

February 3, 2019 – 10:00 am

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



**“This is your home town.
Heal us first!”**

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Rev. Rosemary Captain

Welcome and Announcements

- THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.
- THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP
- CCLI LICENSE #11164431
- LITURGY WRITTEN REV. JOHN NELSON AND REV. KAJI DOUSA
- **PLEASE RESPOND WITH WORDS IN BOLD PRINT.**
- * **PLEASE STAND IF COMFORTABLY ABLE.**
- **NCH** is the New Century Hymnal

PRELUDE: **“Lead Me, Savior”** Roger C. Wilson

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We have come to worship God, the living God,

All: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

One: We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

**All: Who answers the forces of hatred and
hurt with the power of grace.**

One: We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

**All: Who chooses even you and me,
to receive and carry the Word of
life and hope. All glory to God!**

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

God of the prophets, is it possible that you, who spoke to Jeremiah and Jesus, will speak to us? We may not be ready to believe it. We may not be ready to receive you. But we have gathered in your name and we pray: Come, Holy One! Fill us with the story of your people; fill us with your loving Word. Take us as we are, and make us wholly yours. In Jesus’ name: Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: **NCH 354**

“God, When I came into This Life”

***RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

One: If we say we are completely put together, the truth is not in us.

All: But if we confess our distractions, our errors, and our anxieties, God will meet us and renew us.

One: Before God and God's people, I confess that I have been reluctant to speak out clearly, naming the injustice I see and declaring God's vision.

ALL: Before God and one another, we confess our reluctance to receive our calling as God's people, made by God and chosen as witnesses to God's dream of justice and joy.

One: Remind me, God, that you have made me for your service and recharge me with your Word.

ALL: Renew us, God. Grant us courage to live out your Way of peace and grace.

We ask it in Jesus' name; Amen.

A moment of silence for personal confession.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

One: God has promised that whenever we repent, and seek a new union with God, forgiveness is ours. That promise comes true now.

Friends, know that in Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! 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: **Jeremiah 1:4-10**

Lay Liturgist

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING: **Psalm 71:1-6 Page 666**

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL READING: **Luke 4:21-30**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

MESSAGE:

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **"Here I Am, Lord"** on screen

PASTORAL PRAYER: Beginning with a time for silent personal prayer.

PRAYER RESPONSE: **NCH 769**

**Hear our prayer. O God. Hear our prayer, O God.
Incline you ear to us. And grant us your peace.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION:

One: God called great prophets, and God calls us.
God is generous, pouring out the gifts of grace and love and the life-giving power of the Word for all people. We respond with our renewed commitment to God's vision, and by giving our tithes and offerings to the ministries of God's church.

All: Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

OFFERTORY: **"Jesus Is Calling"** Franklin Ritter

*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:**

**God of the prophets, we bless this offering as people
who have received your gifts of grace and hope.
We return to you a portion of the abundance you have
given to us. We dedicate all that we give, to your loving
purposes: bringing in those who have been cast out;
standing strong on behalf of those who are weak;
speaking out with your Word of joy and justice for all
people. May your loving realm increase!**

In Jesus' name: Amen.

***HOLY COMMUNION: on screen**

"Holy, Holy" will be sung NCH 790

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Let us pray:**

**We have been fed, Holy One, by your presence.
We have been led, Eternal One, by your light.
May we bask in this glow now and forevermore. Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN: NCH 286 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"**

***BENEDICTION:**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: NCH 393**

**Blessed be the tie that binds,
our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life
Is like to that above.**

***POSTLUDE: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"**

Benton Price