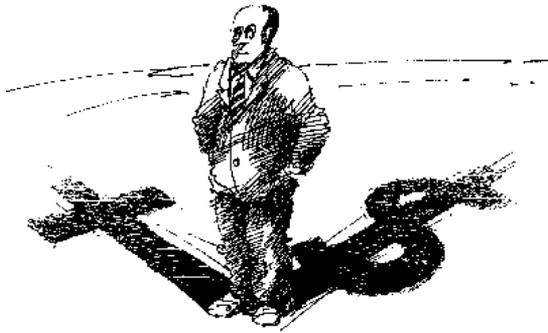


**September 22, 2019 – 10:00 am**  
**15th Sunday After Pentecost**



**Luke 16:13b “You cannot serve God and wealth.”**

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

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Rev. Rosemary Captain

- CCLI LICENSE #11164431
- 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

## **Guest Worship Leader – Angie Hausmann**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE: **“Poem” Esther Higgins**

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Written by Maren C. Tirabassi

One: What does this worship service need?

**MANY: Quiet where faith can grow,  
song that blossoms hope,  
scripture that remembers love,  
honest words to untangle  
a small length of knotty existence,  
gifts offering service of the heart.**

One: Who shall come to this worship service?

**MANY: All who have prayer in the center of their lives  
and all who are lonely for the touch of God.**

\*OPENING HYMN: **NCH 473 “Blessed Assurance”**

\*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION: Written by Maren Tirabassi

**Gracious God, we ask your blessed presence among us.  
We gather today after we have been scattered to many  
places, and we begin a new church year full of excite-  
ment, even if wistful for summer relaxation. Bless this  
church family – bless singers and pray-ers and workers  
and teachers and servers of so many kinds that all  
worship and ministry might be to your glory and that  
our gifts of the Spirit might build up the body of Christ.  
Amen.**

Let us give God our praise and thanksgiving.

**\*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 8:18-9:1**

**Lay Liturgist**

**RESPONSIVE PSALM READING: Psalm 79 Pages 671**

**EPISTLE READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Lay Liturgist**

**CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM: "Take My Life and Let it Be"**

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

**\*GOSPEL READING: Luke 16:1-13**

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

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**SERMON: Angie Hausmann**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 553**

**"There is a Balm in Gilead"**

**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 769**

**Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;  
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.**

**OFFERING INVITATION:** Written by Paul B. Robinson

As the days become cooler and the leaves of summer begin to wear their fall colors, we are reminded of the many ways God interacts with the world in order to meet its many needs. The cycle of life goes on and we are among the actors. But more importantly, we are stewards and care takers of the earth because we are made in God's image. Let us now share in that responsibility as we set aside a portion of our wealth to fulfill our task as stewards of the earth.

**OFFERTORY: "Song of Trust" Bertha R. Frick**

**\*DOXOLOGY: NCH 780 (DIFFERENT WORDS)**

**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:** Written by Edwin E. Beers

**Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: NCH 471 "What a Covenant"**

**\*BENEDICTION:**

**\*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: "Festive March in D" W. Rebikoff**