

July 16, 2017 – 10:00 am
Sixth 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.



10207 Lincoln Trail

Fairview Heights, IL

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Rev. Rosemary Captain

Telephone 397-6323

e-mail: stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com

Fax 397-1189

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

*Please stand if comfortably able

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUEST WORSHIP LEADER AND PREACHER: ANGIE HAUSMANN

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship" Brian Doerksen

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Based today's scripture.

One: God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.
Open yourselves this day to receive the Word.

**Many: We have committed ourselves to follow the light.
We come now to be instructed by God's law.**

One: Minds set on the flesh are hostile to God.
Let us, therefore, open ourselves to the Spirit.

**Many: We reach out for more than we can see and hear.
We long to know Love's embrace deep within.**

One: The Spirit of God raised Jesus from the dead.
That Spirit dwells in you and offers you new life.

**All: We praise God, who saves us and gives us hope.
God cares for the earth and for each one of us.**

*OPENING HYMN: "**Thy Word**" (Words on screen)

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

All-powerful God, we celebrate the freedom you give us to make our own response to all the possibilities you lay out before us. We are grateful for the revelation you provide through the witness of many in the Scriptures. Through their words, help us to discern your Word. Come to us in the midst of our diversity to bring understanding and mutual caring. Open us to a new appreciation of our birthright as your children. Beyond all our clamor for the things of this world, we long for the richness of spirit you alone can provide. Feed us here, we pray. 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: Psalm 119:105-112

Lay Liturgist (Page 763 in the Pew Bible)

EPISTLE READING: Romans 8:1-11

Lay Liturgist

(Page 1376 in the Pew Bible)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 Angie Hausmann

(Pages 1186-1187 in the Pew Bible)

THE WORD PROCLAIMED:

Angie Hausmann

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: #283 **“Spirit of the Living God”**

PASTORAL PRAYER beginning with silent personal prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed it 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 #773**

Remember me, remember me, O Jesus remember me.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” Stewart Landon

*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:**

Accept our offering of praise and our offering of ourselves, O God, along with our tithes and contribution toward our church's mission. You have given us life and guidance for living. You have made us partakers of your own Spirit. We rejoice in the opportunity to receive and share your Word. May the ministry in which all of us have a share bear much fruit, bringing in an abundant harvest for your realm. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: #293 "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"**

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

***BENEDICTION:**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: NCH # "81"**

(verse one, no refrain)

**God be with you till we meet again.
By good counsel guide, uphold you.
With a shepherd's care enfold you.
God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE: "We're Marching to Zion" Laura Page

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 – Nancy Eisenhower

Ushers – Barb Whitaker and Wyatt Vance

Activities of the church:

Tuesday - Boy Scouts