

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!**



March 16, 2025

**2nd Sunday in Lent
9:30 am**

We Worship

Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton!

*We are proudly an Open & Affirming (ONA) Congregation
of the Penn NE Conference United Church of Christ!*

You are WELCOME HERE!

***Our Offering** is received as we gather for worship, with plates located on pedestals at the back. We graciously accept your gifts of praise and gratitude to God, 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.*

***Sunday Social** is a time to gather for light refreshments and connection time, to visit, make new friends and build relationships. Join us in Fox Hall following worship each Sunday, hosted by various congregants and groups.*

***Children's Faith Formation** begins in the early part of our worship service in the sanctuary, including the Children's Message. The children then proceed to Room 101 for the lesson. Parents are invited to accompany their children to the classroom and meet the leaders. Children should be picked up from Room 101 following the worship service.*

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

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

- Lent Dinner & Devotionals, Wednesdays at 6:00pm in Fox Hall, Soup & Bread Sign Up
- Sunday Socials for March and April, volunteers needed
- Affirmations of Faith in Lent

*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

A Lonely Walk

Arr. by Jason Krug

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Sharon Antrim

One: God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

**All: God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble,
and our hope and joy on the days of celebration!**

One: Day after day, we seek God's face and the assurance of
God's holy love:

**All: O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us!
Be our guide and our light instead!**

One: One thing we ask of God:

**All: That we may live in God's dwelling place all the days of
our life, and never cease to behold the beauty of God's
home.**

One: Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving,
for God is among and within us!

All: Thanks be to God!

***Opening Hymn**

We Glory in the Cross

Verses 1, 2, and 4

found on page 3 of the bulletin

Affirmation of Faith

Liturgist: Sharon Antrim

A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church

**All: We believe in the one God, creator and sustainer of all
things, Father of Nations, the source of all goodness and
beauty, all truth and love. We believe in Jesus Christ, God
manifest in the flesh, our teacher, example, and Redeemer,
the Savior of the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit, God
present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.**

**We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and
prayer, and in grace equal to every need. We believe in the
Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as
the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice. We believe
in the Church, those who are united in the living Lord for
the purpose of worship and service. We believe in the reign
of God as the divine will realized in human society, and in
the family of God, where we are all brothers and sisters.
We believe in the final triumph of righteousness, and in the
life everlasting. Amen.**

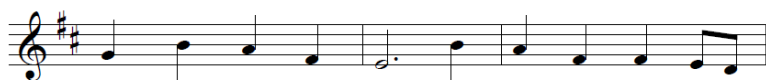
WE GLORY IN THE CROSS

Delores Dufner, OSB

TERRA BEATA
Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930



1. We glo - ry in the cross, in
2. The arms of Je - sus' cross en -
3. The fol - ly of the cross is
4. The beau - ty of the cross is



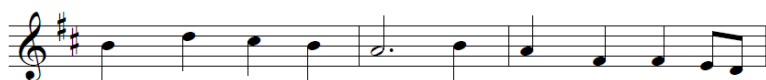
Christ, the cru - ci - fied. In him we die to
com - pass all the earth; in this em - brace we
wis - dom to the wise; for all who choose to
love re - vealed in death; with grate - ful lips we



sin and self and in God's grace a -
find our peace and in this death, new
die with Christ, with Christ will al - so
sing our praise, with mind and heart and



bide. We glo - ry in the cross, in
birth. We glo - ry in the cross, sal -
rise. The mys - t'ry of God's plan un -
breath. In joy we jour - ney on, in



Christ, the ris - en Lord. In him we know the
va - tion's shape and sign, the pledge of ev - er -
folds on Je - sus' cross; the bless - ings of a -
hope of fu - ture bright; Christ Je - sus walks the



Spir - it's life and pow'r of Gos - pel word.
last - ing life, the span of God's de - sign.
bun - dant life are won by pain and loss.
way with us through dark - ness in - to light.

