

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship June 18, 2023

Third Sunday after Pentecost

WE GET READY FOR THE WORD

Prayer in Preparation

Shepherd of the flock, whose compassion reaches out to all who are harassed and helpless, teach us and empower us to proclaim the good news of your kingdom. May healing be offered and new life received. May your love tend all of us day by day, transforming us in the image of Christ. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

*(Please note the * indicates when you should stand.)*

* Passing of the Peace

"Peace be with you!"

Prelude

"Here I Am Lord"

Schutte arr. Raney

*Call to Worship

One: This is a time of God's appearing. God is within and among us. Let us worship!

All: **God's ear is inclined toward us. We know that God listens and hears our prayers.**

One: We are here to offer our thanks to God. We will worship God in the presence of others.

All: **We are grateful for the grace in which we stand. We praise God with great joy and gladness.**

One: God bears us up on eagles' wings. God draws us into covenant community.

All: **We will listen for God's commandments and will seek to do all that God requires.**

*Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

God of all creation, help us to recognize your presence among us. May we greet one another as your precious children and as messengers of your care. Help us offer such hospitality to one another that even the most skeptical among us will be touched by love. You are love; in you we find hope amid our weakness and doubt. Let your glory shine in this place today as we lift up our praises. Amen.

*Hymn

"God Is Here!"

#280 verses 1 & 4

God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the Gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*In Unison*)

God, we often fail to recognize that you are always with us. We deny your love by our failure to love. We deny your law by our failure to live by it. We appear more burdened than joyful in the midst of the wondrous gift of life. We seldom pause to give thanks. The compassion of Christ finds little echo in us, who claim to be Christians. We need your forgiveness, O God, and a new vision. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Time for the Child in us All

Pastor Lisa

Special Music

"Intermezzo Sinfonico"

Mascagni

Scripture: Matthew 9:35-10:8

One: Here ends the reading. May God add blessings to the reading and hearing of the scriptures.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

*Hymn	<i>"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"</i>	#453.
Called as partners in Christ's service Called to ministries of grace We respond with deep commitment Fresh new lines of faith to trace May we learn the art of sharing Side by side and friend with friend Equal partners in our caring To fulfil God's chosen end Christ's example Christ's inspiring Christ's clear call to work and worth Let us follow never faltering Reconciling folk on earth Men and women richer poorer All God's people young and old Blending human skills together Gracious gifts from God unfold	Thus new patterns for Christ's mission In a small or global sense Help us bear each other's burdens Breaking down each wall or fence Words of comfort words of vision Words of challenge said with care Bring new power and strength for action Make us colleagues free and fair So God grant us for tomorrow Ways to order human life That surround each person's sorrow With a calm that conquers strife Make us partners in our living Our compassion to increase Messengers of faith thus giving Hope and confidence and peace	

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*In Unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy 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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to Give Generously

(Thank you for being so generous in your care of St. John's UCC and its mission, through your participation and giving. Your stewardship makes a difference. You may make your offering several ways including in church, online, by text at 833-502-0657, or mail. We are grateful for your support.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

One: We give...

All: To meet the needs of the Kingdom!

One: We give...

All: Out of the generosity of our hearts!

One: We give...

All: To further justice and peace in our world! Amen and Amen!.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** Hymn**

"Ours the Journey"

#458 verses 1, 2, 3

In the midst of new dimensions,
in the face of changing ways,
who will lead the pilgrim peoples
wandering in their separate ways?

[Refrain]

God of rainbow, fiery pillar,
leading where the eagles soar,
we your people, ours the journey
now and evermore!

Through the flood of starving people,
warring factions and despair,
Who will lift the olive branches?
Who will light the flame of care? **[Refrain]**

Though we reach the highest heavens,
Holding worlds at our command,
we are yet a desert people
searching for the promised land. **[Refrain]**

Postlude

"Postlude"

Muczynski

Benediction

Preaching: **Pastor Lisa Hart**
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **David Leech**
Song Leaders: **Mike & Kathy Scherr**
Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
Technology Team: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Karen Rocchio**
Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**

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Announcements

Global Ministries requests that we pray with the **Republic of Egypt** this week

We pray for **Ava Bauman, Shirley Carmack, June Evers, Betty Gschwind, Bill Lubbin, Ellen Meier, Marilyn Norton, Jeannie Rucker, A.J. Switzer, Barbara Tretter, and Paul Van Driest.** Please let us know your prayer concerns

The updated directory has been sent out to all that are in the directory. Please review your information and if you see anything that needs to be changed please let the office know. If you would like to be added to the directory please call 363.532.0540 or email stjohnsucconolive@gmail.com.

06/25/23 Service
 Liturgist: **Mark Strothmann**
 Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship & Lockup: **Karen Rocchio**

07/02/23 Service
 Liturgist: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship & Lockup: **Rosemarie Spray**

Join us on **Wednesday, June 21st at 9:30 AM** for an hour of picking up litter along Olive St. from the church to the traffic light at Friendship Village. Please call the church if you can help. Jeanne

Senior Ministry

Upcoming Event

Friday, June 30th at noon Christina Ritter will be a guest speaker from the Missouri Conservation Center. She is a naturalist and teaches Continuing Education at St. Louis Community College—Meramec. She will be speaking about an environmentally friendly garden. This event will include a light lunch. Contact Carol Tindira or stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com to RSVP

A Look Ahead

6/18		Happy Father's Day
6/19	All day	Juneteenth (office closed)
6/19	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
6/21	9:30 AM	Highway Cleanup All are Welcome
6/25	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
6/25	10 AM	Meet Bridgette Rymer the new ECC director
6/26	6 PM	Visioning Committee
6/27	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
6/30	11:30 AM	Senior Ministry Guest Speaker Luncheon
7/2		Communion Sunday
7/4	All day	Independence Day (office closed)
7/8	9:00 AM	VBS main decorating party
7/10	1:30 PM	Personnel Committee Meeting zoom
7/10	4:30 PM	Christian Education Committee
7/10-14	9 AM	VBS week
7/16	10 AM	VBS Sunday
7/16	11 AM	New Member Inquiry Class
7/17	6:30 PM	Council Meeting

Please check your News Notes/Website for specific information around upcoming activities

Join us on Sundays

9:00 a.m. - Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m. – Sunday School
10:00 a.m. – Worship
In-Person, Facebook Live, or Virtual

St. John's United Church of Christ

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