



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!**

**July 13, 2025
9:30am**



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

We Worship

Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton!

We celebrate the life and hope we find together in God's love!

*As the music begins, please find your place and
quietly center your spirit for our worship of God together.*

***Our Offering** is received as we gather for worship, with plates located on pedestals at the back. We graciously accept your gifts to God of praise and gratitude, to be presented during the service. While guests are welcome to contribute, please know there is no obligation; the financial support of our church is primarily the responsibility of our congregation members.*

***Children's Faith Formation** begins in the early part of our worship service in the sanctuary, including the Children's Message. Parents are asked to accompany their child if they are at the kids' table in the back.*

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

Vacation Bible School Highlight Reel

"Welcome Here"

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Colleen Kulhamer

- SUMMER SUPPER SHARING FOR THE SOUL!
Wednesdays @ 6:00pm resumes on 23 & 30, August 6 & 13, with mid-week Faith Formation guide,
"How to Study the Bible and Enjoy It! (See pg. 11)
- Backpacks and Back to School Supplies (See pg. 13)
- Grape St. Elevator Access Door
- Outdoor Worship—July 27th-- Jordan Spring Bluegrass,
followed by finger food potluck

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

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Music to Prepare our Hearts for Worship

*Hope
John Turner*

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

One: The Lord reigns in steadfast justice, upholding the cause of the oppressed and giving strength to the weak.

All: We gather as a covenant people, called to bear witness to God's faithfulness.

One: God's law is written not only on tablets but on our hearts, summoning us to lives of mercy and truth.

All: We come to worship, mindful of our calling and reliant on God's grace.

One: Though the world is broken, God's steadfast love endures forever, redeeming and sustaining us.

All: In humility and hope, we lift our voices to the God of justice and peace.

***Gathering Hymn**

God of Grace and God of Glory

Verses 1 and 2

found on page 3

Invitation for Confession

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

One: In the face of injustice and apathy, we confess our failures to act and love. Let us seek God's mercy and grace as we come before the Holy One with these our prayers.

(Time for Silent Prayer)

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

All: Merciful God, forgive us when we turn away from those in need. Forgive us when we choose comfort over justice, silence over truth. Help us to live as neighbors to all, bearing your love in word and deed. Renew our spirits and empower us to follow Christ's example faithfully. Amen.

569 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn your Christ, as -
 3 Heal your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient Church's sto - ry, bring its
 sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us—free our
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

WORDS: Harry E. Fosdick (1878-1969), alt.
 MUSIC: John Hughes (1873-1932)

CWM RHONDDA
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Words of Assurance

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

One: My friends in Christ, the Apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Colossians that we have been rescued from the power of darkness and transferred into the Kin-dom of God's beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

All: **By God's grace, we are forgiven and called to new life.
Thanks be to God!**

Children's Message

Hymn

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

All Verses

found on page 5

***Scripture Reading:**

Luke 10:25-37

Read by: Kim Hillegass

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion.

He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.'

Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Robert Stevens

The Church: Seeing and Being Seen

Song of Praise

Precious Jesus

Arr. by Jay Althouse

All that I am and all that I can be, all that I know and all that I can see: these are the things my Jesus gave to me, Jesus, my Lord and friend.

Once I was alone and day seemed dark as night, Once I was blind, but I've been given sight, Jesus, my redeemer, led me to the light, Jesus, my Lord and friend.

Precious Jesus, blessed Jesus, You're my life, my joy, my friend. Precious Jesus blessed Jesus, Your love is a love without end.

Now, like a shepherd, He guides me on my way, Now I will follow; I cannot go astray, Jesus, keep me near You; this I humbly pray. Jesus, my Lord and friend.

Precious Jesus, blessed Jesus, You're my life, my joy, my friend. Precious Jesus, blessed Jesus, Your love is a love, Your love is a love, Your love is a love without end. Precious Jesus.

We Love

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

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

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**

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, amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

**All: As we offer these gifts, may they reflect our gratitude for
your presence in our lives. Use them to build your
kingdom, to restore what is broken, and to remind the
world of your grace. Amen.**

We Serve

***Closing Hymn**

We Are Called
Verses 1 and 3

found on page 9

***Benediction**

Postlude

Sing of the Lord's Goodness
Ernest Sands

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

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.

