



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!**



**May 11, 2025
9:30am**



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Fourth 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.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHER'S DAY

"Holy and loving God, we thank you for the gift of motherhood, and for the incredible mothers in our lives. We praise you for the love, patience, and sacrifice they have shown us. May they feel your love and our gratitude today and always. We ask for your blessings on all mothers, that they may be filled with joy, peace, and strength. In Jesus' name, Amen."

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

- New Members Connection class—Received on May 18
- Pentecost Flowers—Order form due May 18
- Outdoor Worship at The Pavilion – May 25
- Basket Social Donations and Event – May 31 & June 1
- Confirmation Sunday – June 1
- Ocean City Bus Trip – Saturday, June 28 (See pg.13)
- General Synod Expense (See pg. 13)
- 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 *Hazrat Bibi Maryam
Zuleikha*

Blessed mothers everywhere, Asalaam Aleikhum, Thank you for your love and care, Asalaam Aleikhum, Asalaam Aleikhum, Aslaam Aleikhum, Asalaam Aleikhum, W'aleikhum Asalaam.

Hazrat Bibi Maryam: A Song for Peace” by Zuleikha is a simple song. Using Arabic text, it praises Mary, Mother of Jesus, as a doorway for remembering all the mothers on the earth, those who came before and those who will come after. The refrain means “peace be with you.” This song came as an inspiration for greater love and harmony in the world.

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger

One: Shepherding God,

All: Bring us into your fold.

One: Lead us beside still waters

All: Restore our souls.

One: Help us see the way we should go,

All: The way we should live.

One: Help us hear your voice calling our name.

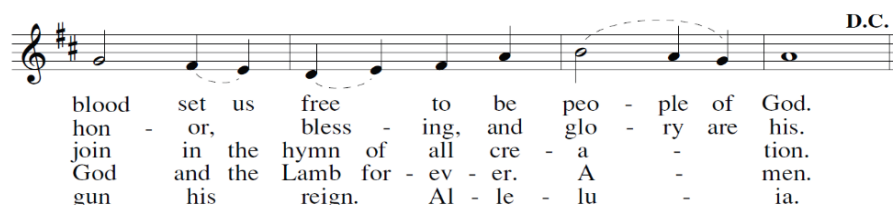
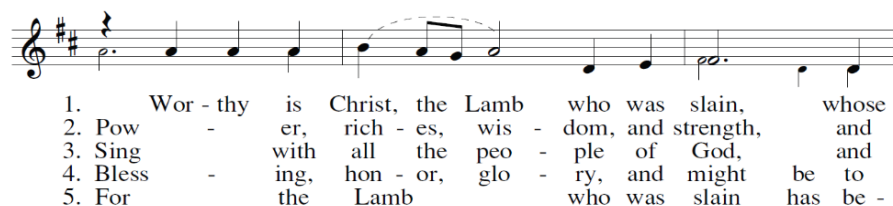
All: Enliven this time of worship, that we may find true life as we join with others: praising your name, celebrating your great goodness, and sharing your love for all people. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

*This is the Feast of Victory
Verses 1 and 2*

found on page 3 of the bulletin

This Is the Feast of Victory



Text: Based on Revelation 5, © 1978, *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Tune: FESTIVAL CANTICLE, Irregular; Richard Hillert, 1923–2010, © 1975, 1988, Richard Hillert

Sacrament of Baptism

Margaret “Maggie” and Elizabeth Fox Reck

Parents: Stephen and Christine Reck



Questions to Parents and Family

Congregational Response

All: With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that these children, Margaret and Elizabeth Fox Reck, are surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal. Amen

Hymn #351

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry
found on page 5 of the bulletin

Children's Message

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

Hymn

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Verses 1 and 2
found on page 6 of the bulletin

*Scripture Reading:

Acts 9:36-42
Read By: Kim Hillegass

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.

He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

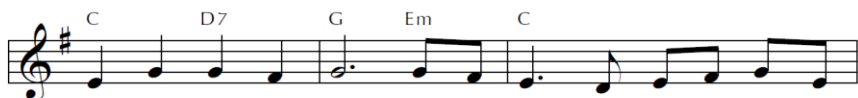
488 I Was There to Hear Your Born-ing Cry



1 "I was there to hear your born - ing cry; I'll be there when
 2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word, I was there to
 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no



you are old. I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to
 cheer you on. You were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord to
 lon - ger young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, com -



see your life un - fold. I was there when you were but a
 whom you now be - long. If you find some - one to share your
 plete what I've be - gun. When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es



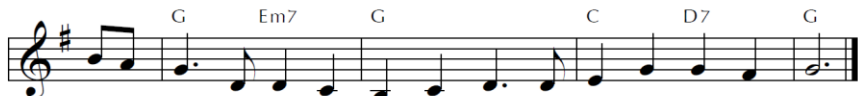
child with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of
 time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to
 in and you shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as



light you wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."
 make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I have al - ways been with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry; I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Originally created to accompany a video series on baptism, this hymn speaks in the imagined conversational voice of God, assuring the person being baptized of God's presence throughout the changing stages of life. It offers a reminder that baptism is a once-in-a-lifetime event.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need



1. My Shep - herd will sup - ply my need; The
 2. When I walk through the shades of death, Your
 3. The sure pro - vi - sions of my God At -



God of love su - preme; In pas - tures green you
 pres - ence is my stay; One word of your sup -
 tend me all my days; O may your house be



make me feed, Be - side the liv - ing stream. You
 port - ing breath Drives all my fears a - way. Your
 my a - bode, And all my work be praise! There



bring my wan - d'ring spir - it back, When I for -
 hand, in sight of all my foes, Does still my
 would I find a set - tled rest, While oth - ers



sake your ways; And lead me for your
 ta - ble spread; My cup with bless - ings
 go and come, No more a stran - ger



mer - cy's sake, In paths of truth and grace.
 o - ver - flows, Your oil a - noints my head.
 nor a guest; But like a child at home.

