

May 21, 2017 – 10:00 am  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**CONFIRMATION**  
**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH**  
**OF CHRIST**

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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GREETER: Conner Brink

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

ACOLYTES: Hunter Brink and Tyler Underwood

PRELUDE: "A Joyous Acclamation" Lani Smith

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: The God of heaven and earth calls us together.

We come to explore matters of the Spirit.

**Many: There is so much we do not know or understand.  
So much of God is unknown to us.**

One: Let us look carefully at the objects of our worship.

Our attention is easily diverted from God.

**Many: We want to worship the One who gives us breath.  
We reach for the reality beyond our knowing.**

One: In God we live and move and have our being.

All that we have and are comes from God.

**Many: God is not limited to shrines made by us.  
God is everywhere present in the whole universe.**

\*OPENING HYMN: NCH #55 "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart"

\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION: Brenna Cohlmeier

**Let the sound of praising you be heard among us today, and in all the places of your dominion, O God. We believe you are present with us even when we cannot feel or see or hear you as we would like. We thank you for the times when you have caught our attention. We ask for one of those times today. Shake us out of our sleepiness and our choice to ignore you, O Holy One. Hold us in your steadfast love and**

**call forth within us an awareness of all your blessings.  
Stimulate among us an eagerness to live as you intend.  
Amen.**

\*TRINITARIAN DECLARATION: Pastor Rosemary

Our worship is in the name of God the Creator, the beloved Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit that energizes our hearts in gratitude for the presence of the divine. 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.**

SECOND TESTAMENT READINGS: Silas Thomasino  
Acts 17:22-31 and 1 Peter 3:13-22

\*GOSPEL LESSON: John 14:15-21 Pastor Rosemary

MESSAGE FOR ALL GENERATIONS: Pastor Rosemary  
"What's confirmation and church got to do with me?"

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **NCH #493 "Jesus, I have Promised"**

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION: Led by Pastor Rosemary  
Sue Williams, St. John UCC Council Chair  
Nancy Eisenhauer, Judy Schmitt, and Mike Stidham,  
Confirmation Teachers

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: "Help Us to Be Like Them"  
*Chancel Choir* Nancy Price & Don Besig

\*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.**

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

May all that we give today be used to express your love among us and beyond us, God of all people. We are thankful for your gift to us in Christ Jesus, who was so committed to sharing your love that he risked rejection and death. We are grateful that even though his suffering resulted in death in the flesh you made him alive in the spirit. May Christ live today in us, in our caring, in our giving, in our speaking, in our doing. We rededicate ourselves to your service. Amen.

\*SENDING HYMN: NCH #492 "I Would be True"

\*BENEDICTION:

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Three Fold Amen

POSTLUDE: "Celebration" James Mansfield  
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A reception for the Confirmation Class will be held in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.



*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

**Ushers** – Rosemary Williams, Sue Ganschinetz

*Activities of the church:*

**Today** - NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE

**Tuesday** - Boy Scouts