



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

Sunday, September 29, 2024

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

Words of Welcome: “The best place to put your troubles is in your pocket – the one with a hole in it.”

Organ Prelude: “Adoration” — Blake

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 19)⁺:

L: The heavens are telling the glory of God.

P: **May our worship reflect God's glory.**

L: The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

P: **May we see each other as the handiwork of God.**

L: Let our prayer and praise, our singing and proclamation project the love of God.

P: **May our lives show forth the grace of the One who loves us.**

A: **Let us worship our God!**

*Opening Hymn: “My Jesus, I Love Thee” #468

Prayer of the Day:

Holy God, we love you and have come to sing your praise. We adore you and have entered seeking your Presence. We need you and desire your Spirit. So be here, now. Speak to our hearts. Inspire our souls. And move again in this space. That all who enter, all who hear, might know of your glory and love, your mercy and grace. And then be transformed. For we pray in Jesus's name, Amen.

Prayer Response: “Glory Be to the Father” #734

Mission Moment: Our Church Wider Mission

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: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22
Mark 9:38-50

Special Music: “The Fairy Tale” ~ performed by Tim Shackelford

Sermon: "Esther"

Hymn: "There is a Line of Women" ~ see insert

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory: "Reverie" — Tchaikovsky

Doxology #34

Offertory Prayer

*Closing Hymn: "Take My Life and Let It Be" #466

*Benediction

Organ Postlude: "Classical Postlude" — Denton

⁺ Adapted from re-worship.blogspot, original from UCC Worship Ways.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 29: Basement Reserved
 October 2: Confirmation Class
 October 6: Communion Sunday
 Men's Choir Singing
 CROP Walk

LITURGIST / BENEVELOENCE CALENDAR:

September 29	Anna Mauer	Our Church Wider Mission (UCC)
October 6	Myron Kanning	CROP Walk
October 13	Ron Meyer	Back Bay Mission / Disaster Relief
October 20	Lori Mauer	Midwest Ministry Dev Services (UCC)
October 27	Jeremy Welborn	BAMA (Food Pantry)



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

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; Delores Cornett; Sandi Maxwell (Cancer, friend of Jennifer Huffmeyer); Georgia Haarman; Loretta Jones (Health Issues, cousin to Dale Koester); the family of Larry Sarringhaus; The Family of JoAnn Widerquist on her passing (Aunt to Mike Schumacher); Mark & Lara Mortimer and family (On the passing of his Mother, Barbara, and prayers for his Father's recovery); Lonna Patton (Cancer Diagnosis, Pastor Joey's Mother); Robbyn Woluing (Cancer Diagnosis, Cousin to Ron, Mark & Randy Meyer); Dave Raver; Rev Karyl Leslie (Recovery).

Members/Friends Serving Active Duty in the Armed Forces:

Quintin Comer, Navy (deployed), Kris Freeman, Aaron Gordon, Steven Meer, Ryan Miller, Bryce Timonera, Chris Williams.

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

St. Andrews Health Campus in Batesville: Frank Bergman, Margaret Meyers, Carol Narwold.

Aspen Place, Greensburg: Charlotte Huffmeyer.

Announcements



The Annual Rummage Sale is October 3, 4 & 5!

We are accepting items at the School House TODAY from 10:30-11:30am. *TODAY is the last day for donations.*

If you have any questions, please call:

Jenell Schroeder: 812-663-7422 or 812-593-0371

Jeanie Carter: 812-934-3562

Thank you for your help and donations!

Together As One

Be sure to mark your calendar for the *"Together As One"* Fall Ecumenical Choir Fest on Sunday, October 20th, at 4pm. Over 80 singers from 15 area churches and eight choirs will come "Together As One" to share their faith and joy of music with you. This concert is a result of Easter Ecumenical Choir members saying they wanted to sing in a large group again and experience the spirit of fellowship with their community this fall. Each choir will present their own song followed by all 80 plus voices joining together for three Ecumenical Choir anthems. Hymns sung with the congregation are sure to raise the roof as even more voices come "Together As One!"

Refreshments will follow the concert and a portion of the freewill offering will be given to the Batesville Food Pantry. We hope you'll come to experience this fun, meaningful music ministry!



SCRIPTURES



Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22:

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me -- that is my petition -- and the lives of my people -- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace, but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king."

Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and an enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very pole that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hung Haman on the pole that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday, that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.



Mark 9:38-50:

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies and the fire is never quenched. "For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."



Hymns

My Jesus, I Love Thee (page #468)

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me,
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

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.

There is a line of women



1. There is a line of wom - en ex - tend - ing back to Eve whose
2. So sing a song of Sa - rah— to laugh - ter she gave birth; and
3. There is a line of wom - en who took on pow'r - ful men, de -
4. So sing a song of Shiph - rah with Pu - ah close at hand: en -
5. There is a line of wom - en who stood by Je - sus' side, who
6. So sing a song of An - na who saw Christ's in - fant face; and



role in shap - ing his - t'ry God on - ly could con - ceive; and
sing a song of Ta - mar who stood for wom - en's worth; and
fy - ing laws and scru - ples to let life live a - gain; and
gaged to kill male chil - dren, they foiled the king's com - mand; and
housed him when he min - is - tered and held him when he died; and
sing a song of Mar - tha who gave him food and space; and



though through end - less ag - es their wit - ness was re - pressed, God
sing a song of Han - nah who bar - gained with her Lord; and
though, de - spite their tri - umph, their sto - ries stayed un - told, God
sing a song of Ra - hab who shel - tered spies and lied; and
though they claimed he'd ris - en, their news was deemed sus - pect, till
sing of all the Mar - ys who heed - ed his re - quests, and



val - ued and in - spired them through whom the world was blessed,
sing a song of Mar - y who bore and bred God's Word.
kept their num - ber grow - ing, cre - a - tive, strong, and bold.
sing a song of Es - ther pre - vent - ing gen - o - cide.
Je - sus stood a - mong them, his wom - an - ly e - lect.
now at heav - en's ban - quet are Je - sus' fond - est guests.

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.

Take My Lie and Let It Be (page #466)

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love,
at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful
for thee; take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King,
always, only, for my King.

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages
for thee; take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold,
not a mite would I withhold.

Take my love; my God, I pour at thy feet its
treasure store; take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.