

May 5, 2019 – 10:00 am

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



COME. EAT. FOLLOW.

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

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- CCLI LICENSE #11164431
- LITURGY WRITTEN BY REV. QUENTIN CHIN
- PLEASE RESPOND WITH WORDS IN BOLD PRINT.
- *PLEASE STAND IF COMFORTABLY ABLE.
- **NCH** IS THE NEW CENTURY HYMNAL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.
- THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP

PRELUDE: **“Amazing Grace”** Jerry Ray

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Brothers and sisters. If you lift your net and it is empty, Come here!

Many: We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.

One: If you open your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One, Come here!

Many: We'll find the Risen Christ in all Creation.

One: If your life is filled with mourning, Come here!

Many: Christ is leading a dance of joy.

One: Come here, sisters and brothers!

Many: To give blessing and honor and glory to God!

*RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

One: Generous God, Giver of all that is good, Creator of all that is beautiful, you have blessed us with abundance, more than enough for everyone to share. Out of this abundance you call us to care for each other:

Many: “Feed my lambs.” “Tend my sheep.”

“Feed my sheep.”

One: Awaken us to the beauty and bounty of your

Creation. Encourage us to share generously with all those you love. In these Great Fifty Days of Eastertide may we protect the beauty of all that is yours and nurture your bounty for our children and our children's children. **All: Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN: NCH 250 "Listen to Your Savior Call"**

***RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

One: Merciful God, Saul did not recognize the presence of the Holy One in the followers of the Risen Christ until your Light struck him sightless, helpless, and at last able to hear your voice! In our day, too-narrow vision stops us from recognizing your presence in all of Creation.

MANY: We fail to see that our lives are bound together with each other and with the earth.

One: The Disciples could not succeed in fishing until the Risen Christ showed them how to cast their nets into your abundance. In our day, we too-often treat this world with arrogant self-righteousness, as though it is our exclusive domain.

MANY: We fail to remember that we are stewards, not owners of your Creation.

One: Forgive us. Teach us again that you have placed us in an eco-network of relationships. Lead us to tend the gift of your Creation that we may feed the whole world community today and our children tomorrow.

All: Amen.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE:** God's love for us is ever sure, given in mercy. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***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: Acts 9:1-20 Lay Liturgist

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING: Psalm 30 Page 639

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14 Lay Liturgist

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL READING: John 21:1-19**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON:

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 172 "Jesus Calls Us"**

PASTORAL PRAYER: *(Beginning with a time for 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 769

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

INVITATION TO SHARE:

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:

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us. In the upside-down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but what we can give away. Let us continue to give away generously, in this offering, to bless your church, your people, your creation. Amen.

*HOLY COMMUNION: (On Screen)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: (On Screen)

*SENDING HYMN: **NCH 438 “It is Well with My Soul”**

*BENEDICTION: As you go out into the world
Seek the presence of the Risen Christ in each other and
in all of Creation. May God give you joyful courage to
follow the command of Jesus:

“Feed my lambs.” “Tend my sheep.” “Feed my sheep.”

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Three-fold Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen

*POSTLUDE: **“Be Thou Exalted”** Chester Nordman