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Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: Sharon Antrim

One: Holy One, we bring before you our prayers and we ask you to hear them, as we confess all that lies uneasily in our hearts.

Time for Silent Prayer

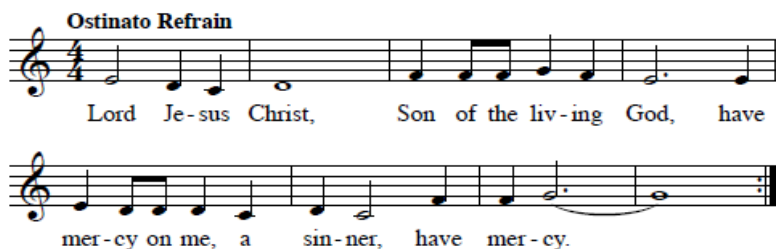
Sung Response

Choir, then All

LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Jesus Prayer

Carol Browning



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Prayer of Confession

One: Holy One, help us to admit that we are broken, broken by fear and hate, by apathy and greed, broken by sorrow and anxiety.

All: Mend our broken places and make them stronger.

One: Holy One, we miss the people that used to be a part of our lives. We grieve the death of our loved ones, the dying of our friends, the estrangement from family, relationships lost because of time and distance.

All: Help us to put aside the past hurts, to reach out, to reconnect, to reconcile; help us to the life that lies beyond death.

One: Holy One, we are consumed and anxious about everything—war, fire, flooding, politics, division and loneliness.

All: Infuse peace and serenity in our hearts.

One: Holy One, too many live in poverty and fear; too many live without love; too many live enraged.

All: Remind us that you have claimed the world, and us, as your own, good and beloved and redeemed. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Liturgist: Sharon Antrim

One: We are God's Beloved; with us, God is well pleased. We are renewed and restored, forgiven and loved. We are a new creation in Christ, everything old has passed away; see, everything is becoming new.

All: **May we know through the redeeming love of the cross, that we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Children's Message

Rev. Davis

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

Hymn

Broken for the Broken

Verses 1 and 2

found on page 6 of the bulletin

***Scripture Reading**

James 1:22-24, 26-27

Reader: Sharon Czekner

Do not merely listen to the word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

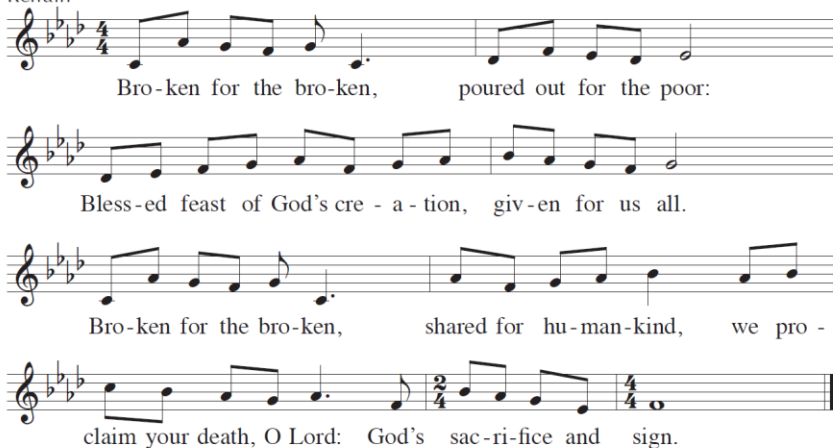
If God Is Love, Don't Be a Jerk!

by John Pavlovitz

"Thou Shalt Not Be a Jerk"

Broken for the Broken

Refrain



Bro - ken for the bro - ken, poured out for the poor:

Bless - ed feast of God's cre - a - tion, giv - en for us all.

Bro - ken for the bro - ken, shared for hu - man - kind, we pro -

claim your death, O Lord: God's sac - ri - fice and sign.

