

# 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!*

**Racial Justice Sunday**

**February 12, 2023  
8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.**

# *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 & Chimes**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Steven Davis

~ Today's highlighted ministries are Music and Mission – please see the displays in the parlor

~ Rev. Becca Stephens preaching, February 19

~ **Lent Begins, February 22, Ash Wednesday**, Ash & Dash (8-9am, 4-5pm) with Rev. Cliff Herring; Soup & Bread Dinner and Worship (6pm meal, 7pm worship) with Rev. Gary Barraco.

#### **\*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 ~ Join the Movement*

One: Show me what community looks like.

**All: This is what community looks like.**

One: Show me what God looks like.

**All: This is what God looks like.**

One: Show me what the kingdom looks like.

**All: This is what the kingdom looks like.**

One: Show me what justice looks like.

**All: This is what justice looks like.**

One: Show me what worship looks like.

**All: This is what worship looks like.**

One: Show me what the movement looks like.

**All: This is what the movement looks like.**

One: Beloved community, building the kingdom of justice, moving with the Spirit of Love, let us worship God!

# \*Opening Hymn

# As We Gather at Your Table (Vs. 1 & 2)

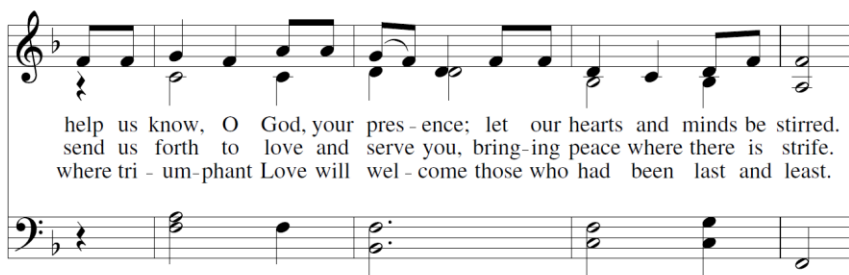
HOLY COMMUNION

## As We Gather at Your Table 695

*Unison*



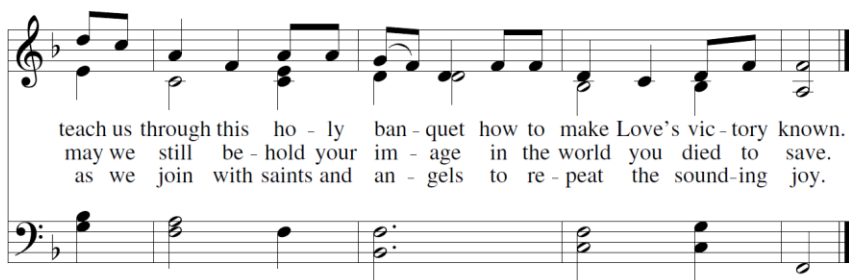
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - umphant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (1944 - )

MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White (1800-1879), *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; arr. Jack Schrader (1942 - )

BEACH SPRING

8.7.8.7.D.

Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Company  
Music Arr. © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

## Call to Confession

*From UCC ~ Join the Movement*

Jesus tells us that the most important things we can do to be his followers are to love God and to love each other. An important part of loving God and loving each other is admitting when we've done something hurtful and apologizing. So we take time in our worship to name the ways we are not our best selves, not because we are bad, but because we want to be and do better. Let us tell God and each other what we are sorry for in prayer.

### Prayer of Confession

One: Sometimes our words and actions cause others to hurt.

**All: God, it makes us sad when people hurt.**

One: Sometimes we don't like to share what we have and cause others to miss out.

**All: God, it makes us sad when people don't have enough.**

One: Sometimes we think only about ourselves and don't let others take a turn.

**All: God, it makes us sad when people don't get a turn.**

One: Sometimes we talk so much that others don't get the chance to speak.

**All: God, it makes us sad when people don't get to speak.**

One: Sometimes we listen so little that others don't feel heard.

