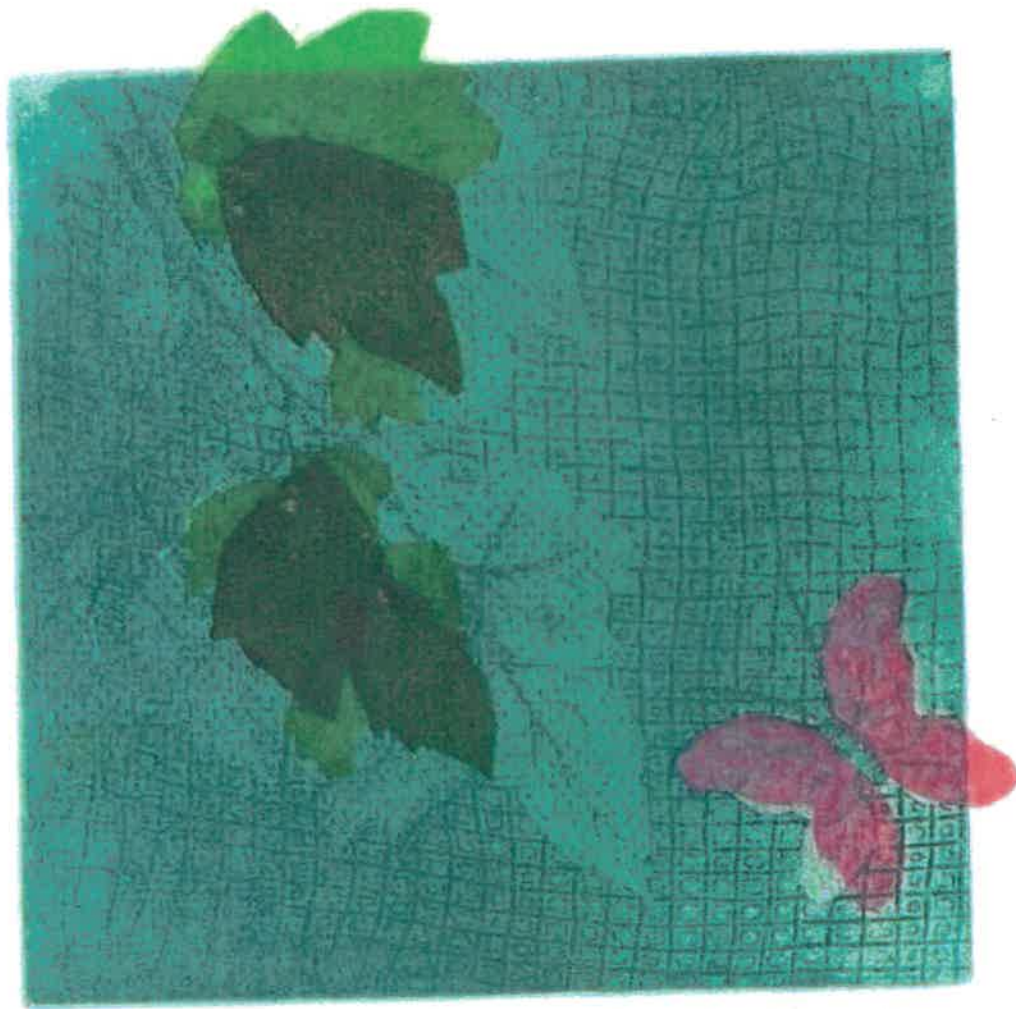




awakenings

From Left: 1990-2000

St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, PA
November 1, 2026

SOLOMON'S WISDOM

*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"

CONNECTIONS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

"The peace of Christ be with you"

"And also with you"

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE SONG

"Shout to the Lord"

Darlene Zschech

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship

God has given us this beautiful earth and all that grows and runs upon it.

Thanks be to God.

God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

Thanks be to God.

