

July 7, 2019 – 10:00 am

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



ALL ARE WELCOME AT CHRIST'S TABLE.

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

10207 Lincoln Trail

Fairview Heights, IL Telephone 397-6323

e-mail: stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

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: **“The Great Commission” Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.**

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Sing praises to our Lord:

MANY: who heals us and makes us whole.

One: Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God:

MANY: whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.

One: Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God;
give thanks to God's holy name:

MANY: God's Kingdom is near to us;

God's peace resides in our hearts.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Gracious God, our helper, we greet you this morning with joy and thanksgiving. We feel your welcome and anticipate your teaching. Show us this day what you would have us do. Whether it be great or small, we want to do what you command. Let our ears be attentive to your Word, and our hearts be responsive to the opportunities you grant us, to bear one another's burdens in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: **NCH 347**

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

*CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Who among us has not wanted to shape God to our own specifications? How often we have wanted to define truth for everyone else and to judge others by standards we ourselves cannot keep. Whether our sins reside in what we have done, in what we have failed to do, or in

prideful comparisons with other people, let us confess them now.

***UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS:**

Gentle God, angry God, gracious God, we know we have let you down in many ways. We have not lived up to your high intentions for us. You send us out as ambassadors of peace, and instead we pick fights with our sisters and brothers. You commission us to travel light, and we become bogged down with our possessions. You ask us to help erase the burdens others carry, but we add to them. You call us to joy in your inclusive realm, but instead we create our own ghettos. Patient God, will you forgive us again?

Silence for personal confession

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS;**

Demons fall when Christians pray and witness together. Lives are healed when pretensions are cast aside. God extends mercy and peace to all who are sincerely penitent. Turn away from temptation, knowing that God will strengthen us in fulfilling our Call from Christ. Praise God, we are forgiven!

***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 READING: 2 Kings 5:1-14 Lay Liturgist

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING: Psalm 30 Page 639

SECOND READING: Galatians 6: 1-16 Lay Liturgist

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL READING: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 507**

“Jesus – the Very Thought to 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 774**

Shepherd Lead, lead me 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.

INVITATION TO SHARE:

OFFERTORY: **“Poeme” Esther Higgins**

***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: With gratitude for your gracious favor, we dedicate these gifts. May they help others as we have been helped. May they reach out in a spirit of gentleness to restore the community those who are alienated. May they announce to the world that the realm of God is among us, waiting to be claimed. By these resources, may your name be praised here and in many other places. Amen.**

***HOLY COMMUNION:(On Screen)**

Liturgy by Rev. Thom Schumann

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

Thank you, God, for renewing us at your table by the presence of our Christ. Thank you for your eternal love, the bread of life that sustains all creation. May you continue to love us in our faithful acts and by that love, discourage us from our unfaithful acts, that we might rejoice as your servants in the world. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: NCH 478 "I've Got Peace Like a River"**

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION:**

One: God sends us out as lambs among wolves.
It is not easy to proclaim the gospel.

**MANY: We will not fear to let our faith be known.
We want to carry God's into our world.**

One: Our words and deeds can be simple and direct.
Our witness is to be gentle and kind.

MANY: We will listen before we speak.

We will seek to love without judging.

One: The peace of God dwells in us and will help us.
The Spirit will grant us authority and power.

MANY: We accept God's gifts and promises.

**We will not grow weary of doing what is right.
Amen and Amen.**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: TUNE: "Amazing Grace"**

**The love of God, with peace and joy,
Will each of us attend,
And guide our ways through coming days,
until we meet again. *(Written by N.S. Thistle)***

***POSTLUDE: "Jubilate" Edward J. Wetherill**