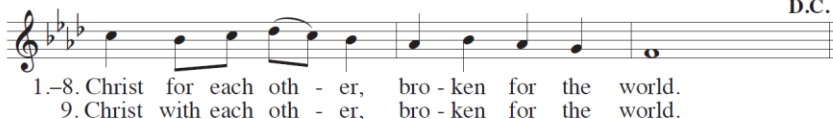
Verses



1. For	the hun - gry ones,	for the thirst - y ones,
2. For	the ones a - bused,	for the ones con - fused,
3. For	the voice - less ones,	for the help - less ones,
4. For	the wound - ed ones,	for the shat - tered ones,
5. For	the ones in chains,	for the ones in fear,
6. For	the ail - ing ones,	for the hurt - ing ones,
7. As	we break this bread,	as we take this cup,
8. As	we trust your word,	as we live your way,
9. Change	our hearts, O Lord,	give us will - ing hearts,

for the lone - ly ones,	you call us to serve,	to be
for the ones re - fused,	you call us to love,	to be
for the home - less ones,	you call us to speak,	to be
for the ti - red ones,	you call us to help,	to be
for the ones in debt,	you call us to give,	to be
for the dy - ing ones,	you call us to care,	to be
as we share this meal,	you call us to change,	to be
as we walk by faith,	you call us to share,	to be
hearts that rec - og - nize	the cour - age to serve	and share

D.C.



1.-8. Christ for each oth - er, bro - ken for the world.

9. Christ with each oth - er, bro - ken for the world.

Text: Chris de Silva, b.1967
Tune: Chris de Silva, b.1967
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We Love

Pastoral Prayer and Prayers of the People

Rev. Davis

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**

Presenting Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to God



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

***Doxology**

A Lenten Doxology

*Published by The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church,
PO Box 340003, Nashville, TN 37203-0003*

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's Love in Christ into our Hearts. Amen**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist: Sharon Antrim

**All: Loving God, our shelter and hope, as we walk through
this holy season, use these offerings to bring comfort to
the wary and hope to the brokenhearted, just as you
draw near to us in our struggles. In Christ's name, we
pray. Amen**

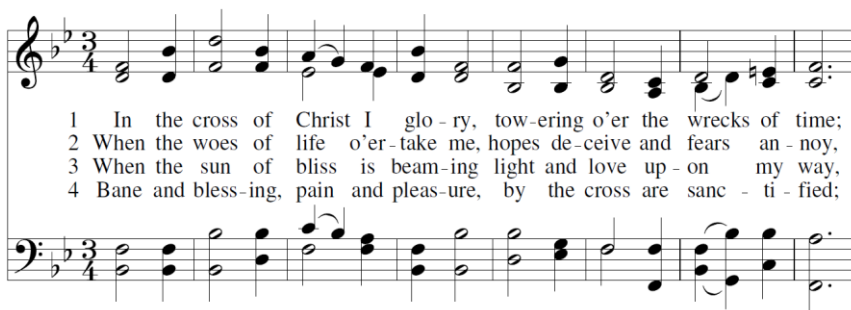
We Serve

*Sending Hymn

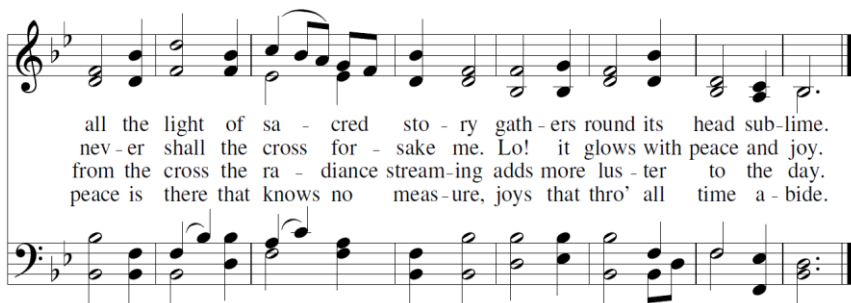
In the Cross of Christ I Glory
Verses 1 and 2

