2026, 11:00am

Tower Chimes Janet Cook
Music to Gather: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"
Arthur H. Mann Arr. Rick Parks
Copyright 2005 The FJH Music Company Inc.

***Welcome**

Call to Worship based on Psalm 148

**One: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the
heavens; praise God in the heights!**

**All: Praise God, all the angels; praise God, all
you hosts!**

One: Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

All: Praise God, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!

One: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for God spoke and they were created.

All: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for God alone is exalted; God's glory is above earth and heaven. Amen!

Hymn #126: "Angels from the Realm of Glory"

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Today we join with the angels in celebration and revelry as we remember that our Lord Jesus Christ came to earth so that all who believe in Him might be saved!

All: Blessed Lord Jesus, thank you for your steadfast presence with us. You are our savior and friend, no matter what we face, you are with us. When our problems appear to be great and powerful, You are our friend, and help us to zoom out and see that you are greater than anything on earth. You are our savior, the King of heaven! Bless us this morning and help us to

remember that you are with us in all things, so that we may be filled with praise and join with the angels singing “Glory to God in the highest heaven”. Amen.

Response to prayer of confession♪ Hymn#448, V1

**Take my life, God, let it be
Consecrated faithfully.**

**Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

Words of Assurance

One: Johnny Mathis once said that we need a little Christmas, right this very minute. This morning we get an appetizer for the joy that is bounding toward us this advent.

All: “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting.” Isaiah 9:6-7

Response to Words of Assurance♪ Hymn#465, V2

**Help me, O Savior, here to trace
The sacred footsteps you have trod;
And fully trusting in my God,
To grow in goodness, truth, and grace.**

Bible Ceremony

Pastor: I would like to invite forward the members of the Confirmation Class of 2026-2027 to receive their bibles. These students have decided to dedicate themselves to grow deeper in their faith journey and their walk with Jesus Christ. They will learn more about themselves, their church, and their world as they work toward affirming their baptism!

Pastor: Let us pray over these students that they may be blessed on their confirmation journey!

Many: Lord Jesus, we pray over these blessed youth and ask that you would grant them wisdom and guidance on their journey. Be with them in all things, and let them feel your peace and love surround them. We pledge to support them and pray for them. Amen!

Scriptures

Reading: Luke 2:8-20

Janet Cook
(Page 828)

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: Angels from the Realm of Glory

Rev. Becky Sausser

Hymn #508

“Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire“

(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 #510 Verse 2

**Grant us faithfulness in praying,
Strength to keep our souls from straying,
Sense to cease from disobeying,
God of mercy, hear us.**

Chancel Choir “Make Your Life a Song to God”

Jayne Southwich Cool

Copyright 1999 Choristers Guild

Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

Offertory “I Come to Thee” Franklin Ritter

Copyright 1973 Lorenz Publishing Co.

* 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 #438 “When Peace, Like a River”**

* Commission and Blessing

* **Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to Go Forth “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

Paul Manz

Copyright 1980 Concordia Publishing Houses

Permission to stream copyrighted material granted

by Christian Copyright Licensing

International Streaming Licensing #505565243

***The Altar Flowers are placed by
Jeanette & Dick Schmoyer in memory of
their daughter, Valerie Ford, who passed
away September 21, 2023***

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