**All: God, it makes us sad when people don't feel heard.**

*(Time for silent prayer)*

### Words of Assurance

One: Having confessed when we have not been our best and trusting always in God's love and Grace, we will do our best:

**All: To love ourselves, our bodies, our hearts. To honor our bodies, and the bodies of others –even if they are**

**different from ours. To love others like God loves others. To be kind, to speak up, to listen, and to be God's love to the world. We will try our best to be and do better. Amen.**

**(10:45) Children's Message**

Children and youth are welcome to come up to the chancel steps.

“Busy bags” are at the kids’ table in the parlor and Rm 201 is open for those whose children want additional activities and space during worship.

The livestream of worship is shown there.

Please have an adult join them!

**(10:45) Hymn**

*This Day God Gives Me*

Verses 1 and 2

Found on page 5 of bulletin

**\*Scripture Reading**

**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

(8:15) Nancy Bowman

(10:45) Dave Mohr

\*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. Steven Davis

**Building the Beloved Community:  
Choices for Relationship**

**(8:15AM) Hymn**

*This Day God Gives Me*

Verses 1 and 2

Found on page 5 of bulletin

**(10:45AM) Special Music**

*The Meditations of My Heart*

Elaine Hagenberg

Chancel Choir

# THIS DAY GOD GIVES ME

James Quinn, SJ

David Haas



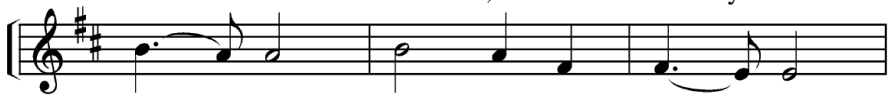
1. This day God gives me strength of high  
2. This day God sends me strength as my  
3. God's way is my way, God's shield is  
4. Ris - ing I thank you, Might - y and



heav - en, Sun and moon shin - ing,  
guar - dian, Might to up - hold me,  
round me, God's host de - fends me,  
strong One, King of cre - a - tion,



Flame in my hearth, Flash - ing of  
Wis - dom as guide. Your eyes are  
Sav - ing from ill. An - gels of  
Giv - er of rest, Firm - ly con -



light - ning, wind in its swift - ness,  
watch - ful, Your ears are lis - t ning,  
heav - en, Drive from me al - ways  
fess - ing God in three per - sons,



depths of the o - cean, firm - ness of earth.  
your lips are speak - ing, friend at my side.  
all that would harm me, stand by me still.  
One - ness of God - head, Tri - ni - ty blest.

Words Copyright © 1969 by James Quinn. By permission of Geoffrey Chapman  
a division of Cassell Ltd.

Music Copyright © 1993 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

# ~ 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, whose hope, peace and joy draw us together 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**

## **Prayer Response**

*We Shall Overcome*

**We shall overcome, we shall overcome**

**We shall overcome someday.**

**Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,**

**We shall overcome someday.**

## **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*

Melody: *O Waly, Waly*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above you heavenly hosts,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

*From UCC ~ Join the Movement*

*The congregation joins in the prayer of dedication by saying “thank you” every time they hear the prompt, “Holy One, we say...”.*

One: For what is mine, Holy One, we say:

**All: ...thank you.**

One: Through our giving, show us how to hold what we have loosely and to be ready to offer it generously. For what is yours, Holy One, we say:

**All: ...thank you.**

One: In our offering, teach us to acknowledge what has been stolen, extracted, taken by force, and to repair broken relationships. For what is ours, Holy One, we say:

**All: ...thank you.**

One: By our contributions, empower us to create new relationships of justice and equity and build a new kingdom of flourishing for all, in God’s beloved community.

**All: ... thank you. Amen.**

*~ We Serve ~*

**\*Hymn**

*In Christ There is No East or West*

Verses 1 and 2

Found on page 8 of bulletin



# In Christ There Is No East or West 339

F C Dm C7 F Gm Am C

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
 2 In him shall true hearts ev - ery-where their high com - mun - ion find;  
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith; we are God's chil - dren all.  
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north;

C Dm F Bb C7 F Bb C7 F

but one great fel - low-ship of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
 his serv - ice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
 As fam - ly with the ris - en Christ, we share a com - mon call.  
 all Christ - ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'In Christ There Is No East or West'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef and a bass clef, with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Above the first system, the chords F, C, Dm, C7, F, Gm, Am, and C are indicated. Below the first system, there are four lines of lyrics. The second system also has a treble clef and a bass clef, with the same key signature and time signature. Above the second system, the chords C, Dm, F, Bb, C7, F, Bb, C7, and F are indicated. Below the second system, there are three lines of lyrics. The score ends with a double bar line.

