

St. John's United Church of Christ
Worship Service: 9:00am / Sunday School: 10:15am

Sunday, June 9, 2024

[* = Those who are able may stand, **L** = Leader, **P** = People and **A** = All]

Words of Welcome: "Sing praise to the Lord, you saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name" —Psalm 30:4

Organ Prelude: "Offertoire in A Minor" — Faulks

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting



Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 138):

L: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; Before all Creation, I will sing God's praise.

P: Let us give thanks for God's steadfast faithfulness and love.

May God's name be exalted throughout the whole world.

L: For on the day I called, God answered me; when I was in distress, God heard my plea.

P: Though the Lord is high, God has regard for the lowly.

Thus, even kings will sing God's praises.

A: The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.

Therefore, let us give thanks to God with all our hearts.

*Opening Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth" #40

Prayer of the Day*:

Oh, Holy One your love indeed endures forever. We pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit this day as we worship together in beloved community, the realm of your Love. Be with us in our singing and praising as we share the Word together in Jesus' Name. Amen

Prayer Response: "Glory Be to the Father" #734

Mission Moment: Our Church Wider Mission (UCC)

Especially for Children

The Song: **"Jesus Loves the Little Children"**

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.
Every child in every land, Jesus holds them in His hand,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13- 5:1
Mark 3:19b-35

Sermon: "Unforgiveable Sin?"

Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East or West" #603

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

<u>Organ Offertory:</u>	“The Green Cathedral”	— Hahn
<u>Doxology</u>		#34
<u>Offertory Prayer</u>		
<u>*Closing Hymn:</u>	“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”	#59
<u>*Benediction</u>		
<u>Organ Postlude:</u>	“Imperial March”	— Elgar

+ From UCC Worship Ways, original by Rev. Roberto Ochoa.

Ministers	Every Member
Pastor	Rev. Joseph Feldmann
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. David Johnston
Organist/Choir Director	Mr. David W. Hanson

LITURGIST / BENEVELOENCE CALENDAR:

June 9	Joan Westerfeld	Our Church Wider Mission (UCC)
June 16	Bev Schwier	Merom
June 23	Donna Weber	Back Bay Mission
June 30	Linda Kanning	St. John’s Youth Fund



St. John’s Prayer List – Those Bereaved (these names remain on for one year):

Marian Koester; Willis Rouse; Doris Lamping; John Moody.

Others For Whom We Have Been Asked To Pray For:

Gayle Sarringhaus; Nikki Sarringhaus; Dave & Bonnie Johnston; Carolyn Carson (Breast Cancer, Grandmother to Nikki Sarringhaus); Randy & Becky Schebler; Margaret Meyers; Delores Cornett; Robert Weber; Sandi Maxwell (Cancer, friend of Jennifer Huffmeyer); Georgia Haarman; Dan Borchelt (Cancer, uncle to Barb Foster, cousin to Paul Borchelt); Danny & Patty Canterbury (On her Recovery, friend of Dan & Elizabeth Hall); Steve & Ann Koph (Melanoma diagnosis and health issues, friend of Dan & Elizabeth Hall); Olivia Williams (Surgery & Recovery, daughter of Tim & Sara Putnam); Connie Miller (Recovery from Heart Surgery).

Members/Friends Serving Active Duty in the Armed Forces:

Kris Freeman, Aaron Gordon, Steven Meer, Ryan Miller, Chris Williams; Bryce Timonera.

Our Members and Friends in Nursing/Retirement Homes: (For Peace)

St. Andrews Health Campus in Batesville: Margaret Meyers; Carol Narwold.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

June 11: Council Meeting 7pm

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 20: Messenger Deadline

Announcements

Save the Date for this truly special event!



Who: David Hanson

What: Organ Recital

When: Sunday, August 18th at 4pm

Where: St. John's UCC, Huntersville

Why: In observance of 50 years as church organist in the greater body of Christ.

SCRIPTURES



2 Corinthians 4:13- 5:1

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture--"I believed, and so I spoke"--we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.



Mark 3:19b-35

Then he went home; and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"-- for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he

said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Hymns

For the Beauty of the Earth (page #40)

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise
this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light, [*Refrain*]

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild, [*Refrain*]

For the church that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love, [*Refrain*]

For thyself, best gift divine,
to our race so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven. [*Refrain*]

Glory Be to the Father (page #734)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.

In Christ There Is No East or West (page #603)

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.

(continued in next column)

In Christ There Is No East or West *continued*

In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

Doxology (page #34)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (page #59)

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus,
which the morning stars began;
love divine is reigning o'er us,
joining all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.