

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

JULY 12, 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**

July 12, 2020
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Gathering

Meditation

“For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid; instead, His Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control.” 2 Timothy 1:7

Welcome & Sharing of Good News of God’s Work Among Us

Prelude

A Song Was Born

Mercer Elmo

Opening Hymn

O Jesus, I have Promised

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

I Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Oh, give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

Passing of the Peace

✠Call to Worship:

Leader: Trust in the Lord, and do good;
Take delight in the Lord and God will give you the desires of
your heart.

People: Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for God.

Leader: Commit your way to the Lord: trust in God who will act.
For the Lord loves justice; God will not forsake his faithful ones.

People: Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for God.

Leader: The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; God is their refuge
in the time of trouble. The Lord helps them and rescues them
because they take refuge in God.

People: Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for God.

✠Opening Prayer

Dear God, we gather here and now to worship you. We gather in our homes,
on computers, on televisions, on phones and we gather here in this
Holy sanctuary. But we know that through the Holy Spirit, we are together
as one loving congregation. Lord, we know you're present with us, allow us
now to feel your healing, forgiving love. Let us prepare our hearts and minds
to worship God. Amen.

✠Prayer of Confession

**We confess to almighty God that we have sinned in thought, word,
and deed: In what we have done and in what we have failed to do.
In the light of Christ, our sin is exposed, but God's grace and power
are also revealed. Help us to leave behind our fears and doubts,
so that we may witness with joy to God's awesome deeds, in
Jesus Christ the Risen One. Amen.**

✠ 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

Isaiah 5: 1-7 & Matthew 25: 31-46

Bill Miller

Children's Message and Blessing

Jamie Barton

Today's Message

"Do Much"

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

Lord, I want to be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian
In my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord,
I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving
In my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Worship Leader:

Jamie Barton

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