Text: Psalm 23; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Tune: RESIGNATION, CMD; Funk's *Compilation of Genuine Church Music*, 1832; harm. by Richard Proulx, b.1937

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

**God of Light, Love and LIFE!
Tabitha, the Disciple, Lives!**

Song of Praise

Like A Shepherd
Marty Parks

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care; in Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast brought us, Thine we are. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou has bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine, do Thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way; keep Thy flock, from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray. Early let us seek Thy favor, early let us do Thy will; blessed Lord and only Savior; with Thy love our beings fill.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast love us, love us still; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still, love us still.

We Love

Pastoral Prayer and Prayers of the People

Rev. Davis

A Womanist Version of the Lord's Prayer *(unison)*

Written by Dr. Yolanda Norton

**Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us,
we call upon your names. Your wisdom come.
Your will be done, in all the spaces in which you dwell.
Give us each day sustenance and perseverance.
Remind us of our limits as we give grace to the
limits of others.
Separate us from the temptation of empire,
and deliver us into community.
For you are the dwelling place
within us, the empowerment around us,
and the celebration among us, now and 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

All: For those who have no place to rest, may our gifts provide shelter. For those who are parched for justice, may our generosity quench their thirst. For those who wander the streets alone and afraid, may our blessings provide a way. For those who are in the valleys of suffering, may we offer ourselves as companions on the journey. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

We Serve

Closing Hymn

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Verses 1 and 2

found on page 9 and 10 of the bulletin

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Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther, there is no
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thy own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas-sions they fail not; as thou has been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith - ful-ness, mer - cy and love.
 hope for to - mor - row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain
 Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Great is thy faith - ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960)
 MUSIC: William M. Runyan (1870-1957)

Words and Music © 1923, Ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

FAITHFULNESS
 11.10.11.10.Ref.



The Benediction

Rev. Davis

***Postlude**

Trumpet Tunes by Anthony Giamanco

Patrick Sandt

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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Flower Sponsorship

In honor of Elizabeth and Margaret's baptisms

by their parents, Stephen and Christine Reck, and their grandparents, Cynthia Reck, Kathleen and John Mutch.

In honor of Pastor Steve's 60th Birthday

By Jackie Maxon

Bulletin Sponsorship

In honor of daughter, granddaughter, and wife Alyssa Kathi Amaral's graduation from Wilson College

with a master's degree in Educational Technology,

from parents, LeeAnn and Bob Lopez and grandparents Nancy Keister and Robert Lopez and husband Christopher Amaral.

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 – May 4 – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Onsite – 100 Online - 37

4th Sunday of Easter, May 11

Lectionary Readings

Acts 9:36-43 and Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17 and John 10:22-30

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Robin Brensinger

Scripture Reader: Kim Hillegass

Worship Tech – Bill Castello

Acolyte: OPEN

Ushers: Tom & Emilie Moyer

Greeter: Sharon Antrim

Altar Guild: Corrina Schneck

Social Hour: Colleen Kulhamer, Jackie Maxon, Pam Repetz

5th Sunday of Easter, May 18

Lectionary Readings

Acts 11:1-18 and Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6 and John 13:31-35

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Sharon Czekner

Scripture Reader: Aiden Hannis

Worship Tech – Bill Castello

Acolyte: Aiden Hannis

Ushers: Marion DeMilio & Karen Stoitsits

Greeter: Williams Family

Altar Guild: Linda Apple

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, 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 Gravely, Gail Hanzl, Donna Held, Ray Hower, Geraldine Keim, Emma Kuczek Repp, Bob Lopez, Judy Luckenbill, Gayle Mihulec, Karen Moyer, Joey Raszler, Bobby Sherman, Madeline Slivka, Leona Snyder, Martha Strauss, and George Williams.

We pray for Colleen and family at the death of her husband, Michael Kulhamer, on May 3. Visitation (10am) and Memorial service (11am) will be Wednesday, May 14.

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 2nd** please share the title of a hymn you like to sing for our "Music Sunday" on June 15th! 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

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. Please do not roll the Redner's tapes and do not include other stores' receipts.

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 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.

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.

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, May 20.**

REQUESTING DONATIONS FOR OUR “BASKET SOCIAL & BAKE SALE”

It's not too early for us to receive filled basket donations for our Basket Social on May 31 and June 1. Gift cards or gift certificates to restaurants and businesses as well as any monetary donations are always welcome. If you feel you are not talented enough to make a basket, bring your items to church, and we'll make a basket for you. Re-gifting items are also accepted for anything you received as a gift but will never use or wear. Empty baskets are available if you need one. Donations of baked goods are also requested. 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 28th? 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 or the office by May 28th.

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 11 – MAY 18

Sun 5/11		Mother's Day
	8:30 am	Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Sunday Social Hour
	11:00 am	Confirmation
		Newsletter Deadline
Tues 5/13	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Elders
	7:00 pm	Consistory
Wed 5/14	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	10:00 am	Michael Kulhamer Visitation
	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 5/15	6:00 pm	Girl Scouts
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
	7:00 pm	Choir
Fri 5/16		Confirmation Overnight
Sat 5/17	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 5/18	8:30 am	Friendship Class
	9:30 am	Worship – Welcome New Members
	10:30 am	Sunday Social Hour
	11:00 am	Confirmation Rehearsal
	1:00 pm	Friendship Class luncheon at Deitsch Eck

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
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Custodian	Christina Bach iron1@verizon.net
Custodian	Eric McWilliams ericmcwill1@hotmail.com