



St. John's United Church of Christ

June 21, 2020

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**

Gathering

Meditation

God our Father,
In your wisdom and love you have created us and called us your own. Bless our fathers, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. In moments of joy, rejoice with them. In times of struggle, give them your courage and perseverance. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor and appreciate them always with a spirit of profound respect. Amen.
Archdiocese of New Orleans

Prelude

Praise to the Lord
Bell Choir

arr. Linda Lamb

Opening Hymn

He's got the whole world in His hands
He's got the whole world in His hands
He's got the whole world in His hands
He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got you and me brother in His hands
He's got you and me sister in His hands
He's got all of us together you in His hands
He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got the itty bitty baby in His hands
He's got the itty bitty baby in His hands
He's got the itty bitty baby in His hands
He's got the whole world in His hands
He's got all of you dads in His hands
He's got all of you dads in His hands
He's got all of you dads in His hands
He's got the whole world in His hands

Welcome and Sharing of the Good News of God's work among us

Opening Prayer

Dear Everlasting Father: we come to you today with much in our hearts. We continue to live in an unsettled time with new challenges confronting us almost daily. Give us the strength and wisdom to meet these challenges well. Let us always acknowledge that your presence is with us in all things.

On this special day for fathers, we pray that you will bless and keep them. Give them the patience and compassion that it takes to raise children in today's world. Help them turn to you Son as a guide and model for their behavior. Let them feel the joy of parenthood.

We pray this in your name as our heavenly Father.

Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Dear God, we know that You know all that is in our hearts and minds.

We come to You knowing that we have but to ask for your forgiveness and repent of our sins to receive Your healing grace. We ask that from You now as we confess our sins.

Let us now take silent time to review our week and remember where we have done wrong or have not done the good, we should have done and confess in our hearts to the Lord.

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.

Bible Readings

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 Matthew 7: 9-11; 24-27

Alison Holler, reader

Children's Message and Blessing Noah and the Ark - Tammy Waldrop
Bill Holler, narrator and Bell Choir

Today's Message & Surprise Kay Jones and Trena Murphy

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

Lord's Prayer (*unison*) ("*debts*" and "*debtors*")

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.**

Please be seated.

Sending Forth and Final Blessing

Postlude

Praise Him

arr. Anne Hartley

Worship Leaders:

Kay Jones & Trena Murphy

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

Happy Father's Day!