



**October 11, 2020**

**St. John's United Church of Christ**

*As believers in Jesus Christ, we strive with unconditional love and selflessness – using our God given gifts – to provide a nurturing shelter for those seeking a Christian home. We offer opportunities for spiritual growth through worship, education, fellowship, prayer and Christian action throughout our community and the world.*

**Called by God  
Sharing with the World**

**October 11, 2020**  
**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

## **Gathering**

### **Meditation**

“Jesus, Master, have pity on us.”

### **Chimes**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Prelude**

Cornerstone - arr. Mark Hayes  
Gale Sterner, percussion

### **Opening Hymn**

You Are My All In All

You are my strength when I am weak  
You are the treasure that I seek  
You are my all in all  
Seeking You as a precious jewel  
Lord to give up I'd be a fool

You are my all in all  
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name  
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name  
Taking my sin my cross my shame  
Rising again I bless your name

You are my all in all  
When I fall down you pick me up  
When I am dry You fill my cup

You are my all in all  
Jesus Lamb of God worthy is Your name  
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Worthy is Your name  
Worthy is Your name

## Lifting up our Joys

## Passing of the Peace

✠ **Call to Worship** (from *Stewardship 1994*, a publication of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.);  
used in the UCC resource *Inspiring Generosity*)

Leader: Come let us worship God. What shall we bring before the God of compassion?

**People: We bring our bodies and spirits— broken and in need of healing.**

Leader: What shall we bring before the God of eternal vision?

**People: We bring our dreams and our hopes to be fulfilled.**

Leader: What shall we bring before the God of everlasting love?

**People: We bring our gratitude and possessions.**

Leader: What shall we bring before the God of all good gifts?

**People: We bring ourselves. May our offerings be holy and acceptable to God.**

## ✠ Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, we have gathered here to worship You. We're witnessing change right now in many ways...we've changed the way we do business; we've changed the way we socialize; we've changed the way we shop; we've changed the way we teach our children at schools and colleges. We've even changed the way we gather to worship. It's probably appropriate that right now we're witnessing the change in the seasons, the temperature and a change in daylight hours. But Father we know that through this and any change, the one constant we have is Your undying love for each of us. We ask that Your love may shine through each of us in our actions, in the way we treat our fellow man and in everything we do. In Your Holy name we pray, Amen.

## ✠ **Prayer of Confession** *(unison)*

**Holy God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have disobeyed your law. We have preferred our way to Christ's way. We have not loved you or our neighbors as we should. Forgive us, O God, and grant that we may live and serve you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silent pause for reflection*

## ✠ **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Friends in Christ if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive Our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. This is God's gift to us and the world so that we can know abundant life.

<b>Bible Readings</b>	<i>James 3: 13-18; Luke 9: 46-62</i>	Ellen Kirby
<b>Children's Message and Blessing</b>		Jamie Barton
<b>Today's Message</b>	"Ministry"	Jamie Barton

## ✠UCC Statement of Faith

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, and to his deeds we testify: He calls the worlds into being, creates man in his own image and sets before him the ways of life and death. He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. He judges men and nations by his righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, he has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to himself. He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races. He calls us into his church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of men, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory. He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him. Amen.

## Prayers of the People

### Prayer of Our Savior *(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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us  
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory  
forever. Amen**

## ✠ Giving our Gifts to God

### ✠ Doxology *(recited)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## ✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing

**Closing Song**

My Jesus I Love Thee

***Worship Leader:***

***Jamie Barton***

***Blessings to you from St. John's United Church of Christ in Orwigsburg.***

*Make Handwashing a Time of Prayer: Washing our hands for 20 seconds is one of the ways to reduce the spread of the COVID virus. How long is 20 seconds? That is sometimes hard to track. However, there is a way that combines adequate handwashing and praising God. The Doxology that we sing during worship, (it starts with "Praise God from whom all blessings flow....") takes approximately 20 seconds to sing. By choosing to sing the Doxology each time we wash our hands we mentally shift our focus from the challenge of living within a pandemic to thoughts of gratitude and the blessings God has bestowed. Focusing on these positives in the midst of our challenges improves our health and wellbeing. Thanks be to God.*

*The Bible Study for women: "Tis well: walking away from anxiety and into God's world" will now be done as an email study. We will post some readings and reflections once a week and people can respond to all on the email list for discussion. We have heard from a number of people who do not do zoom but who are interested. Please email Kay Jones at [kjones8022@aol.com](mailto:kjones8022@aol.com) to participate. The day and time will be set by those who join.*