

September 24, 2017 – 10:00 am  
16th 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

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## WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: "I Need Thee Every Hour"          Robert Lowry

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Based on **Psalm 105**

One: Call on God with praise and thanksgiving.  
Tell of God's wonderful works.

**Many: Today we open ourselves to God's presence.  
Let the hearts of all who seek God rejoice.**

One: When we eat, we are reminded of God's provision.  
When we drink pure water, we give thanks.

**Many: Surely God has blessed us with food and drink.  
Daily we are strengthened for tasks we face.**

One: We are guided by God's laws and statutes.  
We benefit from God's generosity.

**Many: Let all the people worship with joy!  
Let all whom God has chosen sing together!**

\*OPENING HYMN: #6 "**Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good**"

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

**Glory to your name, holy God. We rejoice in your wonderful works, and in the wealth you have entrusted to our stewardship. Enfold us in your presence and give us strength and courage to pass on the light you have sent to illuminate our journey through life. We are eager to be fed by your Word today. 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: Exodus 16:2-15

Lay Liturgist

(Page 85-86 in the Pew Bible)

EPISTLE READING:                      Philippians 1:21-30  
Lay Liturgist                           (Pages 1429-1430 in the Pew Bible)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

\*GOSPEL LESSON:                      Matthew 20:1-16  
Pastor Rosemary                      (Pages 1197 - 1198 in the Pew Bible)

SERMON: **“Is There a Blue Ribbon for Being Last?”**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **#460 “God Will Take Care of You”**

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 #772**

**Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,  
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,  
God alone fills us.**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: **“Make Me a Captive Lord”** George William Martin

\*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: **Receive our tithes and offerings to your honor and glory, loving God. May fruitful results occur through and beyond our sharing. May we help**

**one another to live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: #457 “Jesus, I Live to You”**

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

**\*BENEDICTION:**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: #82 (Verse One)**

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;**

**Waking sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;**

**In my love’s baptismal river have made you mine forever,**

**Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.**

**\*POSTLUDE: “Who is on the Lord’s Side” Robert J. Hughes**



**PRAYER LIST:** *Today we lift up in prayer LaVerne Kistler. We also pray for Jackie Canterbury and Ellen & Chris Taylor as they grieve the loss of Alan.*

*And prayers for healing: Ardella Morris, Darlene Schaperkoetter, Dennis Ford, Terry Kissel, Joyce Richards, Paul Fuchs, Ted Bauer, Syd Safriet, Tom Palanko  
The Victims of all recent disasters.*

## Pray for...

### Prayer list for

Sept 24 - Sept 30, 2017

### Churches & Pastors

- Godfrey Evangelical UCC, Rev. Jerald (Lori) McCaskey
- Granite City St. John UCC, Rev. Karla (Rev. Charles Preston) Frost

### Retired Pastor

- Rev. Herbert & Bennie Schafale, Belleville, IL.

**Sunday, October 1** – Fall Festival at DuBois 11 a.m.– 5 p.m.

### *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** – Sue Ganschinietz & Tyler Underwood

### *Activities of the church:*

**Today** - NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE.

**Tuesday** - Boy Scouts