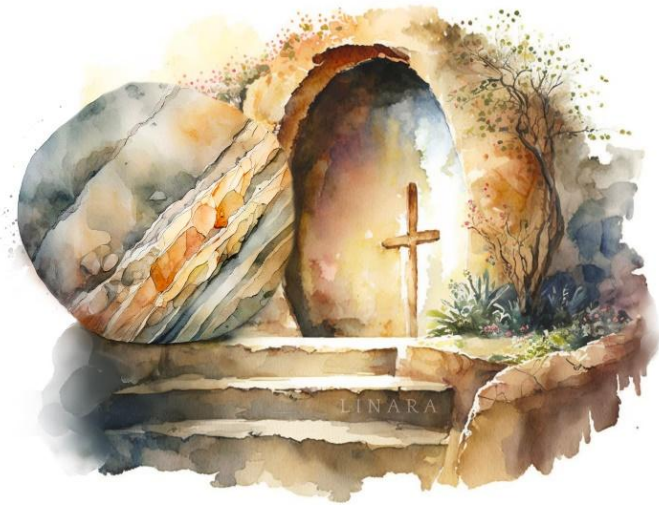




# St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street ☩ Whitehall PA 18052  
[www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org](http://www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org)  
610-264-8421

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



**May 25, 2025  
9:30am**



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

# 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.

***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. Parents are asked to accompany their child if they are at the kids' table in the back.

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

## **Chimes**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Steven Davis

- Basket Social Donations and Event – May 31 & June 1
- Confirmation Sunday – June 1
- Hymns We Love to Sing—Sheets due June 1
- Ocean City Bus Trip – Saturday, June 28 (See pg.11)
- General Synod Expense (See pg. 12)
- Senior Sunday—Acknowledgment of Graduates – June 8

### **\*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**

*Passacaglia*  
Handel Halvorsen

## \*Call to Worship

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger

One: Those who love Jesus keep his words;

**All: Those who love Christ will make their home with God.**

One: Those who know Jesus will know his peace;

**All Those who know Jesus will be taught in the ways of peace.**

One: Come, follow and love Jesus our Lord, who has come to be among us.

**All: Come, worship God, who lives among us, loves us, and calls us home. Amen.**

## \*Opening Hymn

*Peace, My Friends*

Verses 1 and 2

*found on page 3 of the bulletin*

## Invitation to Confession

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger

One: How easy we can learn of God's love – how hard it is to live it! The world distracts us with its easy choices, while we know how intentional we must be to love one another.

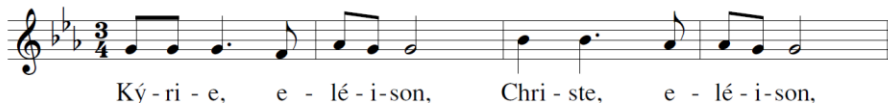
Let us now come before our God as we confess our failures, first in silent prayer.

*(Time for Silent Prayer)*

## Sung Response

### Kyrie

Ostinato I



# PEACE, MY FRIENDS

Ray Repp

Refrain

Peace I leave with you, my friends. Sha-lom, my peace in  
all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends.  
I give to you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

Verses

1. To share God's love is why I came; to show his  
2. Take my hand and be at peace. The Spir - it  
3. With this love the world will know that lone - li -

1. kind - ness with - out end. Go now, my friends, and  
2. of our love I send. And with this love you  
3. ness is at an end. Re - joice, my loved ones,

to Refrain

1. do the same un - til I come a - gain.  
2. will be free un - til I come a - gain.  
3. though I go, for I will come a - gain.

Text based on John 14:25-27; Ray Repp. Text and music © 1967, 2015, Otter Creek Music. All rights reserved.  
Exclusive agent: OCP.

## Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger

**All: Eternal God, because you dwell in our hearts, you know the anger, the pain, the bitterness of our lives that tries to crowd you out. You promise a new heaven and a new earth, so create new spirits and lives within us, O God. Shattered by our sin, your heart can still heal our brokenness. Your Spirit, living deep within our souls,**

**can teach us faithful ways. Your Word, Jesus Christ our Lord, whispers to us of your mercy, your hope, your love.**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger

**One:** The Word which can transform is not some idle gossip, but good news for us. It fills us with forgiveness, equips us for service, and sends us forth to love others as God loves us.

