

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship March 12, 2023

Third Sunday in Lent

Amistad Sunday

Prayer in Preparation

O Lord, hear our prayers, not according to the poverty of our asking, but according to the richness of your grace, so that our lives may conform to those desires which accord with your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (Reinhold Niebuhr).

Welcome and Announcements

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

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

"Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

Haydn arr. Fritche

*The Call to Worship

One: Our souls are thirsting for God, our spirits are longing for love.

All: We come to the One who supplies every need; we come to the One who gives us living water.

One: We come, with our brokenness and loss, with our hopes to be made whole.

All: We come to the One who knows all our secrets, who brings peace to all of us—and each of us.

*Hymn

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

#537

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

[Refrain:]

On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. **[Refrain]**

His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way
he then is all my hope and stay. **[Refrain]**

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. **[Refrain]**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in Unison)

Powerful, gentle God, you can take desert waste and make it grow into fruitful land. We need your power to change life. Our lives are so often full of drudgery. Often we forget to live thankful lives, and we get bogged down in self-pity and blame. Empower us, God. Help us to feel your Spirit changing us each day, that our lives may be full and glowing in your love. Through the Spirit, whose breath sustains us, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Praise

"Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, Whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.
World without end, without end, Amen.
World without end, without end, Amen.
World without end, without end, Amen.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, Amen.

"Give Me Jesus"

Spiritual arr. Parks

Special Music

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

For the Child in Us

Helen Stortz

Scripture Readings: Romans 5:1-11 & John 4:5-26

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Thirsting for Christ"

*Hymn	"Fill My Cup, Lord"	#351
Like the woman at the well, I was seeking For things that could not satisfy. And then I heard my Savior speaking— "Draw from My well that never shall run dry." [Refrain] Fill my cup, Lord; I lift it up Lord; Come and quench this thirsting of my soul. Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more. Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.	There are millions in this world who are craving The pleasure earthly things afford. But none can match the wondrous treasure That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord. [Refrain] So my friend if the things that this world gives you Leave hungers that won't pass away, My blessed Lord will come and save you If you kneel to Him and humbly pray [Refrain]	

In 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.**

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

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, ye heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication (*In Unison*)

Our spiritual ancestors offered sacrifices to glorify you, O God; so would we honor you by these gifts. May they express the depth of our love for you. As your church, we put them to work on your behalf in programs of outreach toward those who long for meaning as well as for life's basic necessities. Grant your joy to all who give and all who receive. **AMEN.**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#207

In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds new luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there, that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

Benediction

Postlude

"Sonata Allegro"

Hasse

Preaching: **Reverend Shari K Maddox**
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Carolyn Golfin**
Song leaders: **Kathy & Mike Scherr**
Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
Technology Team: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**

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In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's Spirit energizes and re-energizes us in every season.

We can make a difference. We do make a difference. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world.

The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. **It's time to share.**

YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

Announcements

03/19/23 Service

Liturgist: **Jane Lindberg**
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship & Lockup: **Freiberger**

03/26/23 Service

Liturgist: **Ellen Brandon**
 Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**

We pray for **Joan Bowers, Shirley Carmack, Betty Gschwind, A.J. Switzer** and **Paul Van Driest**.
 Please let us know your prayer concerns.

Global Ministries requests that we pray with the **Japan** this week

A Look Ahead

March Lydia House Collection.

3/12/23	8:00 AM	Daylight Saving Time starts
3/12/23		Third Sunday in Lent
3/12/23		ECC Spring Plant Sale
3/17/23	All day	St. Patrick's Day
3/19/23	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
3/19/23		Fourth Sunday in Lent
3/19/23	10:00 AM	One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
3/19/23		Spring Break for Sunday School
3/19/23	11:15 AM	New Member Class
3/19/23		Easter Lily Order Due
3/24/23		Chamber Scholarship Applications Due
3/26/23		Fifth Sunday in Lent
3/26/23	10 AM	Speaker Amanda Schmitt, Director Camp MoVal.
3/26/23		Spring Break for Sunday School
3/31/23		Pension Boards' Internship Application Due
3/26/23		Fifth Sunday in Lent
3/26/23	10:00 AM	Speaker Amanda Schmitt, Director Camp MoVal.
3/26/23		Spring Break for Sunday School

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

Worship Services

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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