



***St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, PA
May 12, 2024***

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*Please stand in body or in spirit

GATHERING SONG

"This is the Day"

UNISON WELCOME

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT

PASSING OF THE PEACE

"The peace of Christ be with you"

"And also with you"

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship

Praise God, who has raised Jesus Christ to reign in power!

Praise God, who sends the Spirit to empower the church.

Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with flute and harp!

Praise God with timbrel and dance; praise God with strings and pipes!

Let everything that breathes praise God!

***HYMN #310**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

CALL TO CONFESSION

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

The Lord watches over our ways. Let us put our trust in God's grace and confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

God, though you call us to delight in your teachings, we can become cynical and full of doubt. Do not judge us, we pray, but heal us and restore us to you. Guard us and protect us from evil, and sanctify us in truth; in Jesus' name. Amen.

KYRIE

Hymnal Companion C-4

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

In Christ Jesus, God has promised to forgive us and reconcile us to God and each other.

With joy, let us share that peace with one another.

***GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #704**

ANTHEM

"I Am Thine, O Lord"

words by Fanny J. Price

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 1

Blessed are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of GOD, and on that law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

for God watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Roxanne Davenport

Children's Corner will be offered following the Children's Message

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

SERMON

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

RESPONSIVE LITANY FOR MOTHER'S DAY (on screen) written by Rev. Patty Lawrence

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS)

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #706**

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Jesus has made God known to us. We already belong to God. And so we dedicate these gifts to God's service and to the glory of God's name. Amen.

***UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH**

Hymnal Companion C-12

***HYMN #409**

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

***COMMISSION & BENEDICTION**

Living in the love of Christ, be open to God calling you into a new ministry.

Jesus Christ has already given us into the arms of a loving God. Therefore go in the Spirit of peace.

POSTLUDE (seated)

Join us following the service for coffee hour!

The "Nursery Nook in the Narthex" quiet area and infant/toddler space in the Parlor are available for children and families to use during worship. Age-appropriate activity bags are also available. See the deacon for assistance.

Birthdays this week: 05/14 Neilan Rensch Jr., Lori Leister and Heather Myers; 05/15 Naomi Mull; 05/16 Jeffery Young, James Boyer and Colton Wadel; 05/17 Joe Wohl; 05/18 Zoe Dereef

Worship Participants:	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Organist	Barbara Motichka
Deacon in Charge	Chris Willman-Bunge
Lector	Connie Kaiser
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz & Ginny Cairns
Bulletin cover	Edd Scheer

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given in gratitude to God for the life and love given to us from Bud Evans by Connie Evans.

St. John's Vision

We are called to love, to learn, to worship and to witness in Christ
as a congregation that welcomes everyone,
and seeks service that will advance God's realm on earth.

Worship Resources:

Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

"A Litany for Mother's Day" written by Rev. Patty Lawrence

NEWS IN THE PEWS May 12, 2024

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton, pastor@sjucc1811.org (641) 260-1868 (cell)
Gary Crum, Music Director | Barbara Motichka, Organist
Roxanne Davenport, Director of Children & Youth
The Rev. Stephen W. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Monday, May 13

5:30 pm Cooking Class - Kitchen
7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall / Scout Room 207

Tuesday, May 14

10:00 am Summer Singers Practice – Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Yoga – Room 202
6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study via Zoom
6:00 pm Amistad Praise Band Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Wednesday, May 15

6:00 pm Spiritual Council Meeting – Room 116
7:00 pm Consistory – Room 116

Friday, May 17

10:00 am Nursery School Family Carnival – Church Lawn
5:30 pm Friday Night Dance Class – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 19

8:45 am Godly Play Class – Room 119
8:45 am Spark! Elementary Church School Class – Room 115
8:45 am Teen Discussion Class – Youth Room 206
8:45 am Wired Word Church School Class – Room 116
10:00 am Sunday Service – Sanctuary
11:00 am Church Picnic – Church Lawn

The American Red Cross is having a blood drive here at St. John's on Friday, May 31, 2024 from 11:30 am – 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. You can call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StJohnChambersburg to schedule an appointment.