**All:** **In our midst, the Holy Spirit teaches us all we need to know, gives us what we need in order to be faithful, and fills us with peace. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Children's Message**

**Hymn**

*You Are Mine*

Verses 1, 2, and 4

*found on page 5 of the bulletin*

**\*Scripture Reading:**

Acts 16:13-15

Read by: Barbara Menges

On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

# You Are Mine

## Verses



1. I will come to you in the si-lence,  
 2. I am hope for all who are hope-less,  
 3. I am strength for all the des-pair-ing,  
 4. am the Word that leads all to free-dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.  
 I am eyes for all who long to see. In the  
 heal-ing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
 am the peace the world can-not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, he  
 shad-ows of the night, I will be your light,  
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and  
 I will call your name, em-brac-ing all your pain, stand



still and know I am here. (To verse 2)  
 come and rest in me. (To refrain)  
 all will know my name. (To refrain)  
 up, now walk, and live! (To refrain)

## Refrain



Do not be a-fraid, I am with you. I have called you



each by name. Come and fol-low me, I will bring you



home; I love you and you are mine.

4, I

Text: David Haas, b. 1957  
 Tune: David Haas, b. 1957  
 © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

**God of Light, Love and LIFE!  
The Water of Life!**

# We Love

**Pastoral Prayer and Prayers of the People**

Rev. Davis

**The Lord's Prayer** (*unison*)

**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

*Praise God*

***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**

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger

*Prayer for Strengthening the Church Campaign*

**All: Holy One, thank you for the many ways we find connection in being church together. Whenever we feel alone, remind us of how we are a part of your vast creation. Let us find a sense of playfulness and joy in knowing our place in your world. May our joy turn to abundance as we share with one another resources that lead to the flourishing of all people. Come, Holy Spirit, and bless us we pray with signs of your good presence. Amen.**

## We Serve

**Closing Hymn**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Verses 1 and 2

*found on page 8 of the bulletin*

**The Benediction**

Rev. Davis

**\*Postlude**

*Fanfare on Hyfrodyl*

Noel Rawesthorne

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

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

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### **Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule**

#### **9:30am Worship**

with Sunday Social time following worship

During the Summer months, June, July and August,  
Adult and Children's Faith Formation activities take a break  
with special opportunities announced. We look forward to coming  
together again on September 7.



# Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling,  
 2. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er,  
 3. Fin - ish then your new cre - a - tion,

Joy of heav'n to earth come down!  
 Let us all your life re - ceive;  
 Pure and spot - less, gra - cious Lord,

Fix in us your hum - ble dwell - ing,  
 Sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,  
 Let us see your great sal - va - tion

All your faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
 Nev - er more your tem - ples leave.  
 Per - fect - ly in you re - stored.

Je - sus, source of all com - pas - sion,  
 Lord, we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

Love un - bound - ed, love all pure;  
 Serve you as your hosts a - bove,  
 Till in heav'n we take our place,

Vis - it us with your sal - va - tion,  
 Pray, and you praise you with - out ceas - ing,  
 Till we sing be - fore the al - might - y

Let your love in us en - dure.  
 Glo - ry in your pre - cious love.  
 Lost in won - der, love and praise.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
 Tune: HYFRYDOL, 8 7 8 7 D; Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

**Flower Sponsorship**  
**In memory of Mother Edith Crews**  
*By Barbara and Robert Menges*

**Attendance – May 18 – 5th Sunday of Easter**  
Onsite – 86    Online - 35

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, May 25**

**Lectionary Readings**  
*Acts 16:9-15 and Psalm 67*  
*Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 and John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9*

**Serving in Worship Leadership**

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger                      Scripture Reader: Barbara Menges  
Worship Tech – Bill Castello                      Acolyte: Open  
Ushers: Wayne Lichtenwalner, Corrina Schneck  
Greeter: Carole O'Connell                      Social Hour: Consistory

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter/Confirmation Sunday, June 1**

**Lectionary Readings**  
*Acts 16:16-34 and Psalm 97*  
*Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 and John 17:20-26*

**Serving in Worship Leadership**

Liturgists: Confirmands                      Scripture Reader: Linda Powell  
Worship Tech – Bill Castello  
Ushers:/Greeters Sharon Antrim, Wendy Fox, Kirby Hower,  
Charlotte Kerrington, Tyler Shankweiler  
Altar Guild: Marion DeMilio                      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: Larry Albright, Phyllis Ambearle, Grace Arnold, Kate Asbill, Margaret and Richard Baatz, Diana Beck, Clarence and Dorothea Biehn, 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 and Mike Gravely, Donna Held, Ray Hower, Geraldine Keim, Emma Kuczek Repp, Judy Luckenbill, Gayle Mihulec, Karen Moyer, Joey Raszler, Madeline Slivka, 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.

