



***St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, PA
October 5, 2025***

GOD PROVIDES MANNA / WORLDWIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

*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"

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY & PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

"God of Enough" by Tim Graves (adapted)

There are days when we live with a theology of scarcity, thinking there is never enough.

There are other days when we live with a theology of abundance, trusting in God's provision and abundance.

God provides enough. God created each of us as enough.

We are called to trust in this truth, not letting our fears separate us from God or from one another.

Move our hearts, lessen our fears in this hour.

There is enough for all of us.

Praise be to the God of Abundant Love!

Praise to the God of Enough!

***HYMN #33**

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

CALL TO CONFESSION

written by Thom Shuman, from Lectionary Liturgies

We continue to believe that we must earn our way into God's heart. But God's grace is given to each of us, for all for us, freely, unconditionally, always. Let us open our lives to this mercy as we pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

written by Thom Shuman

It seems we cannot decide, Cloud of Glory. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, home. We believe that the gospel can transform lives (at least for those who need it – not us). Forgive us, Presence of Peace. Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of continual complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting. Instead of whiners, may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to reach out and bring the kin(g)dom of God to everyone we meet.

KYRIE

Hymnal Companion C-4

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

written by Thom Shuman

This is the good news: there is no ranking in God's kin(g)dom. God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life. **God has kept the covenant. We have been forgiven, we have been made new people. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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

SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:47-51

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 78:23-29 (The Inclusive Bible)

Yet you gave a command to the skies above and opened the doors of the heavens;

you rained down manna for them to eat, and gave them grain from heaven.

Mere mortals ate the bread of angels; you sent them food in abundance.

You loosed the east wind in the heavens and drove the south wind by your power.

You rained meat down on them like dust, winged fowl like sand on the seashore.

You made birds come down into their camp and around their tents. They ate until they were fully satisfied; you gave them what they craved.

ANTHEM

"Standin' in the Need of Prayer"

arr. Patti Drennan

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Roxanne Davenport

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 16:1-18

SERMON

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

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

Lord, giver of all good gifts, thank you for the resources gathered here. Use these gifts for the advancement of your kin(g)dom; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

(please follow along on the screen)

We celebrate communion this day by intinction, coming forward to the altar to receive the bread and cup. Pre-packaged elements are also available.

***HYMN #523**

"God Be With You"

***COMMISSION & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE (seated)

Join us a time of fellowship after worship!

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.

All are welcome at Christ's table. To let the church office know that you communed today, please sign the black attendance pad found in each row. If you are communing from home, please contact the church office to let us know.

Birthdays this week: 10/7 Ken Dilling; 10/8 Camden Wadel; 10/10 Judy Cook and Sandy Lewis; 10/11 Logan Parson; 10/12 Scot Orndorff.

Worship Participants:	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Organist	Barbara Motichka
Deacon in Charge	Diana Konkeattikul
Lector	Lloyd Beers, Jr.
Children's Corner	Roxanne Davenport
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz, Neath Ham and Heidi Ramos
Bulletin cover	"Communion" by John (traqair57 on Flickr)

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given in loving memory of John Gaal by his wife Nancy.



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:

Call to Worship "God of Enough" by Tim Graves, posted on LiturgyBits

Prayer of Confession and Assurance by Thom Shuman, posted on Lectionary Liturgies

The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

33

1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side: bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent,

hold me with Thy power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer,
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 be Thou still my strength and shield, be Thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to Thee, I will ev - er give to Thee.

WORDS: William Williams, 1745; trans. st. 1, Peter Williams, 1771

(Ex. 13:21-22; 16:11-17; 17:1-7)

MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA

8.7.8.7.8.7

Higher key, No. 37

God Be with You

523

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves. The score includes two systems of music. The first system contains the first two lines of the lyrics. The second system contains the remaining two lines of the lyrics. The music concludes with a double bar line.

1. God be with you till we meet a-gain! By His coun-sels guide, up-hold you,
2. God be with you till we meet a-gain! 'Neath His wings se - cure - ly hide you,

with His sheep se-cure-ly fold you; God be with you till we meet a - gain!
dai - ly man-na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain!

