



***St. John's United Church of Christ  
Chambersburg, PA  
October 13, 2024***

## **TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

\*Please stand in body or in spirit

### **GATHERING SONGS**

*"Sanctuary at St. John's" and "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"*

### **OPENING SONG**

*"Home"*

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing*

Come, however you are, and lay your burdens on the Lord—

**burdens of fear and anger, of anxiety and uncertainty.**

Come, however you are, and turn your heart to scripture's mandate:

**to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.**

Come, however you are, and remember the promises of God's word:

**that we shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.**

Come, however you are, no matter who you are, and no matter where you are,

**and let us gather to lean on the everlasting arms of Christ Jesus.**

### **\*PRAISE SONG**

*"Here I Am to Worship"*

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing*

Gracious God, as did your servant Lydia,

we too live in places of many viewpoints, beliefs, and backgrounds.

It's all too tempting to throw in the towel and declare those chasms irreconcilable.

But your Son Jesus Christ refused to treat reconciliation as a pipe dream.

Instead, he stepped into the divide and healed, taught, fed, and loved.

Gather us this day that we might come together with the same goal:

**to heal a weary world, to teach the message of grace and love that you've taught us, to feed others as you have fed us manna from heaven, and to love others as you first loved us. Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*by Rev. Nicole Pickens*

Gracious God, whose steadfast love endures forever, inspire us to recognize your passion, justice, and mercy for all, so that we might follow your example and be part of your transformative work as citizens and as kinfolk to all humanity. We pray in the name of Jesus the Redeemer and by the power of your vibrantly moving Spirit. Amen.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Mark 10:17-31

**RESPONSIVE READING**

Psalm 90:12-17 (The Inclusive Bible)

Make us realize how short life is that we may gain wisdom of heart.

**YHWH, relent! How long before you have mercy on your faithful ones!**

When morning comes, fill us with your love, and we will celebrate all our days.

**Give us joy for as many days as you afflicted us, for as many years as we knew misfortune!**

Let your work be seen by your faithful, your glory be witnessed by your children.

**Let YHWH's favor be upon us! Grant success to the work of our hands, success to the work of our hands!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"O Lord Hear My Prayer"*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Roxanne Davenport

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

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

**SERMON**

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

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

**INVITATION TO GIVING**

**OFFERING SONG**

*"We Fall Down"*

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #706**

*"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*

**God, we give to the work of your church and your world what is already yours: ourselves, our lives, and our means. Make good come from these gifts. Teach us to use what we have with wisdom and compassion. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.**

**\*CLOSING SONG**

*"Days of Elijah"*

**\*COMMISSION & BLESSING**

*by Rev. Dr. Rochelle A. Stackhouse*

May the power of Christ lift us above despair.

May the energy of Christ move through our weariness.

May the peace of Christ settle our anxiety.

May the challenge of Christ raise our expectations.

May the grace of Christ assure us of forgiveness when we fall short.

May the love of Christ, greater than we could ask or imagine, set us dancing into the future. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

“Coconuts”

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.

Join us following the service for coffee hour!

**Birthdays this week:** 10/14 Wayne Scubelek, Peggy Bryner, H Mark Bard and David Taylor; 10/16 Barbara Aveni, The Rev. Robert Macfarlane, Tena Keeney and Michael Hoffeditz; 10/18 Sarah Myers; 10/20 Jonathan Miller

<b>Worship Participants:</b>	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Amistad Praise Band	Guz Mora, Roxanne Davenport, Diana Kongkeattikul, Kathleen Mooshian
Deacon in Charge	Mike Blumberg
Lector	Connie Kaiser
Children's Corner	Chani Wolfe
Bulletin cover	Edd Scheer

**The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross** are given in honor of our grandchildren Jayla and Atlas by Barb and Harold Wissinger.



### **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:**

*Liturgical Resources for Election Season, a resource of the Clergy Emergency League, edited by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing*

*The Inclusive Bible: the First Egalitarian Translation*

*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2*

## **NEWS IN THE PEWS October 13, 2024**

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton, [pastor@sjucc1811.org](mailto: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**

### **Today: Immunization Clinic, Photo Directory Session and Pride Fest**

#### **Monday, October 14**

10:00 am Meditation Class – Parlor Room 104  
5:30 pm Cooking Class - Kitchen

#### **Tuesday, October 15**

6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study via Zoom  
6:30 pm Cub Scouts – Fellowship Hall  
7:00 pm Amistad Praise Band Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall

#### **Wednesday, October 16**

2:00 pm Church Book Study – Conference Room 111

#### **Thursday, October 17**

6:00 pm Bell Choir – Choir Room 103  
6:00 pm Fall Dance Class – Fellowship Hall  
6:30 pm Girl Scouts – Room 201  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room 103

#### **Friday, October 18**

5:30 Dance Class – Fellowship Hall

#### **Saturday, October 19**

All Day – Book Sale Set-up – Fellowship Hall

#### **Sunday, October 20**

All Day – Book Sale Set-up – Fellowship Hall  
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

**Feedback Sessions** to talk about the proposed Constitution and Bylaws changes will be held after worship on October 13 and 20. Copies of the documents are available in the Narthex.

**New Photo Directory** We are very excited to plan our new photo directory this fall! We will be working with local photographer Amanda Hann. A session will be held in her studio on Tuesday, October 29. Please call the church office to book your sessions. Additional in-person sessions may be offered, depending on interest. More information is in the October Spirit. Please note: there is a \$35.00 fee, cash or check only.

**Candy Collection** We are now collecting donations of bags of individually wrapped candy for our Halloween event Treats No Tricks. Donations can be dropped off in the church office.

**Operation Dishwasher** is now underway! More details about this campaign are in the Spirit.

**Directory Update** we will be updating our church directory in preparation for the November Congregational Meeting. If you have any changes to your contact information, please get in touch with the office at (717) 263-8593 by Sunday, November 3.

**Thank you so much** for all the wonderful help with the St. John's Autumn Tea! We appreciate all who advertised, invited friends and attended the event. We also thank the set-up team (men & ladies), the prep workers, the kitchen help, the dapper waiters, the busy dishwashers, the clean-up/tear down volunteers, and tablecloth washing ladies! Thanks to Pastor Caroline for her support and assistance. A special thanks goes to Heather and Loretta who expertly and kindly handled the ticket sales and table chart!

**Fall Book Study** Join Pastor Caroline in Conference Room 111 on Wednesdays at 2 pm for a weekly book study and discussion on Jim Wallis's book "The False White Gospel." At our final session on Wednesday, October 16, we will discuss chapter 7 "Our Community is Not a Tribe" and chapter 8 "A Remnant Church." Come prepared to join the conversation!

**Habitat Book Sale** the Habitat for Humanity book sale is fast approaching. Sale dates will be October 25, 2 pm - 8 pm, October 26, 9 am - 5 pm and October 27, 12 pm - 4 pm. We are asking for volunteers for all 3 days of the sale. October 25, 4 cashiers from 1:30 pm to 8 pm and 3-4 people to help organize. October 26, 4 cashiers 8:30 am to 5 pm and 4-5 people to help organize. October 27, 4 cashiers 12 pm - 4 pm and 4-5 people to help organize. Also on the 27th we will need 10-12 people to help pack boxes and load skids after the sale is finished (this took several hours last year). The option to split shifts is also available. Please contact Harold or the office to sign up.

**Diana's Devotional Corner** Every week Diana Kongkeattikul writes a reflection that is posted to our website. We are now offering a special Eblast weekly with these reflections/devotionals. If you would like to receive these directly, please let the office know so we can put you on the list!