

***St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, PA
May 17, 2026***

THE CHRIST HYMN & HYMN SING

*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"

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY & PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Worship God with gladness.

Come into God's presence with singing.

It is God who made us, and we are God's children.

Give thanks to God and praise God's name.

For God's steadfast love is present now and endures forever.

***HYMN #27**

"Morning Has Broken"

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

written by Rev. Leah Lyman Waldron

Through scripture and through song, O God, we come into a deeper awareness of your presence with us. Meet us here in beloved melodies and lyrics, that through time spent with your Spirit, our spirits might be restored and our hearts sustained. In Jesus' name. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins before God and 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

Philippians 2:1-13

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 150 (The Inclusive Bible)

Alleluia! We praise you, YHWH, in your sanctuary;

we praise you in your mighty skies!

We praise you for your powerful deeds;

we praise you for your overwhelming glory!

We praise you with the blast of the trumpet;

we praise you with lyre and harp!

We praise you with timbrel and dance;

we praise you with strings and flute!

We praise you with clashing cymbals;

we praise you with resounding cymbals!

Let everything that has breath praise YHWH!

Alleluia!

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

Maranatha! Music

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Roxanne Davenport

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

HYMN SING

We'll sing two verses of hymns that people in the congregation requested.

This idea was so well received that we'll do it again -

so if we don't sing your requested hymn today, we will on another Sunday.

Please consult the insert for the hymn numbers and verses we'll sing today

APOSTLES' CREED: AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Hymnal Companion C-10

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**

written by Rev. Leah Lyman Waldron

Bless these offerings, Lord, that in giving generously and joyously we might draw closer to you. Amen.

***HYMN #C-37**

"Jesus, I Live to Thee"

***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.

Birthdays this week: 05/18 Zoe Dereef; 5/20 Rafael Cuesta and Jared Reichelderfer; 05/23 James Patterson II and Vera Reber; 05/24 Reed Zeger.

Worship Participants:	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Organist	Barbara Motichka
Choir Director	Gary Crum
Worship Team	Roxanne Davenport, Neath Ham, Courtney Robertson, Swann Kongkeattikul, Diana Kongkeattikul, Chris Willman-Bunge
Deacon in Charge	Peg Bryner
Lector	Erin Hartman
Children's Corner	Melinda Orndorff
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz and Neath Ham
Bulletin cover	Edd Scheer

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given in thanksgiving for the life and love given to all of us from God's love and care and in memory of LaRoy "Bud" Evans by Connie Evans and daughters Amy and Becky.



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:

Prayer of Invocation and Prayer of Dedication written by Rev. Leah Lyman Waldron
UCC Book of Worship

Morning Has Broken

Unison

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the

morn - ing, black-bird has spo - ken like the first
 heav - en, like the first dew - fall on the first
 morn - ing born of the one light E - den saw

bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery

morn - ing! Praise for them spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where His feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931

MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody; arr. Mark Edwards, 2007

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BUNESSAN

5.5.5.4 D

Lower key, No. 112

C-4

Kyrie

Lord, Have Mercy on Us

KYRIE

Traditional: 6th century

John Ylvisaker, 1971

Em D B7 Em
Lord, have mer-cy on us. . . Lord, have mer-cy on us. . .

Em D B7 Em
Christ, have mer-cy on us. . . Christ, have mer-cy on us. . .

Em D B7 Em
Lord, have mer-cy on us. . . Lord, have mer-cy on us. . .

This Kyrie may be sung responsively.

Used by permission; c 1985 John Ylvisaker, Box 321, Waverly Iowa 50677; (319) 352-4396.

Lord, Have Mercy

Unison D Bm F#m Bm A G G/B
Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

D G Bsus Bm Asus A D
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

CCLI Song #7065; c 1985 Birdwing Music (a division of EMI Christian Music Publishing); for use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights Reserved. www.ccli.com; CCLI License #2603973.

May 17 Hymn Sing Selections

We'll sing 2 verses of each of the following hymns

#482 "Here I Am, Lord" (v. 1 & 3)

#71 "Be Thou My Vision" (v. 1 & 2)

#409 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (v. 1 & 2)

#185 "The Old Rugged Cross" (v. 1 & 4)

#200 "In the Garden" (v. 1 & 2)

#48 "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (v. 1 & 3)

#589 "At Calvary" (v. 1 & 4)

#587 "Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound" (v. 1 & 2)

#143 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" (v. 1 & 2)

#697 "This is My Song" (v. 1 & 2)

#14 "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" (v. 1 & 4)

#282 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" (v. 1 & 2)

#418 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (v. 1 & 4)

C-10

Creeds and Affirmations of Faith

Apostles' Creed: An Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God, the Father, the Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate;
He was crucified, died and was buried.
He went to the dead.

On the third day He rose again,
entered into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life eternal. Amen.

Nicene Creed: An Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,

Continued on next page.

Continued from previous page.

D.C.



wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

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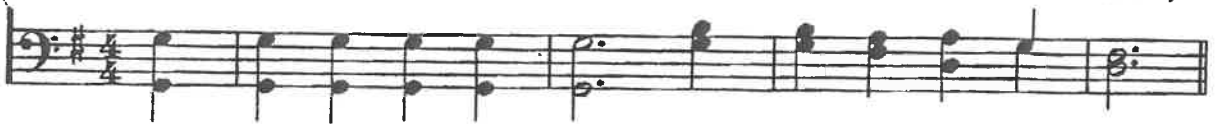
Jesus, I Live to Thee

Rom. 14:8
 Henry Harbaugh, 1850

LAKE ENON S.M.
 Isaac B. Woodbury, 1856



1. Je - sus, I live to thee, The love - li - est and best;
 2. Je - sus, I die to thee, When - ev - er death shall come;
 3. Wheth - er to live or die, I know not which is best;
 4. Liv - ing or dy - ing, Lord, I ask but to be thine;



My life in thee, thy life in me, In thy blest love I rest.
 To die in thee is life to me In my e - ter - nal home.
 To live in thee is bliss to me, To die is end - less rest.
 My life in thee, thy life in me, Makes heav'n for - ev - er mine.



NEWS IN THE PEWS May 17, 2026

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: Q&A Session on Habitat for Humanity proposal – Room 116
Bible Study on the Letter of James, chapter 4, 8 pm, Zoom (link in Friday e-blast)

Monday, May 18

1:30 pm Monday Afternoon Book Study – (Chapter 1) Conference Room 111
6:30 pm Bible & Beer – Trojan Diner
7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 19

10:00 am Summer Singers Practice – Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Yoga – **NO YOGA will resume on May 26**
6:00 pm Ladies' Bible Study– Zoom

Thursday, May 21

6:00 pm Dance Class – Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice – Bell Room 117
6:15 pm Girl Scouts – Room 201
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room 103

Sunday, May 24

NO Children/Youth School Classes

8:45 am Wired Word Church School Class – Room 116
8:45 am Upper Room Church School Class – Conference Room 111
10:00 am Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
11:15 am Pentecost Picnic – Outside Church Grounds (weather permitting)
8:00 pm **NO Bible Study** on the Letter of James – chapter 5 (**will resume on 5/31**)

Pentecost Picnic will be held on Sunday, May 24 after worship. The menu includes hot dogs, chips, drinks, and dessert. We hope the weather will allow us to gather outside!

Camp Cooks (kitchen helpers) are needed for June 22 – 26. Please, sign-up to help in the kitchen at camp. A sign-up sheet is on the welcome center counter in the front lobby. Volunteers will be helping under the direction of the camp cook, Kirk Johnson. Thank you for supporting St. John's Camp!

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 May 18.

Exploring an Expanded Partnership with Habitat for Humanity Join us in Room 116 after worship for a congregational conversation/Q&A session regarding the possibility of developing a portion of our land for housing through Habitat. A letter from Pastor Caroline and Council was sent out via e-blast and is available in hard copy at the Welcome Center and in the Narthex. A special congregational meeting will be held Sunday, May 31, to formally vote on this proposal.

Summer Special Music A sign up is posted on the choir room door for those who would like to help provide special music in worship this summer. This can be singing or playing a musical instrument. Contact Gary Crum to learn more.

Check out the Peace Pole! Our peace pole is now installed outside! Thanks to Jim Wood and Mary Lynn Cate for their generosity in providing the pole and Tom Kinton and Tom Harrison for their installation expertise. A special prayer gathering at the peace pole will be held on Sunday, June 14, 8:45 am. You can learn more about the global peace pole initiative in the May Spirit.

Harrisburg Gay Men's Chorus The HGMC will present their spring concert "For All Who Dared" here at St. John's on Saturday, May 30, 7 pm in the Sanctuary. The concert is free.

Sunday Night Bible Study Join Pastor Caroline on Sunday evenings at **8 pm via Zoom** for a Bible study on the Letter of James. Our session on May 17 will focus on Chapter 4. Zoom Meeting ID: 836 0593 5961 and Passcode 277938. A hyperlink is included in the weekly e-blast.

Monday Afternoon Book Study We will read Chapter 1 of Adam Hamilton's "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life" for our discussion on Monday, May 18, 1:30 pm in Conference Room 111. Come and join the conversation!

Race Against Poverty St. John's is a sponsor of the 16th Annual Race Against Poverty held the first weekend in June. Contact the Church Office if you'd like to use one of our sponsor codes.

Keystone Conference Annual Meeting will be held June 5-7, 2026 at Millersville University. The theme is "Joy at the Table Together!" If you would like to serve as one of our two lay delegates for this important and historic meeting, please contact Pastor Caroline.

Summer Quarter First Fruits in May, June, and July will support the Race Against Poverty (RAP), Maranatha Ministry, and United Way's Stuff the Bus. More information about these organizations is included in the Spirit. Thank you for your generosity.

May/June 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.

Strengthen the Church Offering This special offering supports the expansion and growth of UCC local congregations. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop the spiritual life of our youth and young adults. St. John's will receive this offering on May 24 & 31.