God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

***HYMN #378**

"We Gather Here in Grateful Praise"

CALL TO CONFESSION

adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Confident in God's love, let us confess our sins to the One who searches us and knows us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Loving God, we confess that we have failed to live in harmony with our sisters and brothers and siblings. We have been self-righteous in our attitudes, closed-minded in our beliefs, and judgmental in our opinions. We have shunned those whose ways we do not understand, and we have despised those who do not endorse our convictions. Forgive our sins of discord and conceit, and heal our divisiveness and quarreling. Grant us clarity, wisdom and discernment. Help us to be charitable and respectful in our regard for others that we may dwell in peace with Christ, who is Lord of all. Amen.

KYRIE

Hymnal Companion C-4

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Friends, God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:7-15

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 111

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to God with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of God, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is God's work, and God's righteousness endures forever.

God has gained renown by God's wonderful deeds; God is gracious and merciful.

God provides food for those who revere God; God is ever mindful of the covenant.

God has shown the people the power of the works, in giving them the heritage of the nations:

The works of God's hands are faithful and just; all God's precepts are trustworthy.

They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

God has sent redemption to the people, and has commanded the covenant forever. Holy and awesome is God's name.

Reverence for God is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

ANTHEM

"Be Thou My Vision"

arr. Carlton Young

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Roxanne Davenport

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

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 3:4-9, 16-28

SERMON

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

RESPONSIVE REAFFIRMATION OF OUR "HOLY MANNERS" BEHAVIORAL COVENANT

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

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives. Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity and our reluctance. Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known, that our lives might show forth your glory, for we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Hymnal Companion C-72

*We celebrate communion this day by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup);
pre-packaged elements are also available*

***HYMN #C-34**

"I'll Fly Away"

***COMMISSION & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE (seated)

Join us for a time of fellowship following the service!

*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: 11/02 Dan Wolfe; 11/03 Shirley Fenstermacher, Rev. Bonnie Hoffman,
and Rev. Caroline E. Saxton; 11/07 John McCright and Bob Strunk.

Worship Participants:	
Pastor	Rev. Caroline E. Saxton
Organist	Barbara Motichka
Choir Director	Gary Crum
Worship Team	Roxanne Davenport, Diana Kongkeattikul, Swann Kongkeattikul, Barbara Motichka, Courtney Robertson, Chris Willman-Bunge
Deacon in Charge	Kara Alt
Lector	Diana Kongkeattikul
Children's Corner	Chani Wolfe
Media Coordinators	Calvin Frantz and Neath Ham
Bulletin cover	"Awakening" by Edie Mae Herrell

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given in memory of Margaret Rockwell and other
friends and family by Carol Rockwell.



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

378 We Gather Here in Grateful Praise

1. We gath - er here in grate - ful praise, in prayer and
 2. For loved ones, fam - ily, trea - sured friends, e - ter - nal
 3. We thank You for the sa - cred word, and for the
 4. Praise God, the source of ev - ery - thing, praise God, the

song our voic - es raise, for all our bless - ings,
 life that nev - er ends, for dai - ly bread, sins
 call Your church has heard to live as You would
 Son, our Lord and King, praise God, the Ho - ly

large and small, we thank You God, who gives us all.
 washed a - way, we thank You God, a - fresh each day.
 lead each day, we thank You God, Your will o - bey.
 Spir - it near, we thank You God, for You are here.

WORDS: Roy E. De Brand, 1996

MUSIC: Thomas Williams' *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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TRURO

LM

Higher key, No. 173

“Holy Manners” for St. John’s UCC
a responsive reaffirmation of our Behavioral Covenant

Together, we are called:

**We are called to love one another for we are all created
in the image of God.**

We are called to unite in fellowship, friendship, and faith and a caring community.

**We are called to welcome and affirm congregational
inclusion, equity, and diversity.**

We are called to act with compassion and empathy.

**We are called to promote truth, honesty, and fairness,
and foster trust and transparency.**

We are called to value others, especially their thoughts, ideas, and experience, and endeavor to engage in open, clear, respectful and constructive communication.

**We are called to be open minded, withholding
judgement, as we seek to understand as well as being
understood, and to hear as well as be heard.**

We are called to be respectful in matters of misunderstanding or disagreement and avoid creating future conflict.

**We are called to accept responsibility for our thoughts,
feelings, and actions, and forge a path to forgiveness,
should conflict arise.**

We are called to act in peace and love, for the benefit of the greater good.

Amen.

Brief Order for Holy Communion**Sentences of Adoration**

Leader: God says, "Why spend money on what does not satisfy?
Listen to me and do what I say, and You will enjoy the best
food of all. Listen now, my people, and come to me. Come to
me and You will have life!"

Invitation to the Table

This table is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ, and seek to
follow Christ's way.

Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may.

Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you
stand in need of God's mercy and assurance.

Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for
a spirit.

Come to this table, then, sisters and brothers, as you are.

Partake and share.

It is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has
come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of
God's new age.

Continued on next page.

Continued

Holy Communion Liturgies

C-73

Continued from previous page.

Communion Prayer

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy God, we praise and bless You for creation and the gift of life and for Your abiding love which brings us close to You, the source of all blessing. We thank You for revealing Your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets. We thank You especially that in the fullness of time You sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom He loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave You raised Christ with power to become sovereign in Your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather Your church by which Your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life. With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy Your holy name.

Continued on next page.

C-74

Holy Communion Liturgies

Continued from previous page.

SANCTUS:

All: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of Your glory, O God Most High.

Leader: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave You thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Blessing of Elements

Leader: Consecrate, by Your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer You our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things.

People: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to You, eternal God, and give thanks that You have called us to serve You.

Leader: Through the broken bread, we participate in the body of Christ.

Leader: Through the cup of blessing, we participate in the new life Christ gives.

Come, for all things are now ready.

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Holy Communion Liturgies

C-75

Sharing the Elements

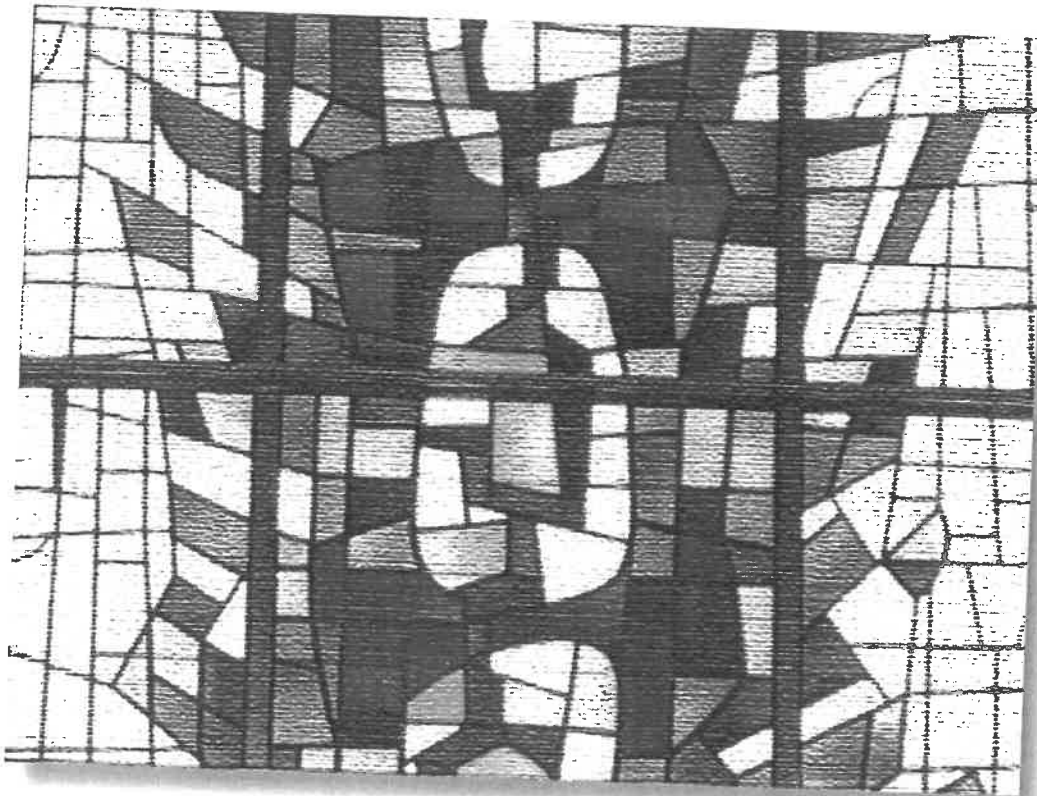
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

