

## Liturgy for Word and Sacrament

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost August 6th, 2017

Centering Ourselves

Prelude – Improvisation On Today's

Hymns - Joel Gary

Welcome and News of Our Life Together

*Pastor will welcome worshipers*

Passing the peace

*Congregation is invited as they are willing and able to greet each other with the peace of Christ.*

Singing Together - “” #

Call to Worship (from Psalm 1):

L: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked

**C: They delight in the way of God, and meditate on God's way day and night.**

L: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked

**C: They are like trees planted by streams of water, their leaves do not wither.**

L: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked

**C: In all that they do, they prosper.**

L: God watches over the way of the righteous

**C: But the way of the wicked will perish.**

**All: Amen**

Special Music - “For Good” From Wicked - Chris Koorndyk and Robyn Gray

<just in case - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEdnIvnCko8> through 4:10>

Morning Text: John 15:12-15

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

Children’s Circle

Sermon: Friends For Good

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZpa2lgWWCU>

(start 0:50, end 4:46)

Singing together - “” #

Praying together: *The pastor will request the congregation share its joys and concerns*

...we ask all these things in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray.

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**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

### **Honoring Our Covenants:**

**Leader:** Jesus tells us we are his friends when we do as he commands us – to love others as he loved his disciples. One way to love is by sharing the fruits of our abundance, that others may be lifted up through us.

*Ushers will come forward to receive the offering*

### **Offertory:**

*Ushers will bring the offering plates forward during the singing of the doxology*

### **Bringing forward our gifts: Doxology**

As creatures loved by God we sing  
We bring our praise and offering!  
For Christ who loves us as we are  
We send our love both near and far. Amen.

Prayer: God who can defy gravity and defy darkness, bless these gifts and offerings so that we can show your love to all people, loving them as you have first loved us. Amen

### **Communion for the Season of Pentecost:**

#### **Invitation:**

For over 130 years, we have been sharing this meal in community here at St John's. We join with that beloved cloud of witnesses to share in this holy feast, woven into this time and place, tied to the hopes and tears of generations. As we have gone out to do God's work, even when it takes us to scary places, we return to this table to be nourished, to be refreshed, and to be made whole again through this precious, shared meal.

So let us gather with eagerness at our Lord's table, to be filled with good things, blessed for our work in the gospel, and sent on our way rejoicing. Amen.

We celebrate an open communion where all who wish to receive are welcome at the table. This table is prepared by God and no human has the right to turn anyone away. We will serve communion by having you come forward and take a piece of bread, dip it in the unfermented grape juice, and then eat it. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, we will come to you.

We remember and thank God for the many ways God has been revealed to us through the ages. We remember God creating all that is. We remember God speaking to Abraham and Sarah, to Moses, and the people in the desert, to all the prophets, and the leaders of faith, to Mary and to Joseph, and we remember God being revealed in the life and teachings of Jesus. For all of these amazing acts of God, we come to this table praising God.

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Confession:

**P:** We confess our sins before God and one another.

**P:** Risen Lord,

**All: Holy God, we confess that we have sinned against you and against your whole creation. We have not love you with our whole being; rather we have loved ourselves at the expense of others. We have ignored the cries of the poor. We have turned away from those in need. We have shunned those who are different from us. Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to your presence all around us. Transform us in our weakness to live with the power of the risen Christ, accepting, loving, and serving all, and living in harmony with all that you have made. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

**P:** In our brokenness God is ever near. In our time of need, God's love surrounds us. We must simply be open to receive it. Sisters and brothers, God knows our brokenness and God is here to bring healing and wholeness. Receive the good news of God. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven and by the Holy Spirit we are nurtured to wholeness.

Prayer:

**P:** God be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to God.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**P:** God of justice and compassion, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by Christ's blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world until Christ comes with peace, and all your children may feast united together.

With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name:

**[sung] Holy, holy, holy Lord, our God of pow'r and might,**

**Sing holy, holy, holy!**

**Heav'n and earth are full of your majesty!**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blest is he who comes in the Name of the Lord!**

**Sing loud Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**

**Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy Lord!**

Telling the story:

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We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave God thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples saying: “This is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

**In the same way**, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Prayer of Consecration: Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and cup, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. Amen

Invitation to Receive: **(Those assisting with communion are invited forward)**

Our God prepares a table for us, to break bread with all of God's children. Jesus invites us all to this table, to eat and drink, to taste and see, and to share in the goodness and mercy promised to us all. This is a feast of victory over the valley of dark shadows! Amen

**These are the gifts of God for all people of God. The table is set, come, for all is ready.**

**Communion is distributed.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table, where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Risen Savior, Amen

**Singing together:** “” #

**Benediction:** We are no longer servants, but friends. So let us defy gravity by loving each other as Christ has loved us. And when we do, we will be changed for good. Go in peace to love and serve our God.

Amen

**Postlude:**