



BUT WE HAVE THIS TREASURE
IN JARS OF CLAY, TO SHOW THAT
THE SURPASSING POWER BELONGS
TO GOD AND NOT TO US.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7

 WORLDCHALLENGE.ORG

June 2, 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**

June 2, 2024
Second Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation

“It doesn’t matter what others are doing. It matters what you are doing.” Unknown

Chimes

Prelude

Broken Vessels

Welcome and Announcements

✠ Opening Hymn #346

Come to Me, the Master Said

O come to me, the Master said, my Father knows your need;
And I shall be, the Master said, your bread of life indeed.
By faith in him we live and grow and share the broken bread,
And all his love and goodness know, for so the Master said.

Abide in me, the Master said, the true and living vine;
My life shall be, the Master said, poured out for you as wine.
His body to the cross he gave, his blood he freely shed,
Who came in love to seek and save, for so the Master said.

Believe in me, the Master said, for I have called you friends,
And yours shall be, the Master said, the life that never ends.
And so, with sin and sorrow past, when death itself is dead,
The Lord shall raise us up at last, for so the Master said.

Lifting up our Joys

June Birthday Blessings

Passing of the Peace

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

This is the day that the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

This is a day of new beginnings!

This is a time for growing into new disciples for Jesus.

Come, let us prepare ourselves for worship

Let us be prepared for service to God.

✠ **Opening Prayer**

Pastor Jeff

✠ **Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

Dear God, you know that we let the frustrations and worries of our lives overcome us. At times, our hearts seem to buckle under the weight of anger and confusion. Please forgive us when we turn away from you in our darkest moments. Remind us that you are an active partner in our lives as you seek healing and hope not only for each of us, but for the whole world. We join with you to seek renewal as your disciples of peace and compassion. In Christ's name we pray.

Silent pause for reflection

Amen.

✠ **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Let go of your fears and doubts. God pours His love on you, in you and through you to others. Be at peace. **Amen.**

Children's Message

Pastor Jeff

Bible Readings

Psalm 81:1-10; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Eileen Rump

Psalm 81:1-10

1 Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

2 Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.

3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.

4 For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.

5 He made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt. I hear a

voice I had not known:

6 “I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket.

7 In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of
thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

8 Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to
me!

9 There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign
god.

10 I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open
your mouth wide and I will fill it.

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

5 For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and
ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake.

6 For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in
our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face
of Jesus Christ.

7 But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this
extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to
despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always
carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life
of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

11 For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus’ sake, so that
the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.

12 So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Choir Anthem

“I See You Face to Face”

Pastor’s Message

“Treasure Hidden in a Clay Jar”

Pastor Jeff

✠The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Giving our Gifts to God

Offertory

Cantilene - Gordon Young

†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 #343

The Potter's Hand

Take me, mold me, use me,
fill me; I give my life to the Potter's hand.
Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand.

Take me, mold me, use me,
fill me; I give my life to the Potter's hand.
Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me;
I give my life to the Potter's hand, to the Potter's hand.

✠ Invitation to the Table

✠ Communion Prayer

Pastor Jeff

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us – even when we fell into sin. And we give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

✠ 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

✠ *All who are able shall stand*

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; in remembrance of 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 (*unison*)

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, renewing our connection to the living Christ. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory through Christ our Lord, Amen.

✠Closing Hymn #712 *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

Sent forth by God's blessing our true faith confessing,

The people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The service is ended, O now be extended

The fruits of our worship in all who believe.

The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,

Shall blossom in action for God and for all.

God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us

To work for God's kingdom and answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,

The tasks of our everyday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,

Embracing God's children of each tribe and race.

With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us;

Unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living with praise and thanks-giving

Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

✠ Threefold Amen

✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing

✠ Chimes/Meditation

Postlude

Toccata Pontifical - Gordon Young