LENT

In the Cross of Christ I Glory 264



1 In the cross of Christ I glo-ry, tow-ering o'er the wrecks of time;
2 When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes de-ceive and fears an- noy,
3 When the sun of bliss is beam-ing light and love up-on my way,
4 Bane and bless-ing, pain and pleas-ure, by the cross are sanc-ti-fied;



all the light of sa-cred sto-ry gath-ers round its head sub-lime.
nev-er shall the cross for-sake me. Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
from the cross the ra-diance stream-ing adds more lus-ter to the day.
peace is there that knows no meas-ure, joys that thro' all time a-bide.

*The Benediction

Rev. Davis

Postlude

In the Cross of Christ I Glory
Verses 3 and 4

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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Lectionary Readings for the Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 and Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1 and Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule

8:30am Adult Faith Formation

- Friendship Sunday School Class

9:30am Worship / Children's Faith Formation

- with Sunday Social time following worship

11:00am Confirmation Class and other Youth

Attendance – March 9

Onsite – 92 Online – 41

Serving in Worship Leadership

March 16, 2025 (Second Sunday in Lent)

Liturgist: Sharon Antrim **Scripture Reader:** Sharon Czekner

Worship Tech: Bill Castello **Acolyte:** Lucas Williams

Greeters: Pam Repetz and Carole O'Connell

Ushers: Kim Hillegass and Wayne Litchenwalner

Altar Guild: Linda Apple

Social Hour: Bob Bold and Colleen Kulhamer

March 23rd, 2025 (Third Sunday in Lent)

Liturgist: Regi Mohr **Scripture Reader:** Carole O'Connell

Worship Tech: Bill Castello **Acolyte:** Nicholas Santee

Greeters: Kim & Aiden Hannis

Ushers: Cindy Reck and Karen Stoitsits

Altar Guild: Marion DeMillio

Social Hour: Open

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill, in our area hospitals, or otherwise in need of prayer: Michael Agrippine, Larry Albright, Phyllis Ambearle, Grace Arnold, Kate Asbill, Margaret and Richard Baatz, Clarence and Dorothea Biehn, Nancy Bowman, Sherry Castello (Bill's mom), Bob Czekner, Rob Czekner, Margaret and Mike Davis, Samuel, Nick and Amanda Devaney, Janet Ebert, Gus Geissinger, Gary George, Sally Gibson, Lynn Gilbert, Tracey

Glass, Ron Glass, Joy Gravely, Gail Hanzl, Donna Held, Ray Hower, Geraldine Keim, Emma Kuczek Repp, Jean Litzenberger, Bob Lopez, Judy Luckenbill, Robert Menges, Gayle Mihulec, Karen Moyer, Joey Raszler, Paul Raszler, Bobby Sherman, Madeline Slivka, Leona Snyder, George Williams, Tessa, Zoey and Aiden.

Prayers for the family of Owen Eberhart, Jr., who died last Sunday.

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.

EASTER FLOWER SPONSORSHIP

Your help is needed in enhancing the beauty of St. John's this Easter by decorating the sanctuary in Easter flowers. To order, please complete an order form and place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office with payment. **Order forms are due no later than Sunday, March 30th.**

Flowers available

White, Orange, and Yellow Lilies

Tulips

Daffodils

\$50.00 Chancel Altar Spring Arrangements

GIANT, WEIS, REDNER'S

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. 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.

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES APPEAL

We will continue to accept monetary contributions for the California wildfires until the end of March. The devastation has left countless families without homes, communities in mourning, and landscapes

forever changed. As the smoke clears, the work of recovery begins—and it's a long road ahead. Your gift will help provide resources including emotional and spiritual care to families in need. It will support long-term recovery efforts, ensuring communities can rebuild stronger and more resilient. General Disaster Relief Fund envelopes can be found on the table in the lounge area. Donations can be mailed into the church office, put in the offering plate, made online or by text. Please make checks payable to St. John's UCC, Fullerton with "California Wildfires 2025" in the memo section.