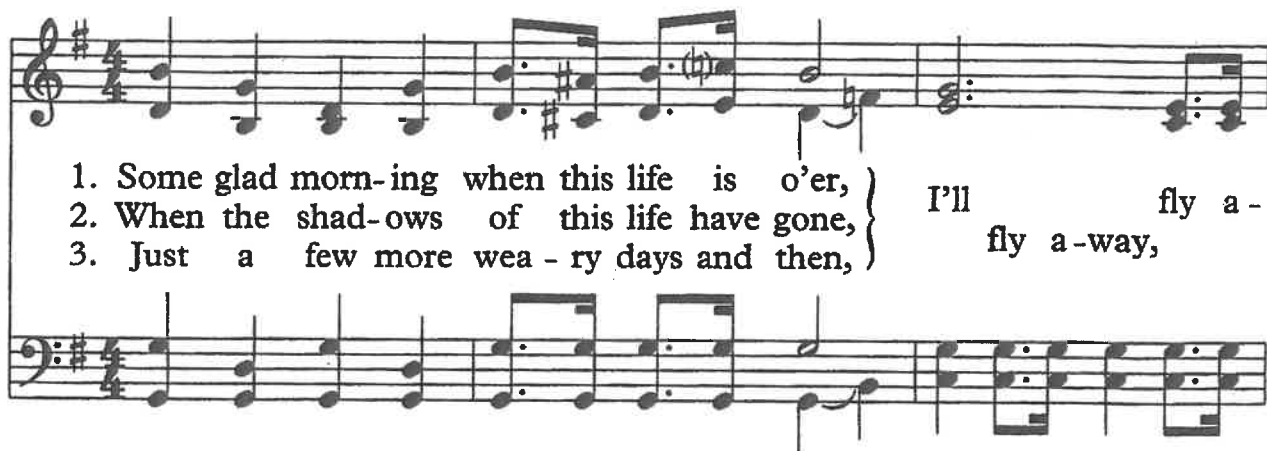
Leader: Let us pray.

People: We thank You, O God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and received all Christ's gifts.

Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth Your praise in our lives. Amen.



I'll Fly Away



1. Some glad morn-ing when this life is o'er,
 2. When the shad-ows of this life have gone,
 3. Just a few more wea - ry days and then,

I'll fly a -
 fly a-way,



way;
 fly a-way;

{ to a home on God's ce - les - tial shore,
 like a bird from pris - on bars has flown,
 to a land where joys shall nev - er end, }

