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Walk

IN THE

WAY OF LOVE.

EPHESIANS 5:2

**August 8, 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**



Oh the deep deep love of Jesus  
Far surpassing all the rest  
It's an ocean full of blessing  
In the midst of ev'ry test  
Oh the deep deep love of Jesus  
Mighty Savior precious friend  
You will bring us home to glory  
Where Your love will never end

*(Congregation may be seated)*

## **Lifting up our Joys**

## **Passing of the Peace**

### **✠ Call to Worship (Congregation reads bold print)**

We are hungering and thirsting for hope and peace.

**Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

Our hearts long for the nourishing presence of God.

**Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

Give to us the living bread of your peace that we may hunger no more.

**Open our hearts to joyfully receive your life-sustaining love. Amen.**

### **✠ Opening Prayer**

Pastor Jeff

### **✠ Prayer of Confession** *(read responsively)*

Lord, we have lived as unwise people.

**God, forgive us for wasting time.**

We have been foolish.

**Jesus, forgive us for not understanding your will.**

We have filled ourselves with the wine of worldliness.

**Holy Spirit, forgive us for not being filled with you.**

We have forsaken your spiritual food.

**Great Triune God of grace, forgive us for not drawing our strength from your bread of heaven.**

Almighty God, please add to your mighty deeds by forgiving our transgressions.

*Silent pause for reflection*

**Amen.**

## ✠ Assurance of Forgiveness

The Lord is gracious to us and gentle. The Lord heals our souls with love. The Lord is merciful, providing spiritual food for the hungry. Be healed in your hearts and be fed in your souls by the forgiveness found in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen!**  
*(the congregation may be seated)*

**Bible Readings**      *Leviticus 19: 11-18, Ephesians 4:25-5:2*      Alison Holler

**Children's Message and Blessing**      Pastor Jeff

**Pastor's Message**      *"Walk in the Way of Love"*      Pastor Jeff

## ✠ The Apostles 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

### ✠ 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.**

*(the congregation may be seated)*

## 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      Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship our spirit finds  
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne,  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one—  
Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes;  
Our mutual burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.

When we are called to part,  
it gives us inward pain;  
but we shall still be joined in heart,  
and hope to meet again.

This glorious hope revives  
our courage by the way;  
while each in expectation lives  
and waits to see the day.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
and sin, we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship reign  
through all eternity.

✝ **Sending Forth and Final Blessing**

✝ **Chimes/Meditation**

**Postlude**      We're Marching to Zion - Robert Lowry



*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God  
in memory of daughter Terry Darosh-Breslin,  
Presented by Mom Darline and her family.*

*Worship Leader: Pastor Jeff Johnson*

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