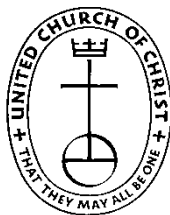


October 22, 2017 – 10:00 am
20th Sunday After Pentecost
ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**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

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" Lani Smith

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We are drawn to worship by a Reality unseen.
The One we call God is beyond human description.

**Many: God is more than we can ever imagine.
We sense God's presence as we meditate.**

One: We gather in awe to bring our songs of praise.
The Creator of all things has given us life.

**Many: We are amazed by the wonders around us.
We feel God's presence as we sing together.**

One: We are summoned by One who is just and merciful.
The Ruler of all worlds expects us to respond.

**Many: How amazing that God chooses us as messengers.
We know God is with us as we work for justice.**

*OPENING HYMN: #1 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Appear to us here, God of all worlds, for we need your assurance and blessing. We seek the strength to do what is right and just. We long to see you, even though we sense that a god we could see would be only a tiny part of you whose Spirit fills all time and space. We want you to have a face like ours, so we find your face in Jesus, and in one another. We want to be certain that our decisions and actions are right, but often it is only long afterwards that we realize you were with us. O God, we want to be open to all you are revealing to us now. 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.**

ANTHEM: **“Jesus, Above All Names”**

FIRST TESTAMENT READING: **Exodus 33:12-23**
Lay Liturgist (Pages 109-110 in the Pew Bible)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL LESSON: **Matthew 22:15-22**
Pastor Rosemary (Pages 1201 – 1202 in the Pew Bible)

SERMON: **“Who Do We Belong To?”**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **#551 “Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior”**

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: **#812 Three-Fold Amen**
Amen, Amen, A-men.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: **“A Light into my Path”** Bertha R. Frick

*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:

**O God, we sense that you are calling us to manage
well all the things that belong to you. The empires of this
world have no claim on the resources you have provided**

except as they are used for the common good. We here dedicate the gifts you have provided in our money and our abilities and our time to extend a helping hand and joyous welcome to every people on the face of the earth. May our efforts find favor with you. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: #565 “God, Whose Giving
Knows No Ending”

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

*BENEDICTION:

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: #236 Halleluja (sung twice)
Halle, halle, hal-le-luja. Halle, halle, hal-le-luja.
Halle, halle, hal-le-luja. Halleluja, hal-le-lu-ja!

*POSTLUDE: “In God We Trust” Lani Smith

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 - Wayne Schlosser

Ushers – Urban and Mary Louise Baum