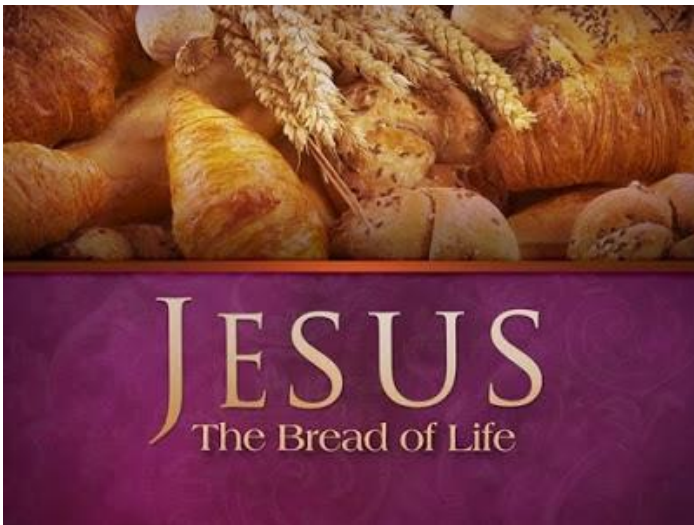


August 5, 2018 – 10:00 am
11th Sunday of Pentecost

**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.**

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Fairview Heights, IL

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Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9-3

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.

Liturgy written by Thom M. Schuman

PRELUDE: **“Bread of Life” Jane Lorenz**

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Based on Ephesians

One: Lead a life worthy of your calling.

MANY: We cannot do this alone, we dare not try this alone, so we gather as God's people.

One: Lead a life filled with the gifts of your calling, gifts to be used with service and meekness.

MANY: We come to build up Christ's Body, in humility and gentleness, with patience and love.

One: Lead a life which reflects your calling, that life of peace grounded in the Spirit.

MANY: We rejoice in our oneness in Christ; we would share the grace offered to us.

One: Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called.

MANY: We gather as God's family at the Table prepared for us, waiting to be fed by the Bread of life.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray

Gentle God: we have traveled through many waters

to reach this place, but share one baptism;

we arrive from different backgrounds and traditions,

yet share one faith; we are, each of us, unique and precious to God, and are members of one Body; we have different dreams and doubts, yet our hearts beat with one hope; we are graced with different gifts, so we may offer them in service to one Lord. God in Community, Holy in One, equip us for the work of ministry, as we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: **NCH 386**

“The Church is One Foundation”

*CALL TO RECONCILIATION:

When we try to sugarcoat what we have done, scripture stares us down, reminding us of our faults. When we seek to romanticize why we have failed to live as faithful people, God refuses to go along, waiting for us to confess our sins. Let us join together as God's children, lifting our prayers to the One who is generous in love.

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Compassionate One: like David, it is not easy for us to confront those deeds which do not please you. We are so busy looking for the miracles we desire, we cannot see the gift of your presence in others. We are so intent on indulging our appetites and slaking our thirsts, we cannot taste that Bread which gives life. We spend so much of our lives bemoaning the acts of others, we have no time to look in the mirror and see our secret faces.

Forgive us, Steadfast Love. Grace us with your mercy, so we might be made whole. Touch our inner being and heal us, so we might know joy and gladness. Create

new hearts within us, so they might beat as one with each other, and with your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Silence

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

Despite knowing our sin, God chooses to forgive us;
seeing our emptiness, God chooses to feed us;
holding our shattered hearts, God chooses to heal us.
This is the good news: God loves us.

God has graced us with mercy and created new life from our brokenness. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Let us give God our thanks and praise!

***GLORIA: NCH 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.**

EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 4:1-16 Lay Liturgist

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL LESSON:**

John 6:4-35

SERMON: “Where’s the Buffet?”

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 343 “Jesus Took the Bread”**

PASTORAL 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 769

**Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: "Just As I Am" Edward Broughton

***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:**

Use the gifts which we offer to you, Holy God, to restore joy to the despairing, to give food to the hungry, and willing spirits to us, that we might be servants to all your people. Amen.

***HOLY COMMUNION: On Screen
(Responses will be spoken)**

SHARING THE ELEMENTS.

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

May we be as living loaves, kneaded and shaped by the hands of God. May we be as wine of the Spirit, poured out that others might know joy. Love be the leaven within. Love be the flavor of thought and word and deed. Peace be among us. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: **NCH 18**

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”

*BENEDICTION:

Let us go into the world with God’s gifts.

We will perform God’s works of mercy and life.

Let us go into the world with the Bread of heaven in our hands.

We will share Christ’s grace which gives life to everyone.

Let us go as the one body of faith and fellowship.

We will to witness to the one Spirit of hope and faith.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: **Amen, Amen, Amen**

POSTLUDE: **“Exaltation” Robert J. Hughes**

“Our worship has ended – Now our service begins.”