## \*The Benediction

Rev. Davis

## Postlude

*When the altar candles have been extinguished, our time of worship is concluded and our service in the world continues.*

*The Benediction and Postlude send us out to be the people of God in our community.*

*All music in this bulletin is copyrighted and reprinted under OneLicense #A-735634.*

Portions of today's liturgy are taken from the UCC Worship Ways resource "Racial Justice Sunday 2023: Building Intergenerational Movements Antiracism Worship and Spiritual Practices for Every Age." For more information, check out <https://jointhemovementucc.org/>

Resources created by: Minister Neddy Yong, City of Refuge UCC, Oakland, CA, Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, Danville Congregational Church, Danville, CA, and Dr. Sharon Fennema, Join the Movement Curator.

## **In Our Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill or are in our area hospitals: Richard Baatz, Clarence Biehn, Jim Carr, Carl Case, Sandra Diefenderfer, Robert and Nancy Dougherty, Shirley Downing, Milton Focht, Sally Gibson, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Gary Hallman, Jinny Hess, Ted Hess, Travis Kaintz, Geraldine Keim, Adrienne Kiesbar, Jean Litzenberger, Karen Moyer, Eleanor O'Donnell, Jack Ohl, Brenda Pascoe, Joey Raszler, Marietta Seyfried, Madeline Slivka, Eleanor Smith 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.

## **Altar Flowers**

One vase in loving memory of William Kocher by Marlene Kocher

### **Attendance – February 5**

Onsite - 8:15 – 34 10:45 – 85 Online - 57

### **Serving in Worship Leadership**

#### **February 12**

Ushers 8:15 – Susan Rarich and Margaret Young

10:45 – Wendy Fox, Bob Czekner and Sharon Czekner

Worship Tech 8:15 – Bill Castello

10:45 – Bill Castello

#### **February 19**

Ushers 8:15 – Sharon Antrim and Karen Stoists

10:45 – Bruce Pope and Bobbi Pope

Worship Tech 8:15 – Elijah Fox

10:45 – Elijah Fox

**Did you know...?** You can sponsor Sunday bulletins as well as altar flowers. Cost is \$20 for bulletins, \$25 for flowers and the monthly newsletter can be sponsored for \$100.

## **MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY CHOIR**

Join us on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 2PM for a very special music concert provided by the Moravian University College Choir under the direction of Ms. Paula Zerkle. Light refreshments will be served in Fox Hall immediately following the concert.

## **WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY**

Donations needed for February: spaghetti sauce, pasta and canned fruit. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary where you can place your donations. Monetary contributions are always welcomed. Contact Gary Black at 610-262-6114 or email at [gary.t.black@outlook.com](mailto:gary.t.black@outlook.com) if you would like to volunteer to help at the food pantry.

## **BINGO!**

Tickets are now on sale for the March 17th St. Patrick's Day Gift Card Bingo, \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. See Tom Moyer, or stop by the office for tickets.

## **WAR IN UKRAINE – ONE YEAR LATER**

February 24 marks the first anniversary of Russia's unprovoked attack on Ukraine. Thousands of people, including children, have been killed or injured. People have been displaced and families torn apart. Homes, schools, businesses, and hospitals have been destroyed or under constant missile attacks. Yet the resiliency and tenacity of the Ukrainian people never wavered. As the war ravages on, there is no end in sight. Our help is still needed. Donations in February will go to World Central Kitchen.

## **GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY**

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](mailto:estupp@asburylv.org) or 610-428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next support gathering is **Tuesday, February 28**.

