

St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street † Whitehall PA 18052
www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org † 610-264-8421



*We Worship, We Love, We Serve –
No Matter What!*

September 25, 2022

8:15 am & 10:45 am

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Order of Worship

~ We Worship ~

*** Those who are comfortably able, please stand**

*Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton! We are a place where love can grow!
As the music begins, please find your place and begin
to center your spirit for our worship of God together*

Prelude

*Prelude No. 4 in D Major
Catherine Rollin*

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

- ~ Furnace Loan Fund Offering, 4th Sunday each month
- ~ Update from Treasurer, Sue Weldner

***Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

***Call to Worship**

From UCC Worship Ways

One: Come to this place and time of promise.

**All: We are becoming the house of hope,
the field of sunflowers,
the vineyard of great caring.**

One: Come to a shared commitment to
abundance possible for all people.

**All: We are an earthenware jar,
to keep safe the tomorrow of children.
Our security question is – the word of God,
and our password is love.**

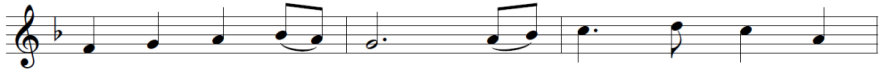
***Opening Hymn**

*All Are Welcome
Verses 1 and 5*

All Are Welcome



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And
 2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, And
 3. Let us build a house where love is found In
 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be -
 5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their



all can safe - ly live, A place where saints and
 words are strong and true, Where all God's chil - dren
 wa - ter, wine and wheat: A ban - quet hall on
 yond the wood and stone To heal and strength - en,
 songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for -
 dare to seek To dream God's reign a -
 ho - ly ground, Where peace and jus - tice
 serve and teach, And live the Word they've
 taught and claimed As words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions,
 new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness
 meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus,
 known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger
 Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter,



Rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the
 And as sym - bol of God's grace; Here as
 Is re - vealed in time and space; As we
 Bear the im - age of God's face; Let us
 Prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro - claim from floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Prayer of Confession

Adapted from UCC Worship Ways

One: God, we have defaulted to “un-hope” in our lives and have encouraged “un-hoping” in others. We have criticized plans before hearing them out and turned to family, church, friends, and colleagues with our faces painted, “we’ve never done it or always done it this way before.”

All: **Together we have laughed at new ideas and circulated bad news rather than embracing options and exploring possibilities. Plant your promises deep in the field of our lives, and forgive us our presuming to define your future. Amen.**

(Time for Silent prayer)

Words of Assurance

One: God wipes pessimism from the open heart and sends others to affirm in us even the most fragile possibilities of the future.

All: **We are forgiven by God’s grace. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

(10:45) Children’s Message

(10:45) Hymn

*On Eagles Wings
Verses 1 and 2*

Found on Pg. 4 of the Bulletin

*Scripture Reading

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
(8:15) Janet Ebert
(10:45) DonnaLee Yeatts

*Please stand in body or in spirit for the reading of God’s Word.

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Sermon

Rev. Davis

“Welcome Home!”
Experience God’s Caring Heart

ON EAGLE'S WINGS

Michael Joncas

Verse 1

1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a - bide in his

1. shad-ow for life, say to the Lord: "My ref-uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

to Refrain

Refrain

And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the

breath of dawn, make you to shine like the

sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand. to Verses (last time to Coda) ⊕

⊕ Coda

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Verse 2

2. The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring

2. you no fear: un-der his wings your ref-uge, his faith-ful-ness your shield. to Refrain

(10:45) Special Music

My Hiding Place
Tom Fettke

Chancel Choir

~ *We Love* ~

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Davis

God of many names, in faith we name these persons and needs before you, trusting you to bring your peace, healing and hope to people and circumstances. Hear our prayers for...

We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus, the Christ, who loves and liberates us all and who taught us to pray, saying...

The 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

Praise Response

If You Believe and I Believe
Text: Zimbabwean traditional

*If you believe and I believe and we together pray,
The Holy Spirit must come down And set God's people free,
And set God's people free, And set God's people free;
The Holy Spirit must come down And set God's people free.*

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to God



Thank you for your generosity and
faithfulness in
supporting the ministry of
St. John's UCC!

***Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***Prayer of Dedication** *Adapted from UCC Worship Ways*

One: God, we have received hope; we give you time. We have received hope; we give one another the church. We have received hope;

All: We offer these gifts that they may become the change and the promise of change with those who need to know the sure hope that we are one together and not alone. Amen.

~ We Serve ~

***Hymn #391** *In the Midst of New Dimensions*
Verses 1 and 2

***The Benediction** Rev. Davis

Postlude *Last Verse Variation on New Dimensions*
Arranged by Noel Rawsthorne

WORSHIP & MUSIC - Opportunities to Serve

As we expand to two Sunday worship services, there are many opportunities to assist with worship leadership!

Please sign up to be an usher/greeter, or scripture reader.

Sponsor the wheat basket at the altar to support the food bank. Sponsor altar flowers on a Sunday. Help with worship tech/sound!

Altar Flowers

~ One vase in honor of Nancy Eichman's birthday

~ One vase in Memory of Nancy Eichman's parents, Eratus and Elva Trinkley

In Our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill or are in our area hospitals: Larry Albright, Phillis Ambearle, Richard Baatz, Bob Beckwith, Andi Dallago, Shirley Downing, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Ginny Hess, Ted Hess, Geraldine Keim, Roger Knauss, Alan Miller, Dave Mohr, Karen Moyer, Tom Moyer, Marina Newton, Eleanor O'Donnell, Jack Ohl, Joey Raszler, Marietta Seyfried, Madeline Slivka and Nancy Weaver.

We continue to pray for all those serving in our nation's military and for their families for their sacrifices on behalf of our freedom.

If you or a family member is admitted to the hospital, tell them you are a member of St. John's or use the church code, 473.

If you have someone for us to remember in prayer, please contact the church office.

Serving in Worship Leadership

September 25

Ushers 8:15 - Ellen Sagazio & Colleen Kulhamer

10:45 - Wayne Lichtenwalner & Margaret Young

Worship Tech 8:15& 10:45 - Bill Castello

October 2

Ushers 8:15 - Bill Fink, Amy Fiedler, Cindy Reck, Brian Fisher,
Janet Ebert & Wayne Lichtenwalner

10:45 - Wayne Lichtenwalner, Brian Fisher, Bill Fink,
Amy Fiedler, DonnaLee Yeatts, Janet Ebert,
Cindy Reck, and Gary Black

Worship Tech 8:15 - Michelle Gutekunst & Susan Rarich
10:45 - Jesus Pagan

Attendance - September 18

Onsite - 8:15 - 40 10:45 - 84 Online - 47

Total Onsite 124

FROM THE CONSISTORY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

With gratitude for faithful ministry, we are sad to announce the coming resignation of Rev. Dave Quinn as our Visitation Minister effective November 15. Pastor Dave's congregation in Palmerton and the congregation in Danielsville have voted to share his leadership as their pastor, which will be a great blessing for both faith communities. However, this change in his pastoral leadership responsibilities means he will not be able to continue to serve with us at St. John's. We will announce in the coming weeks how we can honor his ministry and express our gratitude to Pastor Dave.

HEALTHCARE MINISTRY - GRIEF SUPPORT

The mission of our Healthcare Ministry is to promote the spiritual and physical well-being of the St. John's congregation. We believe this includes our mental health and how we grieve together through times of loss. We gladly partner with others in the family of faith and share gratitude for Rev. Evelyn Stupp, a United Methodist minister, who has a long relationship with St. John's and serves in this ministry area.

If you are grieving the death of a loved one, you are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury UM Church, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown. The group meets the 4th Tuesday monthly at 1pm in the upper level Parlor and is led by Rev. Evelyn Stupp, Asbury's Pastor of Bereavement and Care Ministries. Please contact her at estupp@asburylv.org or 610-428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next gatherings for support are Sept. 27 and Oct. 25.