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Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

9:30am Worship

Attendance – July 6

Onsite – 64 Online – 35

5th Sunday after Pentecost, July 13

Lectionary Readings

Amos 7:7-17 and Psalm 82

Deuteronomy 30:9-14 and Psalm 25:1-10

Colossians 1:1-14 and Luke 10:25-37

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

Scripture Reader: Kim Hillegass

Worship Tech: Elijah Fox

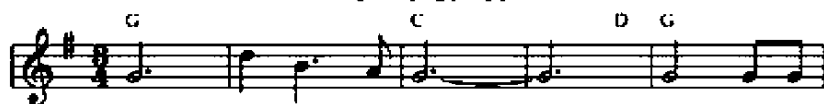
Greeter: Marion DeMilio

Ushers: Carole O'Connell, Wayne Lichenberger

Altar Guild: Marion DeMilio

Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called



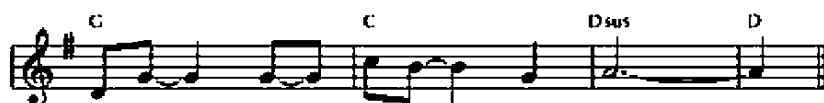
1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God,
 vio - lence will be no more,
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love,

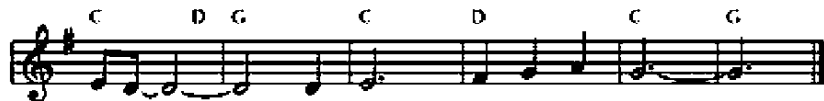
Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

6th Sunday after Pentecost, July 20

Lectionary Readings

Amos 8:1-12 and Psalm 52

Genesis 18:1-10a and Psalm 15

Colossians 1:15-28 and Luke 10:38-42

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Sherri Gangewere

Scripture Reader: Robin Brensinger

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Greeter: Sharon Antrim

Ushers: Marion DeMilio

Altar Guild: Charlotte Kerrigan

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill, in our area hospitals, or otherwise in need of prayer: Larry Albright, Phyllis Ambearle, Grace Arnold, Margaret and Richard Baatz, Christina Bach, Clarence Biehn, Sherry Castello (Bill's mom), Rob Czekner, Janet Ebert, Gus Geissinger, Gary George, Sally Gibson, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Mike Gravely, Donna Held, Geraldine Keim, Emma Kuczek Repp, Gayle Mihulec, Karen Moyer, Joey Raszler, Bert Smith, Leona Snyder, Martha Strauss, and George Williams.

Continued prayers for those in our military, especially Dominic DeMilio, Kaden Rossanese, and Nathan Unger.

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**. To add someone to our prayer list please contact the Church Office.

CALLING ALL READERS AND LITURGISTS!

St. John's is looking to continue to build our established Volunteer list by adding additional readers and liturgists to our Sunday service.

The role of the Liturgist is to assist the pastor in leading worship services by helping to facilitate the entire service. They are not simply readers of scripture like a lector, but rather actively participate in guiding the congregation through the various parts of the worship. The liturgist may lead prayers, calls to worship, or read scripture, among other duties. The role of a Reader is someone who proclaims the

scripture readings during the liturgy. They as well are volunteers from the congregation.

If interested in becoming involved, please email Patrick (music@sjuccf.org) or call him at the church, ext. 13. From the youngest to oldest members of our congregation, please consider becoming involved in this wonderful ministry for the church!

SUMMER SUPPER SHARING FOR THE SOUL!

Wednesdays @ 6:00pm

July 2 & 9, 23 & 30, August 6 & 13

This tongue twister opportunity to deepen our faith and enjoy a fresh time of learning is perfect for your Wednesday evenings this summer. This special summer series invites you to step into Room 201 (Sanctuary/Office level) for supper (salads and sandwiches), study, and a sacred safe space where spiritual senses are stirred and sharpened. Savor a summer evening of sharing designed to stir your soul and strengthen your spiritual walk.

Send us a signal that you're ready to Sign up on Sundays or send an email to Steve! We will be discussing the book, "How to Study the Bible and Enjoy It" by Rev. Skip Heitzig. When you let us know your intention to participate, we will order the book for you. (\$7 donation if you're able.) We will also sign up to donate salads and slider sandwiches each week for us to enjoy together.

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE AND ENJOY IT!

