



**October 20, 2024**

## **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**

**October 20, 2024**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Meditation**

“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.” C.S. Lewis

**Chimes**

**Prelude**

*Shine on Us*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**✠ Opening Hymn**

*This Little Light Of Mine*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine  
All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine  
All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

**Lifting Up Our Joys**

**Passing of the Peace**

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

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! (Psalm 95:1-3, 6-7)

## ✠ **Opening Prayer**

Pastor Jeff

## ✠ **Prayer of Confession**

**God, we make so many mistakes; we turn away from you so often. We need you so much. We are sorry for our self-centeredness. We pray for a growing faith and a desire to be all you wish us to be.**

*Silent pause for reflection Amen.*

## ✠ **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. In Christ’s name, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Bible Readings**

*John 8:12; Matthew 5:14-16*

Ellen Kirby

### **John 8:12**

<sup>12</sup>Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

### **Matthew 5:14-16**

14 ‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it

gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

## **Pastor's Introduction**

## **Thailand Mission Presentation**

Susan McCartney

## **Choir Anthem**

*"Shine on Us"*

## **Pastor's Concluding Remarks**

### **✠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**

*Adagio*

### **✠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 #319**

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness shining;  
Jesus light of the world, Shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into your radiance,  
by the blood I may enter your brightness,  
search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display your likeness;  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story,

Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

✝ **Sending Forth and Final Blessing**

✝ **Threefold Amen**

✝ **Chimes/Meditation**

**Postlude**

*Light of the World*



*The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God,  
and in honor of Susan McCartney.  
Presented by Isabel Rhoads.*