Refrain


I'll fly a-way. I'll fly a-way, O glo-ry,
 fly a-way, fly a-way. fly a-way,

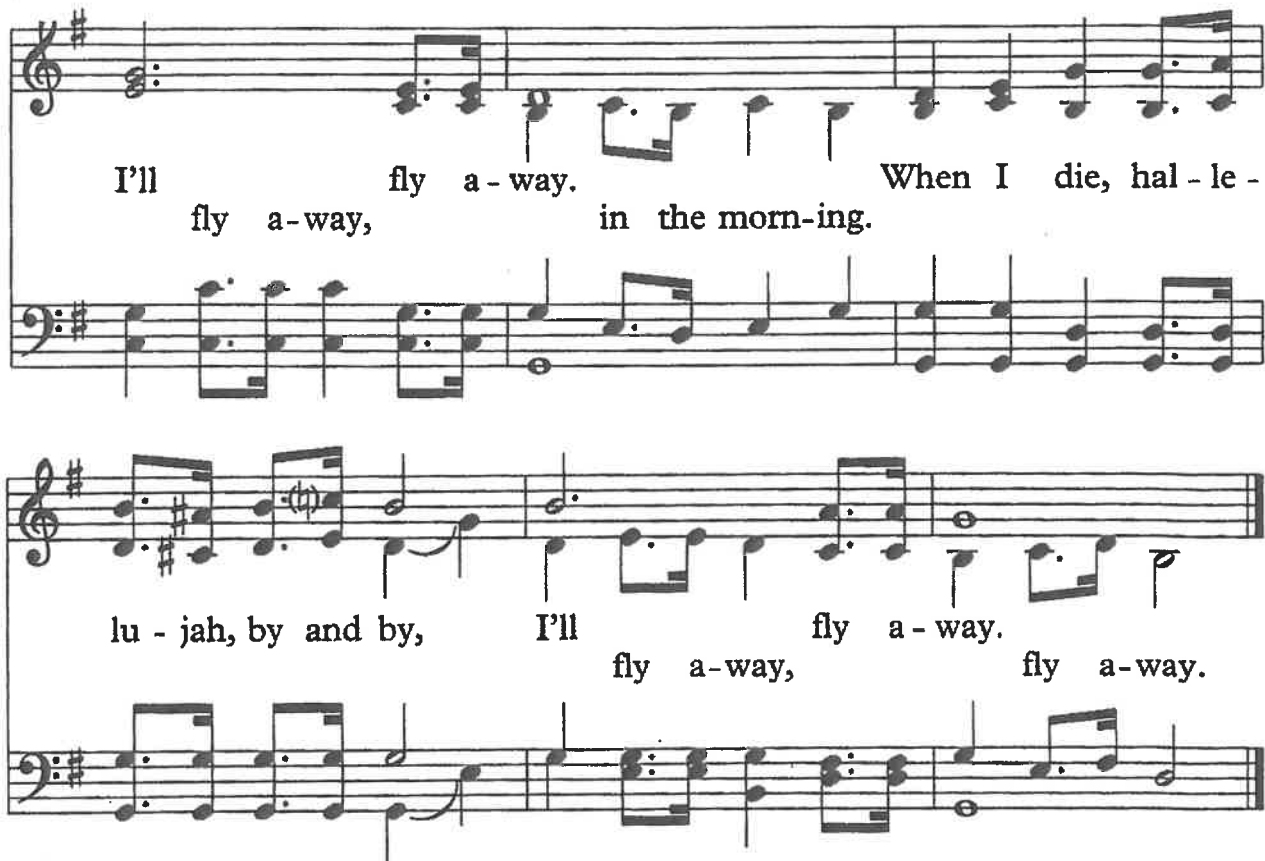
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St. John's Favorite Hymns

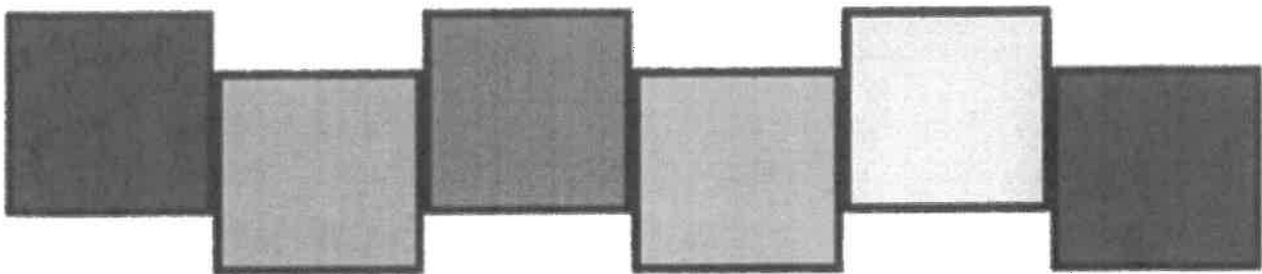
C-35

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I'll fly a-way, in the morn-ing. When I die, hal-le-lu-jah, by and by, I'll fly a-way, fly a-way, fly a-way.

