


# November 1, 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**

**November 1, 2026**
**23rd Sunday after Pentecost – Memorial Sunday**

## Meditation

"Before I can tell my life what I want to do with it,
I must listen to my life telling me who I am." Parker J. Palmer

## Chimes

## Prelude

*Praeludium VI,* by Johann Sebastian Bach

## Welcome and Announcements

***No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.***

## ✞Opening Hymn #529

*For All the Saints* (Verses 1,3 &5)

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine.
Yet all are one in thee for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day:
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Lifting up our Joys

## November Birthday Blessings

## Passing of the Peace

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

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
**there is no end to his greatness.**
One generation shall praise your works to another
**and shall declare your power.**
All your works praise you, Lord,
**and your faithful servants bless you.**
They make know the glory of your kingdom
**and speak of your power.**
My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord.
**Let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.**

*- based on Psalm 145:3-4, 10-11, 21*

## ✞Opening Prayer

Pastor Jeff

## ✞Prayer of Confession

**Helper God, be the hope that overcomes our despair; be the love that overcomes our hatred; be the mercy that overcomes our sin. Set us free from the prisons of our own making, and release us from the bonds that bind us. Forgive us and watch over us. Welcome us home into the loving arms of your mercy. In Christ's name, we pray.**

*Silent pause for reflection*

**Amen.**

## ✞Assurance of Forgiveness

We are not far from the kingdom of God, for in Christ we are given grace and forgiveness. Praise God for this marvelous gift! **Thanks be to God!**

**Children's Message** Pastor Jeff

**Bible Readings** *Psalm 34: 1-10, 22; 1 John 3: 1- 3* Ellen Kirby

## Psalm 34:1-10, 22

**1** I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
**2** My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.
**3** O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
**4** I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.
**5** Look to him, and be radiant, so your faces shall never be ashamed.
**6** This poor soul cried and was heard by the Lord and was saved from every trouble.
**7** The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him and delivers them.
**8** O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.
**9** O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
**10** The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.
**22** The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

## 1 John 3:1-3

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be
called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason
the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has
not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is
revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.
3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just
as he is pure.

**Choir Anthem** *Blest Are They,* by David Haas,
arranged by David Haas and John Michael Joncas

**Pastor's Message** *"Are You a Victim of Identity Theft?"* Pastor Jeff

**Special Music** *"Deep River"* Bill Miller accompanied by Trena Murphy

**Giving our Gifts to God**

**Offertory** *Steal Away*

**✞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.**

## Sacrament of Holy Communion

**✞Communion Hymn #695** *As we Gather at Your Table* (Verse 3)

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

**✞Invitation to the Table**

**✞Communion Prayer**
The Lord be with you
**And also with you**
Lift up your hearts.
**We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise to you, the God of Abraham and Sarah, Miriam and Moses, Joshua, Deborah, Ruth, David, priests, and prophets, Mary, Joseph, Peter and Paul, apostles, and martyrs, and ordinary unknown saints. You are the God of our mothers and fathers and our children to all generations. You, Everlasting One, made us all. You fashion us into one people, and continue to love us even when we deny our godly heritage. Still, you call us home to you through saints dedicated to your will.

Today, in thanksgiving, we hold sacred those faithful men and women who have followed Jesus' calling and touched our lives with their witness and have gone to their eternal rest:

***Elsie Fragle***
***Jean Brossman***
***Larry Kohr***
***Ben Fisher***
***Barbara Berger***
***Wendy Werner***
***Isabel Rhoads***
*(bell tolls after each name is read)*

Surrounded at this table by your faithful ones in heaven and on earth, we lift our hearts in song.

## ✞Sanctus

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of thy glory, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!** *(the congregation may be seated)*

## Words of Institution

Hear the words of the institution of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ…Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.
**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## The Blessing of the Elements

Pastor Jeff

## 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**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Prepare your hearts for all things are ready.

## Partaking of the Elements

Take and eat; this is the body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen!**
Take and drink; this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you. **Amen!**

## ✞Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Gracious God, you have once again shown us your love by bringing us to this meal. We go from here renewed in faith, renewed in courage, and strengthened by your presence. Thank you for loving us and for challenging us to know you better and to receive you more fully. Amen.**

## ✞Closing Hymn #66 *To God Be the Glory*

To God be the glory, great things he hath done;
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all my go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he hath done.

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
Bur purer, and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he hath done.

**✞ Sending Forth and Final Blessing**

**✞Threefold Amen**

**✞Chimes/Meditation**

**Postlude** *When We All Get to Heaven*



***The Altar Flowers today, are given to the Glory of God, and In Honor of Isabel Rhoads, and the memories of her we all share. Presented by Elaine & Bill Miller.***