

November 5, 2017 – 10:00 am  
22<sup>nd</sup> 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: "O How I Love Jesus"

arr. Hayes

### \*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Come, all who are thirsty, whose souls are fainting.

Come, all whose troubles seem overwhelming.

**MANY: The Source and Creator of all things welcomes us,  
God hears our cries and is ready to help us.**

One: Come, all who are pure, upright, and blameless.

Come, all who dwell day by day in God's realm.

**MANY: The Messiah has more to teach us.**

**Jesus turns us from seeking honor to humble service.**

One: Draw near and hear the word of our God.

Open your lives to the Spirit who fills all things.

**MANY: We sense the presence of truth seeking to enter us.**

**We feel the love of God eager to embrace us.**

### \*OPENING HYMN: #49 "Ask Me What Great Thing I Know"

\*CALL TO CONFESSION: Let there be no pretense among us as we address our thoughts to God. We may fool one another, but God knows us as we really are. All that we try to hide from ourselves comes to light before the One who searches our hearts. Let us begin with a time for silent personal confession.

\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Let us pray together.

**Gracious God, help us to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you. We have searched for life amid temporary attractions. We have burdened others with our mistakes. We have sought honors and made comparisons to look better than those around us. We have devoted little time to thinking and praising you, the Source of all things. Forgive us now as we stand before you with humble hearts. Open us now, O God, to the Word and mercy we need from you. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: God gathers us from the east and the west, the north, and the south, drawing us into a caring community where burdens are shared, hope is renewed, and people are freed and equipped to use their God-given gifts. We are free to accept God's forgiveness. We have been redeemed. Let us give thanks to God whose steadfast love endures forever.

\*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: **Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37**

Lay Liturgist

(Pages 750-752 in the Pew Bible)

EPISTLE READING:

**1 Thessalonians 2:9-13**

Lay Liturgist

(Page 1438 in the Pew Bible)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

\*GOSPEL LESSON:

**Matthew 23:1-12**

Pastor Rosemary

(Pages 1202 - 1203 in the Pew Bible)

SERMON: **"Reviewing What We Have Learned"**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **#332 "As We Gather at Your Table"**

PASTORAL PRAYER beginning with silent personal prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed 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: "Give Thanks"

arr. Hayes

\*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:

**Let your Word be at work in us, gracious God, and through the offerings we present for your blessing. We offer here our support for the work of teaching, preaching, and good counsel. Let us also be your humble servants, through the offering of our substance and ourselves. Amen.**

\*HOLY COMMUNION: (On Screen) **Sanctus #790**

### **HOLY COMMUNION:**

(respond when the words are printed in bold.)

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us thank God. **It is good to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O Holy One, Creator of heaven and earth. We bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and for calling us to be your people.

Although we rebelled against your love, you did not abandon us in our sin, but sent to us prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation.

Above all, we give you thanks for the gift of Jesus, our only Savior, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

We thank you for the Holy Spirit who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and gathers us from every people to unite us in one holy church.

Therefore, with the entire company of saints in heaven and on earth, we worship and glorify you, God Most Holy.

**Sanctus #790 Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!**

When his arrest seemed near, Jesus sat at table in an upper room, with his closest friends and relatives. As he had done so many times before, he took the bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples, this time saying, "Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after the meal he took a cup and after he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, "Truly I will never drink of the fruit of the vine until I drink it new with you in the realm of God."

**By eating this bread and drinking this cup we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.**

Eternal God, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us.

Strengthen your universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in the world.

Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

**Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever. Amen**

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Thank you God, for renewing us at your table by the present of our Christ. Thank you for your eternal love, the bread of life that sustains all creation. May you continue to love us in our faithful acts and by that love, discourage us from our unfaithful acts, that we might rejoice as your servants in the world. Amen:**

**\*SENDING HYMN: #471 “What a Covenant”**

**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: “ Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” arr. James**

**TO BE CONTINUED**

**PRAYER LIST:** *Today we lift up in prayer* Vicki Hartmann.  
*And prayers for healing:* Ardella Morris, Darlene Schaperkoetter, Dennis Ford. LaVerne Kistler, Terry Kissel, Paul Fuchs, Ted Bauer, Syd Safriet, Mary Jane Alagna. Brandi Huffmann, Wayne Schlosser, Ginny Ganschinetz, Alice Stidham.

*Serving in Christ's Name:*

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

*Participants in Today's Worship:*

**Pastor** – Rev. Rosemary Captain

**Pianist** – Nancy Eisenhauer

**Liturgist** - Barb Whitaker

**Ushers** – Lew & Silas Thomasino

*Activities of the church:*

**Today** - Join us for refreshments after worship.

**Tuesday** - Boy Scouts

**Wednesday** – Church Council 7 p.m.

**STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITY**