

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**

November 1, 2026, 11:00am

Tower Chimes Janet Cook

Music to Gather: "Fugue in G minor" J. S. Bach

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Danny Collier, Organ

*** Welcome**

Call to Worship adapted from Rev. Susannah

DeBenedetto

**One: On this All-Saints' Sunday, we gather to
remember teachers and storytellers who made God's
stories come alive for us.**

**All: We remember choir members, praise bands,
organists, and all the musicians who sang and**

played your praises. We remember preachers and lay leaders who led our worship through the years.

One: We remember parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings who showed us how to hold fast to the faith.

All: We remember our church families – this one and others we have loved. We remember all those who have been a part of this faith family with whom we grew our faith and our love for God and neighbor.

One: We remember our ancestors in the faith whose courage enables us to be here today.

All: We give thanks for the saints who came before us, are present here with us, and will continue after us. Thanks be to God!

Hymn #299 “For All the Saints”

Profession of Faith

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Today as we join with the many saints that have come before us, let us remember also the saints who will follow us.

All: Holy God, as we come to you to profess our faith today, we also express deep gratitude for the people that have helped to shape our faith. There

For All the Saints

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1. For all the saints who from their la-bors rest,
who to the world their stead-fast faith con-fessed,
your name, O Je-sus, be for-ev-er blessed.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
2. You were their rock, their ref-uge, and their might:
you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;
'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
3. Still may your peo-ple, faith-ful, true, and bold,
live as the saints who no-bly fought of old,
and share with them a glo-rious crown of gold.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
4. Ringed by this cloud of wit-ness-es di-vine,
we fee-bly strug-gle, they in glo-ry shine;
yet in your love our faith-ful lives en-twine.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
5. And when the strife is fierce, the war-fare long,
steals on the ear the dis-tant tri-umph song,
then hearts are brave a-gain, and faith grows strong.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Heb. 12:1

was a time that we did not know you, and because someone taught us about you, we are here today. Fill us with you spirit as we remember those beloved members who have joined with the company of the saints. Help us to be gentle with ourselves in our grief. May the Holy Spirit surround us with a sigh too deep for words. Amen.

Response to prayer of confession 🎵 Hymn #493, V2

**O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will!
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control!
O speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul!**

Words of Assurance

One: Martin Luther described Christians as being simultaneously sinners and saints, sinners through our brokenness, and saints through the work of Jesus Christ!

All: “May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”

-Colossians 1:11-12

Response to Words of Assurance ♪ Gloria Patri
"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen".

Remembering the Saints

Charlotte A Waggoner

Bruce DeLong Jr.

Bruce DeLong Sr.

Florence "Dolly" DeLong

James M. Roth Jr

Glen Kent

Scriptures

Janet Cook

Reading 1: Revelation 5:1-14 (Pages 1003-1004)

Reading 2: Revelation 7: 9-14 (Page 1005)

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: Revelation

Rev. Becky Sausser

Hymn #295 “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

(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 #298 Verse 4

**For this, your name we bless
and humbly pray anew
That, we, like them, in holiness
may live and die in you.**

Chancel Choir “Sing Me of Heaven” Greg Gilpin
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A CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

Communion Prayer

Pastor: God be with you.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

295

Lesbia Scott, 1929; alt.

1. I sing a song of the saints of God,
faith-ful their whole lives through,
who brave-ly la-bored, lived, and died
for the God they loved and knew.
And one was doc-tor, and one was a queen,
and an-oth-er a shep-herd in pas-tures green:
they were saints of God, if you know what I mean.
God, help me to be one, too.
2. They loved their God and they lived that love.
It was lov-ing that made them strong.
They did what was right, for Je-sus' sake,
lived just-ly their whole lives long.
And one was a proph-et, and one was a priest,
and an-oth-er was slain by a fierce wild beast:
there is no earth-ly rea-son, none in the least,
why I should-n't be one, too.
3. They lived not on-ly in a-ges past,
there are hun-dreds of thou-sands still.
The world is filled with liv-ing saints
who choose to do God's will.
You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea,
in a church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea:
for the saints are folk like you and like me,
and I mean to be one, too.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Almighty.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: Eternal God, you created the heavens and earth, giving breath to every living thing. We thank you for the gift of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though You have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care.

We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history.

We take courage from the abiding praise of men, women, and persons of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints and with all the company of heaven, we glorify you singing...

People (Singing the Sanctus Hymn #795)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

**Heaven and earth are full, are full, of the
majesty of Thy Glory.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the
Lord.**

Hosannah, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: We remember that on the night He was betrayed and deserted, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, Jesus also took the cup after supper, and gave thanks for it, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**People: By eating this bread and drinking this
cup, we proclaim Christ's death, we celebrate
Christ's resurrection, and we await Christ's
coming again.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, we ask you to meet us where we are at today in your mercy; we ask you to bless this bread and this cup and all of us with the outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, your church, your servant

people, that we may be salt, light, and leaven in this world that you so deeply love.

Receiving the Elements

Pastor: Through the broken bread, we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing, we participate in the new life that Christ gives. The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

(At this time our ushers will bring the bread representing the body of Christ into the congregation. If you prefer to receive individually wrapped elements, there will be wrapped communion cups on this tray that have both the bread and juice.)

Pastor: The body of Christ. (At this time, partake of the bread.)

Pastor: The blood of Christ. (At this time partake of the juice.)

Pastor: Let us join together in prayer.

People: As one body, we lament with those who lament. We hope with those who hope. We live with suffering. We live with beauty. Let us go from this table as a renewed community, doing the radical work of Jesus that calls us to live justice-making lives of faith. We are followers of God's way. We give thanks and praise! Amen!

Announcements

Jeff Rissell

Offering

Offertory "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Arr. Robert Lau

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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 #377 "Forward through the Ages"**

* Commission and Blessing

* **Threefold Amen**

Amen, Amen, Amen

Music to Go Forth "God of Our Fathers"

Arr. Diane Bish

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Forward through the Ages

377

Frederick Lucian Hosmer, 1908; alt.

1. For-ward through the a-ges, in un-bro-ken line,
move the faith-ful spir-its at the call di-vine;
Gifts in dif-fering mea-sure, hearts of one ac-cord,
man-i-fold in ser-vice, one the sure re-ward.
For-ward through the a-ges, in un-bro-ken line,
Move the faith-ful spir-its at the call di-vine.

2. Wide grows God's do-min-ion, reign of love and peace;
for it we must la-bor, till all striv-ings cease.
Proph-ets have pro-claimed it, teach-ers tes-ti-fied,
po-ets sung its glo-ry, mar-tyrs for it died.
For-ward through the a-ges, in un-bro-ken line,
Move the faith-ful spir-its at the call di-vine.

3. Not a-lone we con-quer, not a-lone we fall;
in each loss or tri-umph, lose or tri-umph all.
Bound by God's far pur-pose in one liv-ing whole,
move we on to-geth-er to the shin-ing goal.
For-ward through the a-ges, in un-bro-ken line,
Move the faith-ful spir-its at the call di-vine.

Heb. 11; 1 Cor. 12

***The Altar Flowers are in honor of
Christian Todd and Emily Jenkins who were
married in Ohio on Sunday, October 4.***

By Jeff Rissell

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