



May 22, 2022

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**

May 22, 2022
6th Sunday of Easter

Meditation

“Coincidence is God’s way of remaining anonymous.”

Albert Einstein

Chimes

Prelude *Above All - Arr. Mark Hayes*

Welcome and Announcements

✠ Opening Hymn No. 350 *The Summons*

Verse 1

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Verse 2

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Verse 3

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Verse 4

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Lifting up our Joys

Passing of the Peace

✠ Call to Worship (Congregation reads bold print)

May God be gracious to us and bless us.

May God's face shine upon us and bring us peace!

Let all people praise you, O Lord.

Let all people shout their joy to your holy name.

God blesses us continually throughout all our lives.

Thanks be to God, for God's eternal love and blessing.

✠ Opening Prayer

Pastor Jeff

✠ Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Holy and righteous one, we are stunned by the miracles of new life and forgiveness you offer. When our awe turns to disbelief, renew us with your joy. When our fear turns to rejection, lead us into your presence. When our stumbling leads to sin, forgive us by your grace, and direct our steps in your paths of righteousness. In Christ's name, we pray.

Silent pause for reflection

Amen.

✠ Assurance of Forgiveness (*read responsively*)

God's hand has, indeed, stretched out to us in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.

Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Amen!**

Bible Readings

Psalm 67; Acts 16:9-15

Choir Anthem

Walk Along Beside Me, O My Lord - Don Besig

Children's Message

Pastor Jeff

Pastor's Message

"To Be Used of God"

Pastor Jeff

✠The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *(From the UCC Book of Worship)*

Giving our Gifts to God

Offertory

✠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.**

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**

✠ Closing Hymn No. 708

Go Forth With God

1 Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,
till in the kingdom we see face to face.
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

2 Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
help the afflicted; richly from above
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.

3 Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
render to no one evil; Christ at length
shall overcome all darkness with his light.
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

4 Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,
to serve God's people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing

✠ Threefold Amen (sung)

Chimes/Meditation

Postlude

Hail the Brightest Day of Days

J. S. Bach

Acolyte: Olivia Pacovsky



*The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God,
in loving memory of Andy,
Presented by Dee Perzel*

Worship Leader: Pastor Jeff Johnson