Directory Update we will be updating our church directory in preparation for the June Congregational Meeting. If you have any changes, please contact the office at (717) 263-8593 by Sunday, June 2.

Race Against Poverty St. John's is a sponsor of the 2024 Race Against Poverty, investing in the future of our community through SCCAP's Circles program. If you are planning on registering for the race, held on Friday, June 7, we would love for you to join St. John's team! Simply select St. John's UCC from among the teams to join. You can also support our team financially, via the race website (<https://runsignup.com/Race/140281/Donate/etqGyarvF5w69bOf>) or First Fruits.

RSVP for the annual Step Show at NETWORK Ministries St. John's has been blessed to have the Step teams from NETWORK Ministries join us for worship in 2023. Now is the time for their annual "Step Show" on May 18. There will be two shows: 1:00 pm and 3:30 pm. Space is limited; RSVP at <https://www.network-ministries.org/> or by calling 717-264-4640.

St. John's Future Together Strategic Plan Check out the "Progress Report" on the Strategic Plan each month in the Spirit demonstrating how we are living into our future.

Congregational Church Picnic The church picnic will be held after worship on Sunday, May 19. A freewill offering will be accepted.

A Friendly Call Coming soon – A friendly call from volunteers at St. John's. We want to check in and find out how you are doing. We will be using the telephone number found in the current directory. If that is incorrect, please notify the office by May 8.

Healing Service All Are Welcome to our Healing Service on Sunday, June 2, 2024 where you can quietly share your concerns with two others and receive a personal prayer. You can also confidentially submit your prayer request, which will be collected that morning for a special prayer of healing. Won't you join us and bring someone who could use some support during a challenging time.

Save The Date! Our Spring Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 23, following worship. More information about that meeting will be available soon.

Vacation Bible School Work Dates – Work dates for Vacation Bible School are Sunday, July 14 and Sunday, July 21. Work dates will be after Sunday services. Vacation Bible School will run from Sunday, July 28 through Thursday, August 1. Contact Roxanne Davenport with questions.


Summer Singers rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, May 14 at 10 am in Fellowship Hall.

Prayer Chain For many people, participating in the prayer chain has become a real source of comfort and a way of knowing they can help others through the power of prayer. For others it is a source of comfort to know that fellow siblings in Christ are praying for them. If you'd like to participate in the prayer chain, please contact the church office. Prayer requests can be emailed to Pastor Caroline, Loretta or Heather to be shared with the prayer chain.


Many Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the Salvation Army Auxiliary's Fabric Fair!

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee


310




1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,
 4. Mor - tals, join the might-y cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, o - pening to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!
 love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, bring - ing all with - in its span.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ, our Broth - er — all who live in love are Thine;
 Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife;



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!
 sing - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in Thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.
 joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward, in the tri - umph song of life.

WORDS: Henry van Dyke, 1907

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; harm. Edward Hodges, 1864

HYMN TO JOY

8.7.8.7 D

Higher key, No. 32

706 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

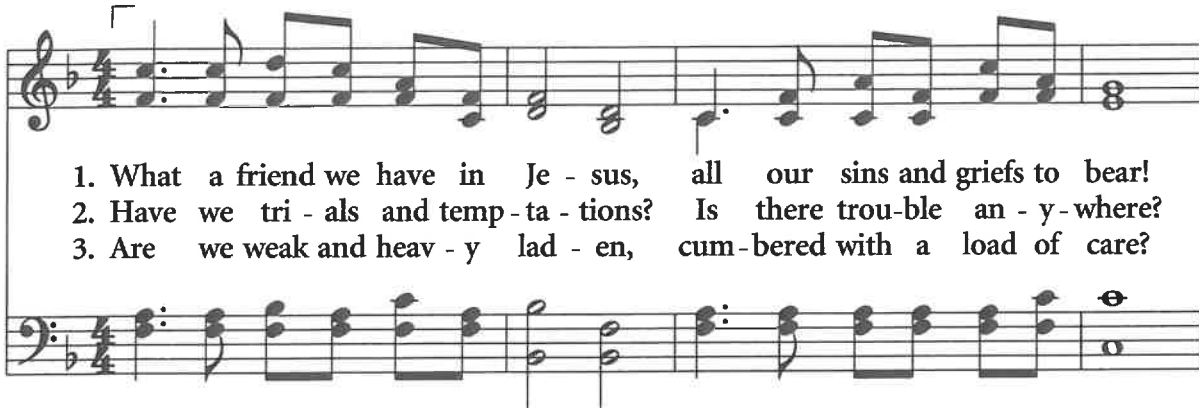
Musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble and bass staff in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here be-low;

