

I KNOW THAT
MY
REDEEMER
LIVES

AND THAT IN THE END HE WILL STAND UPON THE EARTH
JOB 19:25

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October 3, 2021

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 3, 2021
19th Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation

“The best way to hold on is to let go.” Rev Robert A. Schuller

Chimes

Prelude

Shout to the Lord - arr. Mark Hayes
Gale Sterner, percussion

Welcome and Announcements

✠ Opening Hymn

This is My Father's World

Verse 1

This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

Verse 2

This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

Verse 3

This is my Father's world.
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong
Seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav'n be one.

Lifting up our Joys

October Birthday Blessings

Passing of the Peace

✠ Call to Worship (Congregation reads bold print)

God whose love is pouring over us, welcomes us here today.

Praise be to God!

God whose healing power is ready to bind up our wounds, welcomes us here today.

Praise be to God!

God whose transforming presence offers us hope and peace, welcomes us here today.

Praise be to God who loves, heals and restores us. Amen.

✠ Opening Prayer

Pastor Jeff

✠ Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O Holy God, we know we have fallen short. We turn our backs when we could embrace. We remain silent when we could speak. We speak when we could listen. We close the door when we could fling it wide open. We judge when we could seek understanding. We cling when we could give. Forgive us, O God, for being so very human at times, and help us to continue to grow into the people you created us to be, through Christ our Lord.

Silent pause for reflection **Amen.**

Giving our Gifts to God

✠Doxology

**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.**

**Reception of New Members – Lynne Edling, Irma Johnson, Steven Goodale,
Pastor Jeff Johnson**

Everyone: We welcome you with joy as partners in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we journey together in the worship and work of Jesus Christ. May God grant that, together, we will continue to grow in his love and be witnesses of our risen Lord. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

✠Communion Hymn *As We Gather At Your Table*

As we gather at your table,
As we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence;
Let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known

✠ Invitation to the Table

✠ Communion Prayer

May the Lord be with you.

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creating God, we give thanks that you brought this world and all of humanity into being, breathing life into us. You show yourself in each face we encounter, each and all created in your image. We thank you for your covenants. You taught us how to serve you, and how to honor each other. To bring us into relationship with you, you sent us prophets and teachers. We offer thanks that when we ignored your embrace, you persisted in reaching out to us. We thank you most for the life and ministry of Jesus.

The death and resurrection of Christ taught us that nothing, not even death, can separate us from you. Through your Holy Spirit, you breathe through us, gathering us as a church. Therefore, we join with all the saints and all of creation to proclaim the glory of your name:

✠ Sanctus (*sung*)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy glory, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

(the congregation may be seated)

Words of Institution

Hear the words of the institution of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Blessing of the Elements

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you and each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*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**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Prepare your hearts for all things are ready.

Partaking of the Elements

Take and eat; this is the body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen!**
Take and drink; this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you. **Amen!**

✠Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

**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 Savior. Amen.**

✠Closing Hymn *Guide, Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Verse 1

Guide me O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of Heaven, Bread of Heaven,
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Verse 2

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar

Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

Verse 3

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of deaths, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing

✠ Chimes/Meditation

Postlude *God is Working His Purpose Out - Martin Shaw*



*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God
In memory of John Aregood Sr, Alma Aregood
Anderson and the
Rev. John M. Aregood, Jr.
Presented by Bob & Barb Aregood.*

Worship Leader: Pastor Jeff Johnson