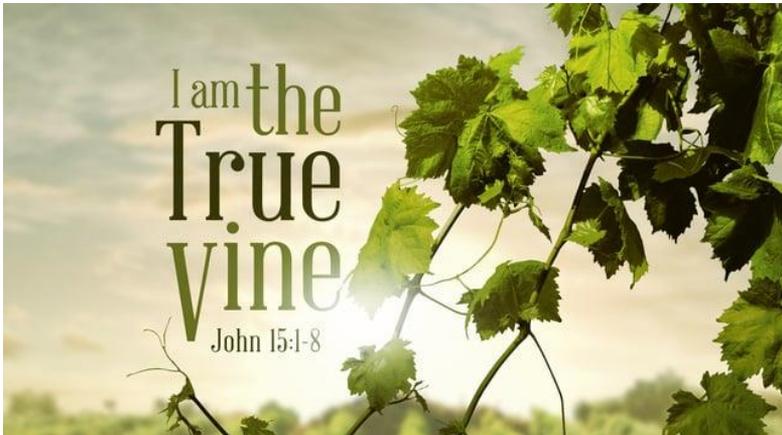


April 29, 2018 – 10:00 am
Fifth Sunday of Easter

ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Our mission is to worship and serve God
in our church, community, and the world.*



**We are an Open and Affirming congregation,
where all are welcome.**

St. John United Church of Christ
10207 Lincoln Trail Fairview Heights, IL
Telephone 397-6323

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org
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Fax 397-1189

Pastor Rosemary Captain

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.

PRELUDE: **“To God Be the Glory”** Wm. H. Doane

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Come to worship God whose love was revealed
in Jesus. Let all the ends of the earth turn to
our God.

**MANY: We will worship the Almighty and sing praises.
We will proclaim good news to others.**

One: Beloved, we are called to love as God loves us.
We are to love one another as sisters and
brothers.

**MANY: Everyone who loves is born of God and
knows God. We seek to let God’s love
be perfected in us.**

One: Remember that you have been baptized. God
claims you and has high expectations of you.

**MANY: Christ is the vine; we are the branches. We
will bear fruit when we abide in the vine.**

*OPENING HYMN:

NCH 28 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION: **Open our senses to
your direction, amazing God, so we may be alert to
opportunities you give us. Fill us with good news to**

share with those who seek meaning for their lives; the good news we ourselves need to hear. We seek to know your Word and to be led by it. May our worship glorify your name and be pleasing to you. 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: Lay Liturgist
Acts 8:26-40 and 1 John 4:7-21**

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL LESSON: John 15:1-8**

SERMON: "Together We Learn and Love"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE:**

NCH 517 "I Need You Every Hour"

PASTORAL PRAYER ENDING WITH 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 774

**Shepherd lead, lead us in your righteousness,
Make your way plain before my face.**

For it is you, God, you, God only, who makes me to lie down in safety.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: “Jesus is All the World to Me”

Robert J. Hughes

***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:**

We give, gracious God, because we are grateful. Your love has sustained us through many trials and temptations. We give in order to extend to others the blessings we have received and to continue the ministry of presence, as we seek to abide together in your love. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: NCH 478 “Peace Like a River”**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: NCH 812**

Amen, Amen, A – men.

POSTLUDE: “Majestic March” Rob Roy Perry

“Our Worship has ended – Now our Service begins.”