



***St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, PA
May 31, 2026***

TRINITY 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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

"The peace of Christ be with you"

"And also with you"

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY & PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from UCC Worship Ways

We have come to worship God, the living God,

who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope. All glory to God!

***HYMN #1**

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

"three is the magic number" by Steve Collins

three is the magic number

calling us out of individualism

insisting on relationship

I to you, we to another

trinity seeding networks

until all the cosmos joins in

one to create, one to save, one to sustain

one to author, one to fight, one to enliven

one to conceive, one to die, one to resurrect

one to plan, one to act, one to explain

one's sufficient, two's company, three's community

trinity expose our self-reliance

trinity break open our exclusivity

trinity seed our joining tonight. Amen.

ANTHEM

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 8

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM

"Joseph and the Coat"

Tammy Waldrop

Children's Corner will be offered following this special presentation

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:16-20

SERMON

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

NICENE 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**

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

For all that you have given us, we thank you, gracious God. For day and night, evening and morning, for land and sea, for fish and birds, plants and animals, for humankind, and for your Son, who came among us with the gift of life abundant. Let your Holy Spirit abide in our midst and work through our gifts, that all people may have joy and peace, in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN #6**

"Creator God, Creating Still"

***COMMISSION & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE (seated)

*A special congregational meeting will be held after worship today.
Please, join us for this important conversation in the life of our church.*

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: 06/03 Heidi Ramos, Mark Reichelderfer, and Cheryl Sollenberger; 06/04 Adelaide Dietrich and Owen Reichelderfer; 06/05 Connie Strunk.

Worship Participants:	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Organist	Barbara Motichka
Choir Director	Gary Crum
Deacon in Charge	Cathy Kinton
Lector	Holli Burton
Children's Corner	Roxanne Davenport
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz and Neath Ham
Bulletin cover	Trinity by John (traqair57 on Flickr)

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given in loving memory of Sylvia Morningstar Harrison by her husband Tom and children Kathy, Tim and Mark.



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:

UCC Worship Ways

"three is the magic number" written by Steve Collins, posted on Johnny Baker's Worship Tricks website

The Peoples' Bible (New Revised Standard Version)

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor

Holy, Holy, Holy

1

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark-ness hide Thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see;
 All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,
 on - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

WORDS: Reginald Heber, 1826 (Rev. 4:8-11)
 MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1861

NICAEA
 Irregular

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.

Creeds and Affirmations of Faith

C-11

Continued from previous page.

eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
Through Him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Creator God, Creating Still

6

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a bass line on a bass clef staff. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains four lines of lyrics. The music is a simple, hymn-like setting with a steady bass line and a vocal line that follows the rhythm of the words.

1. Cre - at - or God, cre - at - ing still, by will and word and deed,
2. Re - deem - er God, re - deem - ing still, with o - ver - flow - ing grace,
3. Sus - tain - er God, sus - tain - ing still, with strength for ev - ery day,
4. Great Trin - i - ty, for this new day we need Your pres - ence still.

cre - ate a new de - sire in us to meet the pres - ent need.
pour out Your love on us, through us, make this a ho - ly place.
em - power us now to do Your will. Cor - rect us when we stray.
Cre - ate, re - deem, sus - tain us now to do Your work and will.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1977

MUSIC: William Croft, 1708

Words © 1980 Presbyterian Publishing, Westminster John Knox Press.

ST. ANNE

CM

Higher keys, No. 250 and No. 566

NEWS IN THE PEWS May 31, 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: Special congregational meeting will be after worship, to endorse Habitat for Humanity proposal – Sanctuary
Bible Study on the Letter of James, chapter 5, 8 pm, Zoom (link in Friday e-blast)

Monday, June 1

1:30 pm Monday Afternoon Book Study – (Chapter 2) Conference Room 111
6:00 pm Craft Night – Room 202
7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, June 2

10:00 am Summer Singers Practice – Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Yoga – Room 202

Thursday, June 4

7:00 am Men's Breakfast – Texas Lunch

Saturday, June 6

3:00 pm - 7:30 pm Race Against Poverty – Downtown Chambersburg

Sunday, June 7

8:45 am K-12 Faith and Fellowship – Youth Room 206
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
8:00 pm **NO Bible Study on the book of Ecclesiastes** – (chapter 1) **(will begin on 6/21)**

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 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 June 15.

Summer Church School Classes Both the Wired Word and Upper Room adult church school classes will meet throughout the summer. Additionally, we will offer a K-12 Faith and Fellowship opportunity in the youth room for our young people to continue their Christian Education. Please see Diana Kongkeattikul or Roxanne Davenport if you have questions re: Faith and Fellowship.

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 31.

Summer Snacks for NETWORK Ministry Collection boxes for non-perishable snacks to share with the kids at NETWORK Ministry are located in the front lobby. A list of suggested items to donate is posted on the bulletin boards and is listed in the June Spirit.

Vacation Bible School Our VBS wish list for Snowball Mountain challenge includes: snow sports equipment; white poly-fill stuffing/batting; Styrofoam balls 3" diameter and larger; white sheets; Styrofoam medication coolers; and a snowflake projector (commonly used outside on houses). A grocery cart to collect these items is in the lobby. Contact Roxanne with questions. VBS Work Days are scheduled after worship on Sunday, June 28 and Sunday, July 12.

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. Thank you for sharing your talents!

Summer Prayer Gatherings Join us at 8:45 on Sunday, June 14 at the Labyrinth and Sunday, July 12 at the Peace Pole. Please bring your own chair. We will also gather at St. John's Camp at 9:30 am on Saturday, August 22. Come and enjoy a time of praying together in nature!

An Evening of Food, Fun, and Fellowship with all three congregations worshipping at St. John's will be held on Saturday, June 13, 4-8 pm in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to share. The sign-up sheet is located at the Welcome Center in the lobby.

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.

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 31 will focus on Chapter 5. We will begin studying the Book of Ecclesiastes on June 21. 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 2 of Adam Hamilton's "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life" for our discussion on Monday, June 1, 1:30 pm in Conference Room 111. Come and join the conversation!

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.