



**June 30, 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 30, 2024**

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

## **Meditation**

“No man ever collapsed because of the burdens of the day; it is when the burdens of tomorrow are added to the cares of today that a person begins to sink.”

Gordon MacDonald

## **Prelude**

*Battle Hymn of the Republic*  
Mark Miller, trumpet and voice

## **Welcome and Announcements**

**✝ Opening Hymn #426**      *Blessed Assurance*

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,

Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

## Lifting up our Joys

## Passing of the Peace

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

Lord, come into our hearts today.

**Heal us from all our pain.**

Lord, come into our lives today.

**Bring us hope and peace.**

Come, let us worship God who brings hope and peace.

**All: Praise be to God for God's healing mercies.**

### ✠ Opening Prayer

Pastor Jeff

### ✠ Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**For those of us whose hearts are troubled, or spirits crushed by sin or circumstance, Good Lord, deliver us. Bring healing and wholeness of mind, body and spirit, and freedom to be the people we were always meant to be.**

*Silent pause for reflection*      **Amen.**

### ✠ Assurance of Forgiveness

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies are new every morning.”

**Amen!** (*Taken from Lamentations 3:22-23*)

## Children's Message

Pastor Jeff

## Bible Readings

*Zechariah 9:9-12; Matthew 11:25-30*

Elaine Miller

## **Zechariah 9:9-12**

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

11 As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

## **Matthew 11:25-30**

25 At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; 26 yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

27 All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

28 “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

## **Choir Anthem**

### **Pastor’s Message**

*“The Key to Getting Enough Rest”*

Pastor Jeff

## **✠UCC Statement of Faith**

**We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, who is made known to us in Jesus our brother, and to whose deeds we testify:**

**God calls the worlds into being, creates humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death.**

**God seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.**

**God judges all humanity and all nations by that will of righteousness declared through prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the whole creation to its Creator.**

**God bestows upon us the Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.**

**God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of the whole human family, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.**

**God promises to all who trust in the gospel forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, the presence of the Holy Spirit in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in that kingdom which has no end.**

**Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God. Amen.** *(From the UCC Book of Worship)*

## **Giving our Gifts to God**

### **Offertory**

*Soon and Very Soon*

Mark Miller, trumpet and voice

### **✠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.**

**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 #469** *Lord of All Hopefulness (vs.1,2,4)*

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike no cares could destroy,  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
At the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,  
At the noon of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
At the end of the day.

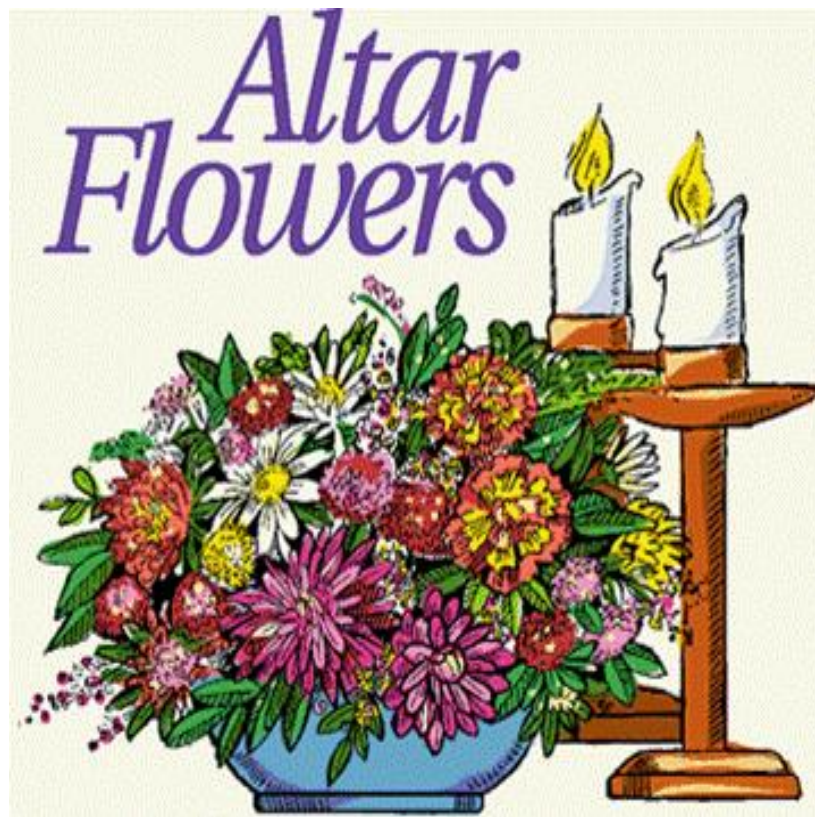
**✠ Sending Forth and Final Blessing**

**✠ Three-fold Amen**

**✠ Chimes/Meditation**

**Postlude**

*The Power of Your Love*



*The Altar Flowers are given to the  
Glory of God, in Honor of the  
Members of St. John's Consistory.  
Presented by Peg Berger.*