



John 10:1-18 • [illustratedministry.com](http://illustratedministry.com)

***St. John's United Church of Christ  
Chambersburg, PA  
March 15, 2026***

## **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT: ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP**

\*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**

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY & PRELUDE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*from The Work of Imagination*

Come into God's presence, you who imagine and you who seek, you who disrupt and you who repair.

**By the Spirit, we gather in hope.**

Come into God's embrace, you who seek a good shepherd, you who long to be known and protected, you who are far off and you who are near.

**In Christ, we gather as one flock.**

Come into God's presence, singing for joy and for justice; bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

**To God be the glory! We gather to praise!**

**\*HYMN #302**

*"Come Away from Rush and Hurry"*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

*from The Work of Imagination*

Siblings in Christ, let us confess our sins to God, for God knows how we struggle to discern good leadership, sometimes choosing to follow people for their charisma or power, rather than their integrity and wisdom.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*from The Work of Imagination*

God, our Good Shepherd, we confess we often look to unwise leaders to guide us, whether in work, play, government, faith, or daily living. We overlook poor choices and bad boundaries, and we find ourselves enamored by personalities and power. **Forgive us for pursuing folly over wisdom. Forgive us for choosing flashy leaders over leaders you have gifted with experience and discernment. Forgive us for not holding our leaders accountable. Help us keep firm boundaries with leaders, encouraging them to make hard choices. And when you call us into leadership roles, help us rise to the occasion with integrity and faithfulness. Amen.**

**KYRIE**

Hymnal Companion C-4

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*from The Work of Imagination*

Beloved in Christ, God knows how leaders sometimes fail us, and how we fail our leaders.

And in spite of our sins and errors in judgment, the Good Shepherd continues to guide us into depths of care. Receive the grace and pardon of our Good Shepherd and be at peace.

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

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*from The Work of Imagination*

As we walk through the wild wilderness of Lent, we imagine a world where all creation is at peace. We imagine a world without war, where creation flourishes and children are safe. Let these dreams of peace begin here as we share the peace of Christ with one another. May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Ezekiel 34:1-10

**RESPONSIVE READING**

*"Where I Wander- You" by Levi Yitzchok*

Where I wander – You! Where I ponder – You!

**Only You everywhere, You, always You. You, You, You.**

When I am gladdened – You! And when I am saddened – You!

**Only You, everywhere You! You, You, You.**

Sky is You! Earth is You! You above! You below!

**In every trend, at every end, Only You, everywhere You!**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Roxanne Davenport

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

**SCRIPTURE READING**

John 10:1-18

**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**

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" v. 4*

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine  
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*from The Work of Imagination*

**Generous God, we bring our gifts before you and your church like tiny seeds from a dandelion. Send out these gifts on the mighty wind of your Spirit, bringing growth, bearing fruit, and nourishing both our faith community and our neighbors. May each gift of every size bloom with your holy imagination. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #66**

*"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*adapted from The Work of Imagination*

Let us affirm our faith as we participate in the holy work of imagination. **We believe the mantle of leadership is serious, requiring wisdom, integrity, and humility. We believe Jesus showed us how to lead with love, justice, and advocacy for those who are weak or cast aside. We believe God calls leaders to accountability. We believe leaders must seek to learn and grow. We believe good leaders are defined by their wisdom and compassion. We believe we are all called to lead at times, but we choose some leaders for more responsibility because they have proven themselves wise and ready. We believe that our one great leader is Christ, and he guides us through the power of the Holy Spirit, who speaks to all our hearts.**

**\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

*from The Work of Imagination*

**POSTLUDE (seated)**

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.

**Birthdays this week:** 03/17 Charles 'Ed' Foltz Jr.; 03/19 Belinda Johnson; 03/21 John Bryner and 03/21 Aubrei McSwiggan.

<b>Worship Participants:</b>	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Organist	Barbara Motichka
Choir Director	Gary Crum
Deacon in Charge	Peter A'Zary
Lector	Erin Hartman
Children's Corner	Swann & Diana Kongkeattikul
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz & Neath Ham
Bulletin cover	"Hired Hand" © 2026 Illustrated Ministry

**The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross** are given to the Glory of God.

**St. John's Mission:** To grow in love of God and neighbor

**Worship Resources:**

*"Where I Wander- You" by Levi Yitzchok (translated by Perle Besserman)*

<https://www.journeywithjesus.net/poemsandprayers/4076-where-i-wander-you>

*"The Work of Imagination" Lenten liturgy & commentary © 2026 Illustrated Ministry*

# Come Away from Rush and Hurry 302

Unison

1. Come a - way from rush and hur - ry to the still - ness of God's  
 2. In the pas - tures of God's good - ness we lie down to rest our  
 3. Come, then, chil - dren, with your bur - dens — life's con - fu - sions, fears, and

peace; from our vain am - bi-tion's wor - ry, come to Christ to find re -  
 soul. From the wa - ters of God's mer - cy we drink deep - ly, are made  
 pain. Leave them at the cross of Je - sus; take in - stead His king-dom's

lease. Come a - way from noise and clam - or, life's de-mands and fren-zied  
 whole. At the ta - ble of God's pres - ence all the saints are rich - ly  
 reign. Bring your thirsts, for He will quench them — He a - lone will sat - is -

pace; come to join the peo-ple gath-ered here to seek and find God's grace.  
 fed. With the oil of God's a-noint-ing in - to ser-vice we are led.  
 fy. All our long - ings find at - tain-ment when to self we glad - ly die.