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674
MUSIC: *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

OLD 100TH, alt.
LM
Lower key, No. 331

Musical notation for the second system, continuing the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics are: praise Him, a-bove ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

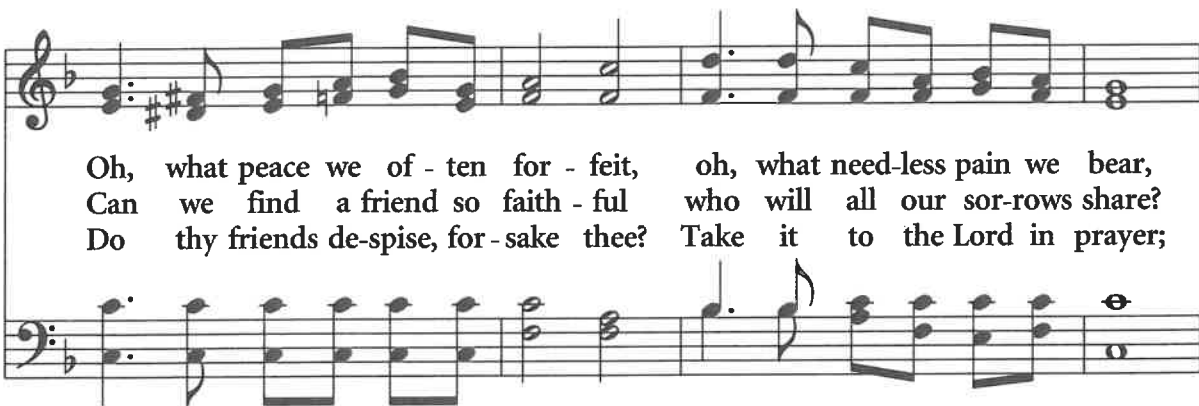
409 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



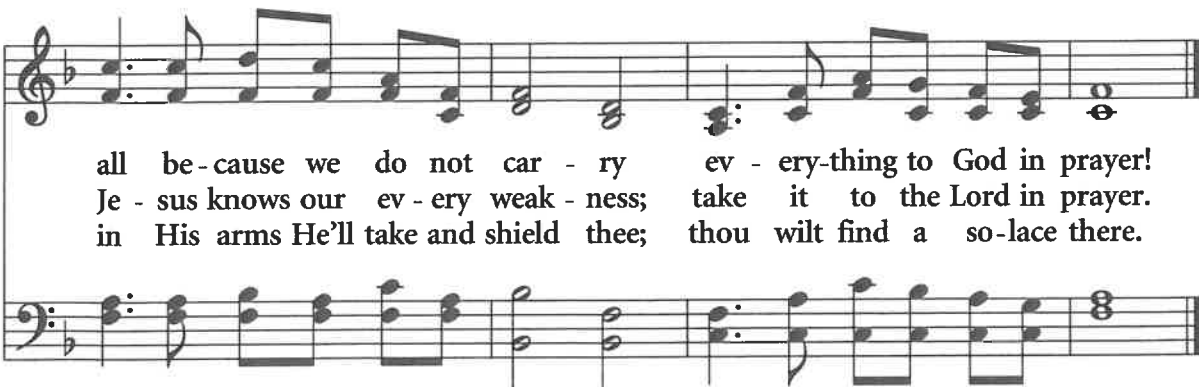
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer.
 in His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

WORDS: Joseph Scriven, 1855
 MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868

CONVERSE
 8.7.8.7 D

Alternate tune, BEACH SPRING