

November 15, 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 15, 2026
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation
"The question is not what you look at but what you see."
Henry David Thoreau

Prelude *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*, arranged by Mark Hayes

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

✞Opening Hymn #391 *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to You? Pray that I might
Have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
Here together on the road; we are here to
Help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you,
In the nighttime of your fear; I will hold my
Hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping,
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you; I will share your
Joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God and heaven,
We shall find such harmony, born of all we've
Known together of Christ's love and agony.

Lifting up our Joys

Passing of the Peace

✞Call to Worship (Congregation reads **bold** print) From Psalm 27: 4-5
One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek:
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
To gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.
For in the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

✞Opening Prayer Kay Jones
Most gracious God, who has given us life and sustains us in faith, help us to truly see the world you have given us. Help us to see the need as well as the beauty. Help us to stay anchored in the teachings of your son. Let us respond to your people as Jesus responded to those around him with love and patience. Help us to always remember that we are all your children. Every one of us. Amen

✞Prayer of Confession
Dear Lord, you have placed us in a world that calls for us to be present to those who are hungry, sick, sorrowful and in need. Yet we often go about our days with no thought of these people because we are so busy with "important" things. We walk past the very people Jesus would have paused to help. Teach us to see and to act with mercy and compassion.

Silent pause for reflection **Amen.**

✞Assurance of Forgiveness
In Jesus Christ God knows us and receives us as we are.
Listen, give thanks and live.

Children's Message *Seeing* Kay Jones

Bible Readings *Philippians 4:6-8 Mark 10:13-15* Curtis Welsh

Philippians 4:6-8

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which
transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is
excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Mark 10:13-15

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them,
but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said
to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the
kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 Truly I tell you, anyone who will not
receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Choir Anthem *Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You,* by Jay Althouse

Kay's Message What do you see? Kay Jones

✞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

Moment for Stewardship Curtis Welsh

Offertory *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

✞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 #589 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* (Verses 1, 3, & 4)

O Master, let me walk with thee
In lowly paths of service free;
Tell me thy secret: help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Teach me thy patience - still with thee
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way,
In peace that only thou canst give,
With thee, O Master, let me live.

✞Sending Forth and Final Blessing

Three-fold Amen

Chimes and Meditation

Postlude *You Call Us, Lord*



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God, and in Memory of Loved Ones. Presented by Eileen and Harlan Rump.