CONFIRMATION CLASS REGISTRATION

Confirmation in the Church is an intentional period of growth and preparation when young people can learn more about the Christian faith, how we experience that faith in the United Church of Christ, and who we are together in our faith as St. John's UCC, Fullerton. Persons participate in weekly sharing from September to May, to acknowledge the pledge of faith that may have been made for them as infants/children in baptism, and to affirm the core faith and values we share. If you are in the 7th or 8th grade and have not yet gone through a Confirmation Class, we invite you to contact the church office for more information about our 2022-23 Confirmation Class. Register on the website today!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Offerings received in the third week of September were \$5,764, a combination of offerings received electronically, in the mail, and in the Sunday offering plate. This brings our total offerings for September to \$13,990, about \$8,510 short of our monthly target of \$22,500 in offerings, with one week remaining in September. We continue to run behind on income sufficient to meet 100% of the month's expenses and continue to see a downward trend in giving. Through August, we are \$24,695 behind in overall income compared to expenses. Given where we are for September, we can expect to increase that loss this month.

FALL WORSHIP & FAITH FORMATION

Welcome to two Sunday morning worship services, with Faith Formation (Sunday School) in between. We now worship at 8:15 & 10:45 on Sunday mornings, and at 9:30, have our Faith Formation groups. If you're interested in participating in your previous class or trying something new, register today on our website! You will see opportunities shared to take part in some well-established groups and some new things! Come check them out any Sunday.

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

The Men's Breakfast Group of St. John's meets on the first Saturday of the month at the Hamilton Family Restaurant located at 2027 Hamilton St. in Allentown. Our next meeting is on October 1 at 8:30 am. We would be pleased to have you join us. If you would like to know more about this group, please contact Bob Bold at 610-393-6123 or email at QVRRBold@aol.com.

CROP HUNGER WALK

This year's CROP Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 2, starting at 1:30 pm at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church located at 140 S. Ott St. in Allentown. Walkers are needed and members can sponsor our walkers with your donations. Please see Marion DeMilio after worship to make a donation or to be a walker.

Church Calendar for the Week of Sept 25 - Oct 2, 2022

Sun, 9/25	8:15 am	Worship Service
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
	10:45 am	Worship Service
Mon, 9/26	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
	7:00 pm	Jubilation Choir
	7:00 pm	Mission (Zoom)
Tues, 9/27	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
Wed, 9/28	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	12-1:30 pm	PNEC Meeting (Pavilion or Fox Hall)
	6:30 pm	Zumba
Sat, 10/1	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir
	8:30 am	Men's Breakfast
	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun, 10/2	9:30 am	Private Event (Pavilion)
	8:15 am	Worship Service
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
	9:30 am	Confirmation Class
	10:45 am	Worship Service
	1:00 pm	CROP Walk
	1:00 pm	Private Party in Fox Hall

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The NIN offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US. This year's offering focuses on economic justice with inflation impacting all of our households. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund an array of local and national initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. One-third of the offering also supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). **A special offering will be taken on October 2 and continue for the entire month of October.**

CHILDREN'S BIBLES

If your child did not receive a Bible in 2nd grade or for Confirmation, please be in touch with the church office.

UKRAINE RELIEF FUND - THE NEED CONTINUES

Your contributions so far have helped with Ukrainian relief by giving to UCC National, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, Project HOPE, and World Central Kitchen. As long as this crisis continues, we will receive donations by mail, at worship, or by on-line and text giving. **For the month of September**, any funds received will go to World Central Kitchen. Be sure to note that your contribution is for “Ukraine Relief Fund.” Special offering envelopes, along with yellow and blue lapel pins showing your support can be found on the table in the lounge area by the sanctuary.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

We are now collecting **boxes of stuffing or filling** for the Thanksgiving holiday for the clients at the food pantry. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary where you can place your donations.

OUR STAFF

Rev. Steve Davis	Senior Pastor
sjfsrpastor@sjuccf.org	
Rev. David Quinn	Visitation Pastor
pedalinpastor@gmail.com	
Patrick Sandt	Director of Music Ministries & Organist
sjfmusic@sjuccf.org	
Alison Berger Boor	Office Administrator
sjfofficesecretary@sjuccf.org	
Sue Weldner	Treasurer
sbweldner@gmail.com	
Thomas and Emilie Moyer	Financial Secretary
tommoyer54@gmail.com	
Michelle Gutekunst	Worship Tech & Coordinating Custodian
sjfstars@sjuccf.org	
sjfcustodians@sjuccf.org	
Bob Czekner	Custodian
rczekner11@aol.com	
Christina Bach	Custodian
ironton1@verizon.net	

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newsletter@sjuccf.org