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880
MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

GOD BE WITH YOU
9.8.8.9

NEWS IN THE PEWS October 5, 2025

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton, pastor@sjucc1811.org (641) 260-1868 (cell)
Tonya Schwartz, Office Administrator, manager@sjucc1811.org (717) 263-8593 (office)
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: Chili Cook-Off after worship – Fellowship Hall

Bible Study on the Book of Acts, 8 pm, Zoom (link in Friday e-blast)

Monday, October 6

No meditation this week – will resume next Monday Oct 13

1:30 pm Monday Afternoon Book Study – Conference Room 111

6:00 pm CPR Recertification Training – Room 116

7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, October 7

The church office will be open 9 am-11 am

6:00 pm Ladies' Bible - Zoom

6:30 pm Cub Scouts – Fellowship Hall/then break into smaller groups

Wednesday, October 8

11:30 am Ladies Luncheon – Olive Garden

Thursday, October 9

6:00 pm Dance Class – Fellowship Hall

6:15 pm Girl Scouts – Room 116

7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room 103

Sunday, October 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 – Room 206

8:45 am Wired Word Church School Class – Room 116

10:00 am Sunday Worship – Sanctuary

11:15 am Flu/COVID Immunization Clinic – Parlor Room 104

12:00 – 5:00 pm Franklin County Pride Festival – Wilson College

Pastor Appreciation October is observed as Pastor's Appreciation Month. We will recognize Pastor Caroline's ministry during the October 19 worship service. As part of ceremony, we would like to present Caroline with a basket of cards reflecting the personal gratitude of the congregation. Also, consider including a gift card. Cards can be dropped off or mailed to the church office or given to Dale Myers.

September/October Upper Room devotionals are currently available at the Welcome Center. We suggest a donation of \$1 for small print/\$2 for large print copies. If you would like to have a copy mailed to you, please contact the church office.

Book Sale Donations will be accepted through Saturday, October 11. Make sure to drop off your donations (books, puzzles, games, CDs, DVDs) before then. We are very pleased by the number of donations we have received!

Holy Manners Copies of our draft Behavioral Covenant or "Holy Manners for St. John's United Church of Christ" are available in the Narthex or by request from the Church Office.

Immunization Clinic for Flu and COVID shots will be after worship on Sunday, October 12. Walk-ins are welcome for Flu shots; contact Chambers' Apothecary to reserve a COVID vaccine.

Franklin County Pride Festival is Sunday, October 12, 12-5 pm at Wilson College. We are a sponsor of this wonderful event and will have a booth/table. Make sure to stop by and see us!

CROP Hunger Walk: October 19 CROP, the "Christian Rural Overseas Program" of Church World Service was established in 1947 in response to massive starvation in post-WWII Europe. The mission was simple: feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and heal the sick. The challenge today is even greater. Meet at First United Methodist, 225 S. Second Street, at 1:30 pm to register; the walk starts at 2 pm. Checks can be made possible to CWS/CROP. We hope to have good representation from St. John's UCC! Contact Pastor Caroline with questions.

Bible and a Beer is an opportunity to talk about our faith in public. Join us on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Trojan Diner at 6:30 pm. Our next gathering will be October 20.

Birthday Balloons All are invited to share in a special coffee hour the last Sunday of the month to honor all who celebrated a birthday that month. October birthdays will be honored on Sunday, **October 26**. We hope you'll join us!

Monday Afternoon Book Study meets at 1:30 pm in the Conference Room. We are currently reading "A People's History of Christianity: The Other Side of the Story" by Diana Butler Bass. We'll read Chapter 3 for our session on 10/6. Pick up a copy from your favorite retailer & join in!

Sunday Night Bible Study Join Pastor Caroline on Sunday evenings at **8 pm via Zoom** for a Bible study on the book of Acts. Our session on **October 5** will focus on Acts Chapter 15. Zoom Meeting ID: 836 0593 5961 and Passcode 277938. A hyperlink for this opportunity is included in the weekly e-blast. We encourage you to read from a variety of translations.

October First Fruits go to support Sweet Grace Ministries. October is National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month and aims to raise awareness about the prevalence and impact of pregnancy and infant loss, provide support to grieving families, and promote education and resources. Sweet Grace offers help and support to these families in the form of baskets, comfort bags, photography, support groups, remembrance events, mentoring couples, and more. Thank you for your support of this ministry.