# FINANCIAL UPDATE

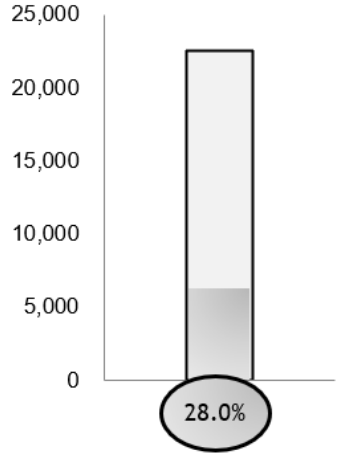
## MONTHLY OFFERINGS

FEBRUARY 2023

Overall	
Overall Target	22,500.00
Overall Total	6,306.65
Overall Percent	28.0%
Last Week	
Start:	2/5/23
End:	2/11/23
Total:	3,889.00
<i>Amt need to reach Target</i>	
FEBRUARY 2023	16,193.35

### Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total



## YTD OFFERINGS

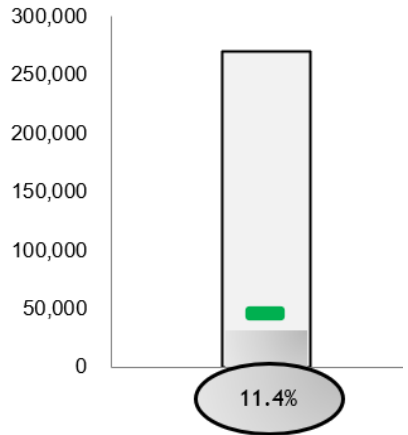
FEBRUARY 2023

Overall	
Overall Target	270,000.00
On Track Target	45,000.00
Overall Total	30,864.93
Overall Percent	11.4%



### Progress

- Overall Target
- Overall Total
- On Track Target



## **WHITEHALL-COPLAY HUNGER INITIATIVE**

WCHI and the Faith-based Community are providing free meals (dine-in only) to low-income Whitehall-Coplay households from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the following location:

Tues, Feb 21 Whitehall Bible Fellowship Church

## **IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER**

If the church has to cancel its Sunday services due to inclement weather, we will list the closing on Channel 69 News or you can go to their website at [www.wfmz.com](http://www.wfmz.com).

## **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 **March 4** 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](mailto:QVRRBold@aol.com).

## **HAVE YOU SEEN--?**

There are some things missing – has anyone seen them? A credit card reader from the office and bell choir tablecloths. If you remember seeing these anywhere, please let the office know!

## **FRIENDSHIP BIBLE CLASS**

This is your invitation to come join the Friendship Bible Class. This Adult Faith Formation Class (formerly Adult Sunday School) meets every Sunday (except in the summer months) at 9:30 am in Room 201. Different members teach each week and offer a variety of topics including Bible stories, scripture, parables, current events, Bible trivia, and much more. Stop in for a cup of coffee and refreshments and join in the discussion. For more information, contact Tom Moyer at 610-432-3372 or email at [tommoyer54@gmail.com](mailto:tommoyer54@gmail.com).

## Church Calendar for the Week of Feb 12 – Feb 19, 2023

Sun, 2/12	8:15 am	Worship Service
	9:30 am	Faith Formation
	10:45 am	Worship Service
		Newsletter deadline
Mon 2/13	6:00 pm	Bells of St. John
	7:00 pm	Jubilation Choir
Tues, 2/14	10:30 am	Visitation Committee
	1:30 am	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Elders
	7:00 pm	Consistory
Wed, 2/15	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	6:30 pm	SAA Recovery Support Group
Thurs 2/16	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir
Sat 2/18	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun, 2/19	8:15 am	Worship Service
	9:30 am	Faith Formation/Confirmation
	10:45 am	Worship Service

### OUR STAFF

Rev. Steve Davis	Senior Pastor
sjfsrpastor@sjuccf.org	
Patrick Sandt	Director of Music Ministries
sjfmusic@sjuccf.org	& Organist
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 &
sjfstars@sjuccf.org	Coordinating Custodian
sjfcustodians@sjuccf.org	
Bob Czekner	Custodian
rczekner11@aol.com	
Christina Bach	Custodian
iron1@verizon.net	
<b>New Newsletter Articles email address!</b>	<a href="mailto:newsletter@sjuccf.org">newsletter@sjuccf.org</a>

