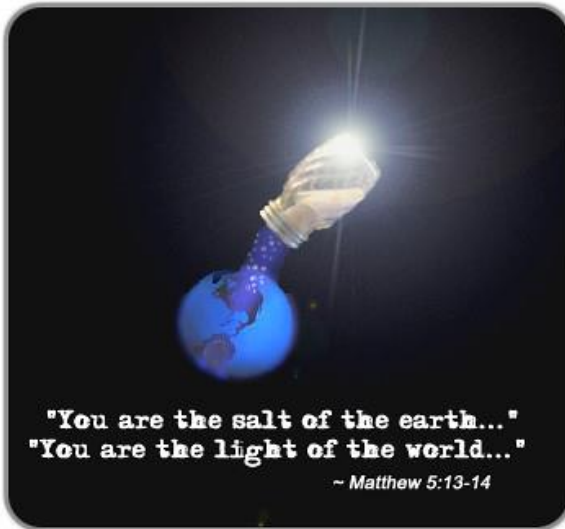


**February 9, 2020 – 10:00 am**  
**Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany**



**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
- LITURGY BY REV SUSAN BLAIN
- SCRIPTURE TEXTS FROM THE COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE.
- \*PLEASE STAND IF COMFORTABLY ABLE.
- **NCH** IS THE NEW CENTURY HYMNAL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE: **“We’re Marching to Zion”** Anne Laura Page

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Let the Mystery of God draw us in:

**MANY: Beautiful, Just, Merciful!**

One: Let the Wisdom of God surprise us:

**MANY: Vulnerable, Powerful, Searching!**

One: Let the Glory of God shine through our work:

**MANY: Salty, Bright and Good!**

One: In the Mystery, the Wisdom, the Glory of God

**ALL: Let us worship!**

\*OPENING HYMN: **NCH 42**

**“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”**

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

One: Wonderful God, we gather today to celebrate  
your presence in the lives of faithful people.

Send your Spirit to meet us here

and guide us into your depths

that we may begin to glimpse your grace:

**MANY: what eye has not seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
all you have prepared for those who love you.**

One: We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
your Mystery, your Wisdom, your Glory.

\*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: **Isaiah 58:1-9a Lay Liturgist**

RESPONSIVE READING: **Psalm 112:1-10 Page 627**

EPISTLE READING: **1 Corinthians 2:1-12 Lay Liturgist**

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

\*GOSPEL READING: **Matthew 5:13-20**

This is the good news of Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God. Amen**

SERMON: **“Jesus - the Fulfillment”**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **NCH 181**

**“You Are the Salt for the Earth”**

PASTORAL PRAYER: Beginning with silent, personal prayer

THE LORD’S PRAYER: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.**

PRAYER RESPONSE: **NCH 775**

**And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings,  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of God’s hand.**

INVITATION TO SHARE:

Christ calls us to let our lives and our work  
—salty, bright, and good—give witness to the reign of

God in our midst. Let us generously offer our gifts of time, talent and treasure, that the glory of God may be recognized and celebrated in our world.

OFFERTORY: **“The Light of the World”** Roy E. Nolte

\*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:

**O God, please take these gifts and multiply them;  
let them be a means to create the justice and peace  
you long for in this world.**

**In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.**

\*SENDING HYMN: **NCH 294 “There’s a Spirit in the Air”**

\*BENEDICTION:

One: Let the Mystery of God send us into the world:  
must be lived out in compassion and justice:

**MANY: Beautiful, Just, Merciful!**

One: Let the Wisdom of God surprise us in the world:

**MANY: Vulnerable, Powerful, Searching!**

One: Let the Glory of God shine through our work in  
the world:

**MANY: Salty, Bright and Good!**

One: In the Mystery, the Wisdom, the Glory of God

**MANY: Let us rejoice!**

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE: **NCH 812 Three-fold Amen**

**Amen, Amen, Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE: **“In God We Trust”** R. J. Hughes