The book *How to Study the Bible and Enjoy It* by Skip Heitzig comprises eight chapters, each designed to guide readers through a comprehensive and engaging approach to Bible study. The chapters are as follows:

1. Deciphering the Bible
2. Finding the Right Tools
3. Getting Started
4. Observation: Opening Your Eyes
5. Interpretation: Opening Your Mind
6. God's Creative Writing
7. Application: Opening Your Heart
8. Practicing What We've Preached

These chapters collectively provide a structured framework for participants to delve into the Scriptures, emphasizing the importance of observation, interpretation, and application in the study process. This is not a Bible Study, but rather a fresh way to look at HOW we study God's Word to find greater meaning from the ancient word and our Still Speaking God. **Save the dates and sign up today** to take part in this special summer study series!

REDNER'S, GIANT & WEIS

Save the register tapes from Redner's and the church receives 1% back. A collection jar for the tapes is on the table in the lounge area or see Karen Stoitsits. Please do not roll the Redner's tapes and do not include other stores' receipts. Buy Giant and Weis gift cards and the church receives 5% back. Also good for purchasing gas. You can get your gift cards from the office or by seeing Tom Moyer & Carol Raszler every Sunday.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

For the month of July, we are collecting pancake mix, pancake syrup, coffee, and canned baked beans. Any other non-perishable food items as well as monetary contributions are always welcome. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary for you to place your food donations. If you would like to volunteer at the pantry on the 4th Monday of each month from 9am to 11am or 5:30pm to 8:00pm at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, please contact Gary Black at (484) 274-2405 or gary.t.black@outlook.com.

GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

You are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury UM Church, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown on the 4th Tuesday of the month 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 support gathering is **Tuesday, July 22.**

PEOPLE NEEDED TO SERVE ON “FUN-RAISING” COMMITTEE

Help is needed for anyone interested in serving on St. John’s “Fun-Raising” Committee. If you have thoughts on ways to raise money for the church, ideas for new fundraisers, suggestions for current fundraisers, we need you to consider becoming part of this committee. For more information, contact chairperson Amy Feidler at (835) 210-5944 or email at alfeidler@gmail.com.

LEHIGH VALLEY SAVEAROUND BOOKS

With the year half over, we can now offer these books to you at a reduced cost of only \$10. You’ll find coupons for restaurants (both dining and fast food), clothing, sporting goods stores, businesses, fun & recreation activities & more. Checks are payable to St. John’s. See Carol Raszler any Sunday morning before or after worship to make your purchase and to look over the book to find all the bargains available.

BACKPACKS, CALCULATORS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

We are collecting backpacks and school supplies for the children in the Whitehall-Coplay School District. A list of items was included in the July newsletter. A shopping list and a collection bin can be found on the table in the coatroom area next to the sanctuary. In addition, there is also a **drive-by scheduled at the Grape Street parking lot on Saturday, July 19, from 10:00am to noon.** Deadline to receive items is Sunday, July 27.

FRIENDSHIP BIBLE CLASS PICNIC

The adult Sunday School picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 16, beginning at 1:00pm at the Raszler’s cabin near Schuylkill Haven—rain or shine. In addition, class members and friends who wish to camp outside are invited to stay the entire weekend. Hamburgers, hot dogs & beverages will be provided; however, each family is asked to bring a covered dish. RSVP to Carol at (610) 393-7572 or at craszler@aol.com no later than **Sunday, July 27**, to confirm who’s coming and what

covered dish you will be bringing. Further information and directions will be available in early July.

ATTENTION: BASKET SOCIAL WINNERS

If you won a basket and don't need that empty basket or if there is any item in it that you will never use, we ask you to return them to the church to be used for a future event. Please bring them to the office or to worship and give them to Amy Feidler or Carol Raszler.

**CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK
OF JULY 13 – JULY 20**

Sun 7/13	9:30 am	Worship
	1:00 pm	Music Camp load in Newsletter Deadline
Mon 7/14	8:00 am	Music Camp
Tues 7/15	8:00 am	Music Camp
	6:00 pm	Elders
	7:00 pm	Consistory
Wed 7/16	8:00 am	Music Camp
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 7/17	8:00 am	Music Camp
Fri 7/18	8:00 am	Music Camp
Sat 7/19	10:00 am	School Supply Drop Off – Grape St.
	3:30 pm	Music Camp
Sun 7/20	9:30 am	Worship

OUR STAFF

Senior Pastor

Rev. Steve Davis
srpastor@sjuccf.org

Director of Music

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music@sjuccf.org

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Treasurer

Sue Weldner
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& Coordinating Custodian

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