

August 20, 2017 – 10:00 am
11th Sunday After Pentecost
ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**An Open and Affirming congregation
where all are welcome**

Our mission is to worship and serve God
in our church, community, and the world.



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Please respond with words in **bold print**.

*Please stand if comfortably able

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: "They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love" M Hayes

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: This is a Sabbath dedicated to our God.

Let this fathering place be a home for all people.

Many: May God be gracious to us and bless us.

May God's face shine over all the earth's people.

One: Let all the people praise the God of all nations.

Let us give thanks and enjoy the blessings God gives.

Many: May God grant us understanding and courage.

May faith grow beyond our doubts.

One: The earth has yielded its blessing.

Let all the ends of the earth revere our Creator.

Many: God brings us together in unity of purpose.

May our circle grow as we welcome newcomers into our presence, into our church, and into our lives.

*OPENING HYMN: #395 "In Christ There is No East or West"

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

How good and pleasant it is, O God, when kindred live together in munity. Draw us now into the community you intend for all your people. Help us to listen and understand, both your word for us and our sharing with one another. Keep us from being misled by popular acclaim and the wisdom of the marketplace. May we not be unobservant guides to one another but rather be fully open to your gifts and obedient to your call. Come to us now with healing and blessing. Amen

***GLORIA: #759**

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,
Three-in-One; As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

FIRST TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 45:1-15

Lay Liturgist

(Page 57-58 in the Pew Bible)

EPISTLE READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Lay Liturgist

(Pages 1380-1381 in the Pew Bible)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 15:10-28**

Pastor Rosemary

(Pages 1190 - 1191 in the Pew Bible)

SERMON: “Who Does She Think She Is?”

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: #423 “Great is Thy Faithfulness”**

PASTORAL PRAYER beginning with silent personal prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE: NCH #769

**Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer, O God.
Incline your ear to us, and grant us you peace.**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: “Abiding Faith” Louise E. Stairs

***DOXOLOGY: # 780**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**

**As you have blessed us, O God, we are eager to share.
May we offer more than crumbs from your table. May none
be sent away from the blessings you intend for all. What is in
the offering plates is only a part of what we dedicate
ourselves to do and be that your reign of unity and peace
may come. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN: #388 “Help Us Accept Each Other”
Sung to the tune “The Church’s One Foundation”**

**DURING THE HYMN THE LIGHT IS EXTINGUISHED AND
CARRIED OUT INTO THE WORLD.**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION: REPEAT CALL TO WORSHIP**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: #812 Three-fold Amen
Amen, Amen, Amen**

**POSTLUDE: “Ye Servants of God” Roger C. Wilson

***Serving in Christ’s Name:*
Ministers – All members of St. John UCC**

***Participants in Today’s Worship:*
Pastor – Rev. Rosemary Captain
Minister of Music – Sharon Banjavcic
Liturgist - Jan Miller
Ushers – Jan and Tom Miller**