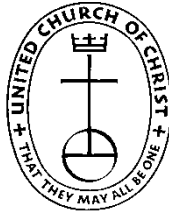


July 9, 2017 – 10:00 am  
Fifth Sunday After Pentecost  
**ST. JOHN**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**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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Fairview Heights, IL

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Website: [www.stjohnfairview.org](http://www.stjohnfairview.org)

Telephone 397-6323

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Rev. Rosemary Captain

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

\*Please stand if comfortably able

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## 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: "He Touched Me" arr. Bock

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

One: Come with joy and gladness to praise and honor God.

Come to the refreshing waters that God provides.

**Many: God is gracious and merciful and full of compassion.**

**All creation joins us in giving thanks.**

One: Give ear, all people, to the law of God.

Give thanks for all the guidance God gives us.

**Many: God upholds all who are falling.**

**God raises us up when we are bowed down.**

One: Come, all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens.

Come, for Christ has promised rest.

**All: The gentle spirit of Christ invites us.**

**We have come to find rest for our souls.**

\*OPENING HYMN: #459

**"Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"**

\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

**We come together, gracious God, because we have heard your invitation. We sense that you alone know the burdens we carry. You understand our weariness. Sometimes our journey seems long and without a chance to rest. We long for the refreshment you provide as we come to worship you. The anticipation of this hour of rest and nourishment fills us with renewed joy and gladness. We thank you, God, that your revelation comes to us, not because we are worthy, but because we are open to your word. Open our hearts to receive all you offer. 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 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67  
Lay Liturgist (Pages 26-27 in the Pew Bible)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

\*GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 Angie Hausmann  
(Pages 1183 - 1184 in the Pew Bible)

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: Angie Hausmann

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: #449 **“Softly and Tenderly”**

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: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Me" arr. Buda

\*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:

**With all the gifts of creation, you have blessed us, gracious God. We give thanks for all your works. Gratitude is our first impulse for giving. Accept our grateful hearts, along with our gifts. We ask for wisdom as our church determines priorities for the use of resources. May we be as concerned about outreach and mission as we are about programs for ourselves. As you are faithful to us, O God, may we be faithful in all things, seeking always to live by your gracious will. Amen.**

\*SENDING HYMN: #506 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

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: "In Times Like These" arr. Bock

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*Serving in Christ's Name:*

**Ministers** – All members of St. John UCC

*Participants in Today's Worship:*

**Pastor** – Rev. Rosemary Captain

**Minister of Music** – Nancy Eisenhauer

**Liturgist** - Carol Bulva

**Ushers** – Jim Eisenhauer & Carol Bulva

*Activities of the church:*

**Tuesday** - Boy Scouts

**Wednesday** - Church Council 7 p.m.