

September 6, 2020 14th Sunday after Pentecost



Romans 13:9b “You must love your neighbor as yourself”

**St. John
United Church of Christ**

10207 Lincoln Trail
Fairview Heights, IL
Telephone 397-6323

Rev. Rosemary Captain 660-8894

Prayers and Liturgy by Rev. Lavon Bayler

ORGANIST – SHARON BANJAVCIC

Lectionary Texts
Exodus 12:1-14-- Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14—Matthew 18:15-20

Guest Worship Leader – Angie Hausmann

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Nancy Eisenhauer

PRELUDE: “Amazing Grace” in Cherokee

***CALL TO WORSHIP: Based on Psalm 149**

Tell the whole congregation of God’s people:

This is a day for new beginnings.

This is a time of God’s appearing.

This is the moment for faithful response.

Praise God in the assembly of the faithful.

Make melody to God and sing a new song.

Praise God for life enriched by love.

Praise God for love that fulfills God’s law.

This is the hour to wake from our sleep.

The energy of God’s love fills this place.

Here we claim our identity as Christians.

Here we become the church of Jesus Christ.

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

This is a festival day, glorious God, a day of

remembering your faithfulness through the

centuries, a time for celebrating your vibrant

presence with us, a pause of anticipation for the

seasons yet to be. We rejoice at the assurance

that you take pleasure in us, that we are known

by you, called by you, empowered by you to live honorably and humbly, in the spirit of Christ. We would exalt your name and sing for joy, knowing that we can trust you for the guidance and direction we need. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON: **Romans 13:8-14**

*GOSPEL READING: **Matthew 18:15-20**

SERMON: **“What does Jesus mean by love one’s self?”** Angie Hausmann

SPECIAL MUSIC: **“Just As I Am”**
Flute/Piano duet Stacie and Sharon
James Michael Stevens

PASTORAL PRAYER: Beginning with silent person prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER:
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. The 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.

RESPONSE: Three-fold Amen *(Music only)*

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR OFFERING:
Our Hebrew ancestors offered the best of their flocks and crops to honor God. We bring symbols of our labor, dedicating them and ourselves to

upholding the highest values of human life. May our offerings be a joyous expression of worship.

DOXOLOGY: *(Music only)*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

May these offerings help to free your people, O God, from bondage to sin. Unite us in a community of mutual caring in which differences are resolved as we listen to one another and seek to offer understanding. May the light of your love shine through all our efforts to share your good news. Keep us in the light when we are tempted to ignore and violate your commandments. With these prayers, we dedicate our gifts. Amen.

BENEDICTION:

We are God’s servants, sent on a mission.
We are called to make God’s deeds known among the people.
Owe no one anything, except to love one another.
Keep the commandments God has given.
Rejoice, for God takes pleasure in us, when we live honorably in the spirit of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE: **“Triumphal March”** Edward Grieg