



November 2, 2025

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 2, 2025

21st Sunday after Pentecost – Memorial Sunday

Meditation

“Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile.” Mother Teresa

Chimes

Prelude *The Lord's My Shepherd* - arranged by Larry Shackley

Welcome and Announcements

✠ Opening Hymn #529 *For All the Saints* (vs. 1,2,4,5)

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!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou in the darkness drear, their one true light,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
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)*

For all those who have paved the way for our freedom of worship, we give thanks, O Lord.

For those who have taught us about witness and the power of love, we give thanks, O Lord.

For those who work in our church that we may come to know what it means to serve, we give thanks, O Lord.

For all the saints, those who rest from their labors, and those who labor still, we give thanks, O Lord.

Praise be to God, who continually inspires and guides workers and witnesses.

Open our hearts and spirits, O Lord, and help us to become good workers for you.

✠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!**

✠ *All who are able shall stand*

Bible Readings

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Luke 19:1-10

Olivia Pacovsky

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

² O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you
“Violence!” and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and
violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴ So the law becomes slack, and
justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment
comes forth perverted.

I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to
see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

² Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so
that a runner may read it. ³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks
of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it
will not delay.

⁴ Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their
faithfulness.

Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ² A man was there named
Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich.

³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not,
because he was short in stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to
see him, because he was going to pass that way.

⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry
and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶ So he hurried down and was
happy to welcome him.

⁷ All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one
who is a sinner.”

⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I
will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back
four times as much.”

¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Pastor's Message *"How Can I Know It's For Real?"* Pastor Jeff

Offertory *Andante Tranquilo* - by Felix Mendelssohn

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

There'll be peace and contentment evermore,
There'll be peace and contentment ever more,
Every heart, every voice on that day will rejoice,
There'll be peace and contentment evermore.

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✠ 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:

Tim Deitzler

Mardelle Deibert

Wayne Hamilton

Lynda Hamilton

Jared Bachert

(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!**

Canon in D - by Johann Pachelbel

✠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 #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.

✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing

✠ Threefold Amen

✠ Chimes/Meditation

Postlude

Holy, Holy, Holy



***The Altar Flowers today, are given to the
Glory of God,
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Miller.
Presented by Bill & Elaine Miller.***



***The Altar Flowers on Sunday, October 26, 2025,
were given to the Glory of God, In Memory of
Reverend Gilbert Bartholomew and Emma.
Presented by their children.***