WORDS: Marva J. Dawn, 1999

MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

Words © 1999 Marva J. Dawn. Music © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

PROMISE

8.7.8.7 D

## 66 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

1. My Shep-herd will sup - ply my need; Je - ho - vah is His name;  
 2. When I walk through the shades of death, Thy pres-ence is my stay;  
 3. The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

in pas - tures fresh He makes me feed be - side the liv - ing stream.  
 one word of Thy sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.  
 O may Thy house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

He brings my wan-dering spir - it back when I for - sake His ways;  
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my ta - ble spread;  
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;

and leads me, for His mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
 my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows, Thine oil a - noints my head.  
 no more a stran - ger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

**NEWS IN THE PEWS March 15, 2026**

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton, [pastor@sjucc1811.org](mailto:pastor@sjucc1811.org) (641) 260-1868 (cell)  
Tonya Schwartz, Office Administrator, [manager@sjucc1811.org](mailto: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:** Bible Study on the Book of Esther, Chapter 4, 8 pm, Zoom (link in Friday e-blast)  
St. John's Artistic Showcase & Silent Auction starts today until March 29 in the lobby.

**Monday, March 16**

10:00 am Monday Meditation – **Cancelled until further notice**  
1:30 pm Monday Afternoon Book Study – Conference Room 111 (Chapter 5)  
6:30 pm Bible and Beer – Trojan Diner  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, March 17**

5:30 pm Yoga – Room 202  
6:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study– Zoom  
6:00 pm Cub Scouts Crossover Ceremony – Sanctuary

**Wednesday, March 18**

7:00 pm – CMC Lenten Service – Quincy UMC (8734 Anthony Highway Waynesboro, Pa 17268)

**Thursday, March 19**

6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice – Bell Room 117  
6:30 pm Council Meeting – Conference Room 111  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room 103

**Saturday, March 21**

8:00 am Camp Sticky Bun Baking – Kitchen

**Sunday, March 22**

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 Upper Room Church School Class – Conference Room 111  
8:45 am Wired Word Church School Class – Room 116  
8:45 am Sunday Morning Caffeine Church School Class – Parlor Room 104  
8:00 pm Bible Study on the Book of Esther – Zoom

**Nursery School Smith's Chicken Sale** is Saturday, March 28, here at SJUCC. Tickets will be sold on March 15 before and after church or you can stop by and purchase them from the Nursery School M-F from 9am -2pm. Thank you for your support of SJNS

**Monday Afternoon Book Study** We will read chapter 5 of Norman Wirzba's book "Love's Braided Dance: Hope in a Time of Crisis" for our discussion on Monday, March 16, 1:30 pm in Conference Room 111. Come and join the conversation!

**Bible and a Beer** is an opportunity to talk about our faith in public. Join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at the Trojan Diner at 6:30 pm. Our next gathering will be March 16.

**Camp Sticky Bun Sale** Camp volunteers will be making and selling cinnamon sticky buns for \$12/dozen and \$7/half dozen! Orders and payment will be taken before and after church on Sunday March 15. Pick up your "ready to bake" sticky buns on Sunday morning, March 22. Freshly baked sticky buns will also be on sale, after church, on March 22 for \$2 each. Help support St. John's Camp and enjoy a tasty treat! All proceeds support the Camp Fund.

**St. John's Craft Night** Monday, March 30, 6 pm, room 202, \$15. Get ready for spring and encourage new life by painting/decorating your own gourd birdhouse! Sign up by 3/23.

**Blueberry Bliss Spring Tea Tickets** will be held on Saturday, April 25, 1:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Make sure you're on the VIP list to secure your ticket(s) when they go on sale on March 18! Tickets are \$35, cash or check.

**CVAS Collection** The Youth are once again helping St. John's Nursery School in their collection of items for the CVAS by creating wonderful animal displays and signs for the collection sites in the church. We will embark on a delivery of these items on April 11.

**Photo Directory and Contact Information** Just a reminder we are in the final steps for completing our church directory. **All Photos must be submitted by March 31 in order to be included in the updated directory.** Drop off photos to the church office or email photos: [assistant@sjucc1811.org](mailto:assistant@sjucc1811.org) or [manager@sjucc1811.org](mailto:manager@sjucc1811.org)

**Pancake Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt** will be Saturday, April 4 from 9-11 am in Fellowship Hall (the Egg Hunt is at 10 am). \$8 for adults, \$2 for children under 12. The egg hunt is free. A portion of the proceeds will go to support SCCAP.

**2025 SJUCC Year End Financial Report** is available upon request from the Church Office. This report is similar to what was shared at past mid-year Congregational Meetings.

**March/April 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.

**March First Fruits** will support organizations designated as part of the Lenten Projects. This year's recipients are African Mission Healthcare, the Peru School Project, and the United Church of Christ Disaster Emergency Fund. Via these offerings, we will support medical care in Africa, education in Peru, and support where individuals have been affected by natural disasters.