

SPIRITUAL GIFTS



MANY GIFTS, **ONE BODY**

January 18, 2026

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**

January 18, 2026
Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Meditation

“You are what you do, not what you say you'll do.”
C.G. Jung

Chimes

Prelude *Do Not Pass Me By* - Dan Forrest

Welcome and Announcements

✠Opening Hymn #68 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise his name-I'm fixed upon it-
Name of God's redeeming love.

Here I raise to thee an altar,
Hither by thy help I've come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Bought me with his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee;
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O, take and seal it;
Seal it for thy courts above.

Lifting Up Our Joys

Passing of the Peace

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

We gather to give thanks to You, O Lord,
with all our heart!

We will sing your praises before all creation,
and rejoice in Your steadfast love!

You have created us O Lord, and made us for yourself,

In you we become everything you have made us to be! – *inspired by Psalm 138*

✠Opening Prayer

Pastor Jeff

✠Prayer of Confession

We stand before you in need of grace, O merciful Lord. We are too easily attached to the things of this world and too easily detached from you. We long for goods ahead of goodness and for money ahead of meaning. We beg your forgiveness for our wandering hearts and pray your guidance for our wavering spirits. O come and recreate our divided hearts today, that we might know the pure joy of loving you above all things.

Silent pause for reflection

Amen.

✠ Assurance of Forgiveness

Christ Jesus comes to reconcile us to God, so we can be reconciled to one another. Recreated in God's image, we are made whole. **Thanks be to God!**

Children's Message

Pastor Jeff

Bible Readings

Isaiah 51:1-6, Romans 12:1-8

Tracey Holler

Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke,

the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship.

²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

⁴For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Choir Anthem

Look at the World – John Rutter

Pastor's Message

"Vive la Difference"

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

Good - Gale Murphy

✠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 #94 *Shout to the Lord*

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength.
Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing;
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of your name.
I will sing for joy at the work of your hands;
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

✠Sending Forth and Final Blessing

✠Sung Response - E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come - Paul Manz

Postlude



*The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of
God, and in honor of our grandchildren,
Sabrina and Finnegan.
Presented by Larry and Leisha Hoffman.*
