



***St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, PA
May 5, 2024***

SIXTH 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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

"The peace of Christ be with you"

"And also with you"

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship

God holds out to us the promise of new life.

Life as unpredictable, as unrehearsed, as explosive as life at the very beginning.

God calls us to respond to this gift:

with creativity, with joy, and with courage.

In worship, we can begin to accept this gift of new life.

Let us worship our God.

***HYMN #58**

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in the mercy and love of God, let us confess our sins to God and to one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have promised to receive us when we come to you. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have disobeyed your law. We have not loved you or our neighbors as we should. Forgive us, O God, and grant that we may live and serve you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

Hymnal Companion C-4

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from the UCC Book of Worship

God hears the confession of our hearts and lips. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven all our sins, and by the Holy Spirit we are empowered for new life. **We believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 67

Birthdays this week: 05/06 Trinity Burns; 05/07 Mary Lou Hendrickson, Pamela Reichelderfer and Keiran Dereef; 05/09 Doreen Horn; 05/11 Larry Wadel and Christina Myers-Eslinger

Worship Participants:	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Guest Preacher	Rev. Henry J. Hopper
Worship Leader	Jerry Thomason
Organist	Barbara Motichka
Deacon in Charge	Chris Willman-Bunge
Lector	Judy Hodges
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz & Muneath Ham
Bulletin cover	Edd Scheer

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given in loving remembrance of Sue Zimmerman Powell's family; Parents Merrill and Louise with sisters Joan and Becky by Lee Powell.



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.

St. John's Mission

To grow in love of God and neighbor

Worship Resources:

Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

NEWS IN THE PEWS May 5, 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 6

7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall / Scout Room 207

Tuesday, May 7

1:00 pm Nursery School Ministry Meeting – Room 116

5:30 pm Yoga – Room 202

6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study via Zoom

6:30 pm Cub Scouts – Fellowship Hall / Scout Room

Wednesday, May 8

11:30 am Ladies Luncheon – Menno Haven

Thursday, May 9

6:00 pm Girl Scouts – Room 116

6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice – Bell Room 117

7:15 pm Choir Practice – Choir Room 103

Friday, May 10

5:00 pm Mother's Day Dance – Fellowship Hall

Saturday, May 11

5:00 pm Saturday Night Worship – Church Lawn

Sunday, May 12

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

Pastoral Care Coverage Pastor Caroline is currently away dealing with a family emergency. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, May 7. Rev. George Heckard of Grace UCC in Shippensburg will be "on call" for pastoral emergencies. If a pastoral emergency arises, please contact the church office and they will get your message to Pastor Heckard.

Legal Services Book Sale The Franklin County Legal Services Book Sale will be held June 7 (9 am to 8 pm) June 8 (9 am to 5 pm) and June 9 (12 pm to 4 pm) at Fayetteville Elementary School. If you would like to volunteer forms are available on the bulletin boards in the church lobby or the back entrance. Forms must be turned in by Sunday, May 5 to the church office.

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.

Mother's Day Dance Join us on Friday, May 10 from 6 – 9 pm for an evening of ballroom dance to celebrate Mother's Day. Tickets will be \$10 per person at the door. This donation will help us provide further dance opportunities in our community.

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.

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.

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.

Congregational Church Picnic The church picnic will be held after services 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.

58 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3. To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;
 in all life Thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Thy jus - tice, like moun - tains, high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
 Thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish — but naught chang - eth Thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867 (1 Tim. 1:17)
 MUSIC: Welsh hymn tune, from John Roberts' *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

ST. DENIO
 11.11.11.11
 Lower key, No. 197

706 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written 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."

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine 619

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 rap - ture now burst on my sight: an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a -
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest: watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

God, born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood.
 bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 bove, filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873
 MUSIC: Phoebe Palmer Knapp, 1873

ASSURANCE
 9.10.9.9 with refrain