

WORSHIP ORDER - St. John's UCC  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 23rd, 2024

PRELUDE

“Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho”

Arr. Ron Boud

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ

be with you all.

People: *And also with you.*

Pastor: Let us rise and greet one another with words of peace and remain standing for our song of centering.

*We greet one another with signs and words of peace.*

\*SONG OF CENTERING

“Loving Spirit” vs. 1

1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be,  
 2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,  
 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,  
 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:  
 5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be,

you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.  
 feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.  
 hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.  
 in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.  
 you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER

L: In the midst of life's storms, God is there.

**P: What have we to fear?**

L: In the darkness and terror, God is with us.

**P: Of whom shall we be afraid?**

L: Rise up, people of God, for you are loved and saved.

**P: Thanks be to God who cares deeply for us.**

L: Let us pray...

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SONG OF GATHERING

“All Are Welcome”



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
claim the faith of Je - sus:  
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
end to fear and dan - ger:  
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

*The Liturgist invites the congregation to be seated.*

First Reading

*Read by Liturgist*

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

As we work together with Christ, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see-- we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return-- I speak as to children-- open wide your hearts also.

Anthem: “True Colors”

Billy Steinberg/Tom Kelly

Frank VanPelt, Soloist

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION - Rev. Nathan Dannison**

**Invitation to Confession - Rev. Dannison**

**SILENCE IS OBSERVED**

**ALL: Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance**

**One: In the name of Jesus Christ who brings peace and hope, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice! You are loved! AMEN.**

**INVITATION TO CHRIST'S TABLE**

**Blessing of the Elements**

**Pastor: God be with you .**

**Many: And also with you .**

**One: Lift up your hearts.**

**Many: We lift them up to God!**

**One: Let us give thanks to God Most High!**

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

**One: Let us pray....**

**Words of Institution**

### **SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

**This Sunday, Communion will be served by intinction. Please come forward down the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and receive both as you return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, you will be served at your seat. There are gluten free crackers available on each plate.**

### **COMMUNION HYMN**

**“I Am The Bread of Life”**

*LIBERTY OF ALL*

1 "I am the bread of life. You who  
 2 "The bread that I will give is my  
 3 "Un - less you eat of the  
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion;  
 5 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -  
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you  
 flesh of the Son of Man and  
 I am the life. If you be -  
 you are the Christ, the

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to  
 eat of this bread, you shall live for -  
 drink of his blood, and drink of his  
 lieve in me, e - ven though you  
 Son of God, who has

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."  
 ev - er; you shall live for - ev - er."  
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."  
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."  
 come in - to the world.

*Refrain* *All*  
 "And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,  
 and I will raise you up on the last day."

As the quotation marks suggest, the first four stanzas and refrain are quoted from Jesus (John 6:35, 44, 51, 53).

**New Member Covenant and CHILDREN'S BLESSING - Rev. Nathan Dannison**

## CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT:

### *Congregation to New Members:*

**We, the members of St. John's United Church of Christ, welcome you with joy into our communion and fellowship. We pledge to you our support, our help and our prayers, that you may evermore increase in the knowledge and love of God. We promise, with God's help, to walk with you in Christian love, to aid you as we can, and to bind ourselves together in the common task of building here upon this earth the realm of God.**

### ♪ Dismissal

Gospel Lesson

### **Mark 4:35-41**

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Sermon: Finding God Asleep - Rev. Nathan Dannison

\*SONG OF RESPONSE

"Be Still My Soul"

NCH#488

1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient-  
 2 Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in  
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall

ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to  
 fu-ture days as in the past. Your hope, your con-fi-  
 be with God whom we a-dore, with dis-ap-point-ment

or-der and pro-vide; in ev-ery change God  
 dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-ri-ous  
 gone, no grief nor fear, sor-row re-placed with

faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal  
 shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still  
 joy for-ev-er-more. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pastor*

Pastor: ... We pray to you, our mother, using the words he gave us,  
 Saying together,

People: **Our Father, in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come,**



your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread;  
and forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours now and forever.  
Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING *Pastor*

*Ushers will come forward to receive the offering.*

THE OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND LABOR

OFFERTORY

Doxology for Ordinary Time

All crea - tures lift your prais - es high! Praise God in earth and sea and sky;  
in one great chor-us, all your days. Cre - a-tor, Christ, and Spi - rit praise. A-men.

\*CHARGE

Liturgist:

*Liturgist*

Go out into the world  
and trust in the faithfulness of God.  
Speak truth. Embody compassion.  
Live simply. Love recklessly.  
Transform the world through the power of hope.

People: *We go in peace to love and serve God  
in the name of Jesus Christ.*

\*SONG OF PARTING

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

NCH#423

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er  
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;  
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,  
each per-son to em-brace.  
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,  
and bring us to be-lieve  
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed  
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,  
as in our dai-ly life  
we strug-gle to be hu-man  
and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for peo-ple,  
for all, not just for some,  
to love them as we find them,  
or as they may be-come.
- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,  
so that we may be moved  
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions  
to do the truth in love;  
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,  
un-til we know by heart  
the ta-ble of for-give-ness  
and laugh-ter’s heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day’s en-coun-ters  
with all who are in need,  
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,  
for righ-teous-ness and bread,  
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,  
new hands for hold-ing on;  
re-new us with your Spir-it;  
God! Free us, make us one!

\*BENEDICTION *Pastor*

POSTLUDE:

“March of the Priests”

Felix Mendelsshon