

November 24, 2019 – 10:00 am

ST. JOHN  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

**St. John United Church of Christ**

10207 Lincoln Trail

Fairview Heights, IL Telephone 397-6323

e-mail: [stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com](mailto:stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com)

Website: [www.stjohnfairview.org](http://www.stjohnfairview.org)

Rev. Rosemary Captain

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE: **“It Is Well with My Soul with the Comforter Has Come” Philip P. Bliss**

### \*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Bless God, all people of Faith and hope.  
God has looked on us with great favor.

**MANY: God is our refuge and strength in times of trouble. God is our guide and inspiration when things go well.**

One: God give light to those who live in the shadows.  
God offers stillness amid the turbulence of our times.

**MANY: We live in covenant with God, who gives us the best. We are eager to give our best to God in return.**

One: By the tender mercy of our God, we meet for worship. God has brought the dawn of a new day for our use.

**ALL: Praise God for signs and wonders all around us. Praise God for peace and reconciliation.**

### \*OPENING HYMN: NCH 25

**“O God Our Help in Ages Past” Verses 1-3**

### \*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

**We worship you with gladness, O God our shepherd, for you have gathered us as your beloved flock. You have sent a mighty Savior, who has demonstrated among us the power of love. Send your Spirit now to remind us of your gifts and to strengthen us for our**

**tasks. May we show out loyalty to Christ by the way we live every day. 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 23:1-6**

**Lay Liturgist**

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 46 Page 652**

**EPISTLE READING: Colossians 1:11-20 Lay Liturgist**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: "Find Us Faithful" Jon Mohr**

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

**\*GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 23:33-43**

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

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**SERMON:**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 368**

**"Sheltered by God's Loving Spirit"**

**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE: TOTENFEST**

**EILEEN MARIE COX: March 20, 1932 –**

**November 28, 2018**

**BARBARA A. BOUR: March 15, 1931 –**

**March 12, 2019**

**CLARICE V. STERNBERG: November 3, 1920 –**

**July 20, 2019**

**SHERI LINN BRYANT: September 10, 1957 –  
October 13, 2019**

**SEDA BALDWIN: July 19, 1941 –  
November 12, 2019**

**PASTORAL PRAYER:**

Beginning with a time for silent personal 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 for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**

**For the saving faithfulness of Jesus Christ, we give thanks. For the church that seeks to extend Christ's**

**ministry, we are humbly grateful. All things we have are gifts from you, O God, so we dedicate more than our money. We reinvest ourselves in patient, joyful response to your promises. Hear our prayers and empower our ministry. Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: NCH 299 “For All the Saints”  
Verses 1-3**

**\*BENEDICTION:**

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

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



## **TOTENFEST**

Totenfest is celebrated the last Sunday of the Church Year and, in the old

German tradition, is the day for remembering those who have passed from this life into life eternal or whose funeral service was held during the last Church Year. (The Church Year begins on the First Sunday of Advent and ends the Sunday before Advent.)

Totenfest, literally “The Festival of the Dead”, is the time set aside in our worship service to name our sisters and brothers who no longer answer the call in this life, to commemorate their passing with a rose, a candle is lit, and special prayers of thanksgiving are offered for their journey with us on this earth.