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NEWS IN THE PEWS November 1, 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:

8:00 pm Bible Study on 1 Peter Chapter 2- Zoom via link from Friday's e-blast

Monday, November 2

1:30 pm Book Study - Conference Room 111

7:00 pm Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, November 3

4:00 pm Spiritual Life Committee Meeting – Conference Room 111

5:30 pm Yoga – Room 202

6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study via Zoom

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

Thursday, November 5

7:00 am Men's Breakfast – Held at Texas Lunch

6:00 pm Bell Choir Practice – Room 117

7:15 pm Choir Practice – Room 103

Sunday, November 8

8:45 am Godly Play Church School Class (Ages 3-K) – Room 119

8:45 am SPARK! Church School Class (Grades 1-5) – Room 115

8:45 am Scripture/Contemporary Issues (Grades 6-12) – Room 206

8:45 am Wired Word Adult Church School Class – Library Room 106

8:45 am Upper Room Adult Church School Class – Conference Room 111

10:00 am Sunday Worship – Sanctuary

8:00 pm Bible Study on 1 Peter Chapter 3 – Zoom via link from Friday's e-blast

Monday Afternoon Book Study We will discuss the prologue and chapters 1-3 of Jeff Chu's book "Good Soil: The Education of an Accidental Farmhand" on Monday, November 2, 1:30 PM in Conference Room 111. All are invited to join us for this discussion!

Sunday Night Bible Study Join Pastor Caroline on Sunday, November 1 at 8 pm via Zoom for a Bible study on the letter of 1 Peter Chapter 2 Zoom Meeting ID: 836 0593 5961 and Passcode 277938. A hyperlink is included in the weekly e-blast.

Keystone Conference Fall Budget Meeting will be held on Zoom via Saturday, November 14. If you are interested in participating as a lay delegate, please contact Pastor Caroline.

Totenfest will be Sunday, November 22, the last Sunday of the church year. We will remember with love and thanksgiving those members of our faith community who have died during the past year. We also wish to include the people in your lives who have transitioned to be with God since our last observance of Totenfest on November 23, 2025. Please contact Pastor Caroline by Monday, November 16, with the name of the person you wish to be remembered, along with their date of death, so that we can honor them during the service and in the bulletin.

Staff Christmas Gift It is the tradition at St. John's United Church of Christ to have a special offering envelope designated for Christmas Gifts for Church Staff. Our staff are a true blessing to our church and if you want take part in this please submit this to the church office and in the MEMO line of your check be sure to say "Staff Christmas Gift". We need this by **Sunday, December 6, 2026** in order for our staff to receive this by Christmas. Thank you!

Fall Congregational Meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, November 15. We will be voting to adopt the budget for 2027. Copies of the meeting packet are available in the Narthex and Welcome Center and by request from the church office.

Winter Quarter First Fruits in November, December and January will go to support the Salvation Army Angel Tree, Hoffman Homes Holiday Gift Program, and "Operation Christmas Joy," an opportunity to make the holiday season brighter for the residents of Laurel Lakes Rehabilitation and Wellness Center. More information about each of these organizations and opportunities is included in the November Spirit. Thank you for your generosity in serving our neighbors and demonstrating God's love in action.

Christmas Cookies and Crafts on Saturday, December 5 from 9am to 12pm in Fellowship Hall. Buy homemade crafts and artwork to brighten your heart and home! Holiday treats to be sold by weight: Cookies \$10/lb. and Candy \$12/lb. Proceeds will benefit kinds in our community. Bring your baked goods to kitchen on December 4th from 6pm-8pm. Your crafts and artwork for sale should be priced and placed in Fellowship Hall. Sign up is in lobby at the Welcome Center.

Mercersburg Association Fall Meeting will be held at St. Paul's UCC in Mechanicsburg on Sunday, November 15, 3-5 pm. This will be a hybrid meeting with a Zoom option to attend. Please contact Pastor Caroline if you would like to attend as one of two lay delegates.

Fall Clean-Up of St. John's grounds is scheduled for Saturday, November 21 at 9:00 am (rain date is Saturday, November 28). Bring your favorite rake or use one from church's inventory!

November/December 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.

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 November 16.

St. John's Nursery School will be selling The Butcher Shoppe cookie dough and coffee again this year, as well as pizza and sub coupons, after worship on Sunday November 15. Delivery of coffee and cookie dough will be in early December.