

November 25, 2018 – 10:00 am

ST. JOHN  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**TOTENFEST**  
**Celebrating those**  
**who have gone before us**

**St. John United Church of Christ**  
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Rev. Rosemary Captain

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

\*Please stand if comfortably able.

**NCH** is the New Century Hymnal.

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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

-LITURGY BY REV. THOM SHUMANN

-CCLI LICENSE #11164431.

**PRELUDE: “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” Stewart Landon**

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: We have chosen to be here,  
where God remembers us.

**MANY: God comes to us, the One who was  
and is and is to come.**

One: Like leaves skipping over the carpet of grass:

**MANY: God comes to us, the One who was  
and is and is to come.**

One: Like the first glimpses of the sun  
peeking over the horizon:

**MANY: God comes to us, the One who was  
and is and is to come.**

One: Like the moon lighting our way  
on a cloudless, autumn night:

**MANY: God comes to us, the One who was  
and is and is to come.**

**ALL: God meets us here in worship, where we sing  
praises and give thanksgiving to God  
Most High.**

**\*OPENING HYMN: NCH 303**

**“Rejoice, Give Thanks, and Sing”**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

**Almighty God: from the beginning of time to the end of eternity, you have chosen to use your power and majesty to love us, to redeem us, to shape us as your people.**

**King of Kings and Lord of Lords: you became weak so you could confront the strength of sin and death, confounding their ridicule with your resurrection.**

**Spirit of God, resting upon us: may your power enflame us with your peace; may your peace touch us with your grace; may your grace fill us with your hope; may your hope lead us into your Kingdom. Amen.**

**\*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.**

**SECOND TESTAMENT READING: Revelation 1:4b-8**  
**Lay Liturgist**

**RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 132: 1-18**

**Page 711 in the back of the hymnal**

**TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:**

**\*GOSPEL LESSON: John 18: 33-37**

**Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**SERMON: "Witnesses"**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 25**  
**“O God Our Help in Ages Past”**

**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE: TOTENFEST**

**DENNIS LEE FORD: October 21, 1955 –**  
**December 16, 2017**

**EMILY ETHEL “SUE” SHARP: November 13, 1919 –**  
**January 17, 2018**

**CHARLES DANIEL BOGNER: August 12, 1943 –**  
**July 1, 2018**

**JENNIFER HAMILTON: September 26, 1984 –**  
**September 12, 2018**

**LA VERNE J. KISTLER: March 8, 1931 –**  
**September 21, 2018**

**PASTORAL PRAYER:** Beginning with a time for silent personal prayer. Concluding with the Lord’s 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: 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: **“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Hughes**

\*DOXOLOGY: **NCH 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:

**As we offer our gifts in this moment to you, Holy God,  
we pray that they might be used to bring hope, to bring  
healing, to bring new life to all your people. In Jesus'  
name, we pray. Amen.**

\*SENDING HYMN: **NCH 299 “For All the Saints”**

\*RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION:

One: Go forth now as God's people.

**MANY: We will go to offer joy to those in misery,  
to remember all who have been forgotten.**

One: Go forth now as sisters and brothers of Jesus.

**MANY: We will go to offer the best rooms of our  
hearts to the lonely, to pick up all those we  
have knocked down.**

One: Go forth now as hearts of the Spirit.

**MANY: We will go to share a double portion of grace  
with the empty, to invite others to walk the  
paths of faith with us. Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: **NCH 812 Three-Fold Amen  
Amen, Amen, A-men.**

POSTLUDE: **“Gloria from Twelfth Mass” Mozart**