

**August 18, 2019 – 10:00 am**  
**10th Sunday After Pentecost**



**ST. JOHN**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION**

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Rev. Rosemary Captain

- CCLI LICENSE #11164431
- LITURGY WRITTEN BY REV. LAVON BAYLER
- PLEASE RESPOND WITH WORDS IN BOLD PRINT.
- SCRIPTURE TEXTS FROM THE COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE.
- \*PLEASE STAND IF COMFORTABLY ABLE.
- **NCH** IS THE NEW CENTURY HYMNAL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE: **“Draw Me Close”** Carpenter/Howard

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Return, beloved of God, to the fold.

God welcomes you to this hour of prayer.

**MANY: God calls us by name and awaits our coming.**

**God summons us out of hiding.**

One: God is like a shepherd, caring for her flocks.

God is like a gardener, carefully tending her vines.

**MANY: Surely God has provided richly for us.**

**Our lives are sustained by God’s good gifts.**

One: Worship the one who longs for our coming.

Sing praise to the one who expects our faithfulness.

**MANY: We call on God, who gives us life.**

**May God’s face shine on us to save us.**

\*OPENING HYMN: **NCH 18**

**“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”**

\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION: **Surrounded by a rich heritage of faith, we seek to know you, God, in this time of worship. Thankful for our spiritual ancestors, we return to our roots to find our true identity as we move forward into the future. We leave behind all that weights us down so we can give attention to your call and your message. Meet us here, we pray. 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.**

FIRST TESTAMENT READING: **Isaiah 5:1-7 Lay Liturgist**

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING: **Psalm 80 Pages 672-673**

EPISTLE READING: **Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Lay Liturgist**

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

\*GOSPEL READING: **Luke 12:49-56**

This is the Word of God. It is true and can be trusted.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SERMON:

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **NCH 99 “Abide With Me”**

PASTORAL PRAYER:

(Beginning with silent personal prayer)

THE LORD’S PRAYER: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come; Your 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 772**

**Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,  
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten,  
God alone fills us.**

OFFERTORY: **“My Life Flows On” Robert Lowry**

**\*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: Gracious God, whose creative energy has filled all heaven and earth with good things for us to enjoy and share, we would honor you with our offerings. We look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, as our model in facing all circumstances and giving ourselves for others. Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: NCH 538 TUNE: "Hymn to Joy"  
"Standing at the Future's Threshold"**

**\*BENEDICTION: God's Word is more powerful than fire or earthquakes. It is given to shake us from our complacency. Let the one who knows God's Word speak faithfully. May all who have heard the Word make response:**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: TUNE: "Amazing Grace"  
Depart in peace to do God's will;  
Walk ever in the light,  
For Christ is with you ever more,  
To guide you day and night. *(Written by Ruth Duck)***

**\*POSTLUDE: "Exaltation" Robert J. Hughes**