QUINN FAMILY FIRE SUPPORT

Our former visitation pastor, Rev. Dave Quinn, recently shared that his son and family lost their home and possessions to the California wildfires. We have a special designation offering plate that will be next to our regular center aisle offering plate, with envelopes available for any who would like to contribute to this direct gift of love to the Quinn family. Please note any gifts for "Quinn Family Fire" on your check or envelope. Thank you for your heartfelt support and generosity.

WANTED!

A sewer is needed to join our Crafters group, "Keeping you in Stitches." We are looking for someone willing to help sew our table runners, bowl cozies, baby bibs, etc. Fabric and directions will be provided along with help if needed. Please contact Crol Raszler at 610-393-7572 or crazler@aol.com if you are interested.

EASTER & SPRING CRAFT SALE

Our Crafters group "Keeping You in Stitches" will have Easter and Spring items for sale on **Sundays, March 16 and March 23**. Choose from bunnies, chicks, table runners, T-towels, decorations, household and kitchen items, 12-bean soup mix, baby items, and much more. Come to the lounge area before or after worship to make your purchases. See Carol Raszler.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING "BE THE LIGHT"

For over 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) has been helping bring God's hope and healing to hurting people domestically and around the world. OGHS's mission is to bring aid and relief to

communities torn by war or ravaged by national disaster; to provide advocacy and resettlement assistance for refugees and displaced persons; to support domestic and international development; to fight poverty and its consequences; and to combat injustice in its many forms. Your contribution will help meet urgent as well as long-term needs.

Special offering envelopes for OGHS will be received on Sunday, March 30, as well as during the entire month of March.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

For the month of March, we are collecting pancake mix, jelly, and coffee. 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 7:30pm at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, please contact Gary Black at (484) 274-2405 or gary.t.black@outlook.com.

REMINDER: PASTIE SALE PICKUP

If you placed an order for pasties, pickup is scheduled for Thursday, March 27, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and on Sunday, March 30, following worship in Fox Hall. See Carol Raszler.

BASEBALL IS COMING!

Time to make your reservations for St John's night at the IronPigs Party Porch. Sunday, May 25, 6:35 pm. The price of \$40 includes admission to the porch, buffet from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, and unlimited soft drinks and bottled water throughout the evening. It is Memorial Day eve, so Fireworks will follow the game. Please see Tom Moyer with your paid reservation.

OUR STAFF

Senior Pastor	Rev. Steve Davis srpastor@sjuccf.org
Director of Music	Patrick Sandt music@sjuccf.org
Office Administrator	Alison Berger Boor officesecretary@sjuccf.org
Treasurer	Sue Weldner sbweldner@gmail.com
Financial Secretary & Coordinating Custodian	Michelle Gutekunst financialsecretary@sjuccf.org custodians@sjuccf.org
Worship-Media Tech & Connections Newsletter Editor	Bill Castello stars@sjuccf.org newsletter@sjuccf.org
Custodian	Christina Bach ironton1@verizon.net

CHURCH CALENDAR **FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 16 – MARCH 23**

Sun 3/16	8:30 am	Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship Children’s Faith Formation
	10:30 am	Social Hour Crafts Table
	11:00 am	Confirmation
	3:05 pm	Phantoms game
Mon 3/17	6:00 pm	“Fun Raising” Committee
Tues 3/18	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
	10:00 am	Community of Practice
	6:30 pm	PEEPS
Wed 3/19	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Soup and Study
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 3/20	6:00 pm	Girl Scouts
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	Choir
Sat 3/22	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 3/23	8:30 am	Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship Children’s Faith Formation
	10:30 am	Social Hour Crafts Table