### **SONGS WE LIKE TO SING!**

From now through **June 2<sup>nd</sup>** please share the title of a hymn you like to sing for our "Music Sunday" on June 15<sup>th</sup>! There are sheets for your favorites to be noted on the back table in the Parlor. Share your favorites and return to Patrick or email at [Music@sjuccf.org](mailto:Music@sjuccf.org)

### **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 May, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:estupp@asburylv.org) or (610) 428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next support gathering is **Tuesday, June 24**.

## **BASKET SOCIAL & BAKE SALE**

**Saturday, May 31 – 9am to 2pm**

**Sunday, June 1 – Before & After 9:30 Worship**

**Drawing 11:30am on Sunday in Fox Hall**

You'll find Fox Hall has close to 100 baskets and lots of mouth-watering baked goods. Tickets cost \$5.00 per sheet of 26 tickets. There's a chance to be a winner of a gift card to concerts, restaurants, businesses, and hardware stores. Baskets have themes like Eagles & Penn State merchandise, baby & children's activities, wines, gardening and bird feeding, snacks & candies. If you're a collector of snowmen, gnomes, or angels, you'll find it there. Our baked goods offer a large variety to choose from like cut-out cookies, funny cakes, Moravian cakes, wet bottom shoofly pies, brownies and much more. If you have any questions, see Amy Feidler or Carol Raszler.

## **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 any committee member listed in the church newsletter.

## **OCEAN CITY BUS TRIP**

Would you like to join us for our annual bus trip to Ocean City, NJ, on June 28<sup>th</sup>? We leave at 7:00 am and leave Ocean City at 7:00 pm. Cost is \$50. Money for the bus trip is due to Brian Fisher, Amy Feidler or the office by May 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **GENERAL SYNOD EXPENSE – Special Offerings**

This year, the PNEC has selected both Rev. Steve Davis and Tyler Shankweiler to represent our conference at the national level of our global denomination, July 11-15, in Kansas City, Missouri. The PNEC will reimburse travel, food and General Synod expenses by 50% for all delegates. To help offset the expense for Pastor Steve and Tyler, for the communion Sundays of May, June and July, we will have a special offering plate and envelopes available for your donations. Contributions may also be made online or shared any Sunday, noting General Synod Expense. Thank you for your generosity and support.

## **GRADUATES**

St. John's wants to honor ALL our graduates on June 8. Please share the names of High School and College grads and any others receiving degrees so we may celebrate them.

## **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 **June 7 at 8:30am**. 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).

## **IRONPIGS GAME – RESERVE YOUR TICKET**

We have reserved 80 seats in Section 104 of the grandstand at Coca Cola Park for the IronPigs vs. the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders baseball on **Tuesday, August 5, at 7:05 p.m.** The cost is \$14.00 per person, which includes a ticket to the game & \$2.00 ballpark credit. It'll be Dollar Dog Night where hotdogs are only \$1.00. **Deadline for reservations is Sunday, June 15** – see Carol Raszler before or after worship. Checks are payable to St. John's UCC.

## 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 iron1@verizon.net
Custodian	Eric McWilliams ericmcwill1@hotmail.com

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 25 – JUNE 1

Sun 5/25	9:30 am	Outdoor Worship
	10:30 am	Sunday Social Hour
	6:35 pm	IronPigs Party Porch
Mon 5/26		Office Closed - Memorial Day
Tues 5/27	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
Wed 5/28	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	6:30 pm	STARS
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 5/29	6:00 pm	Girl Scouts
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
	7:00 pm	Choir
Sat 5/31	9:00-2:00	Basket Social
Sun 6/1	9:30 am	Worship – Confirmation Sunday
	10:30 am	Sunday Social Hour
		Basket Social