



Come to me,
all you who are
***weary and
burdened,***
and I will give you
REST.

-Matthew 11:28

July 5, 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

July 5, 2026
6th Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation

If possible, offer this silent prayer before worship. “God, I want to create an opening for your presence, strength, and hope to work in me today. Amen.”

Chimes

Prelude *A Prayer for the Nation* by Lani Smith

Welcome and Announcements

✝ Opening Hymn #356 *I Will Sing of My Redeemer*

I will sing of my Redeemer and his wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross he suffered from the curse to set me free.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me,
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

I will tell the wondrous story how, my lost estate to save,
In his boundless love and mercy he the ransom freely gave.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me,
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

I will praise my dear Redeemer, his triumphant power I'll tell,
How the victory, he giveth over sin and death and hell.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me,
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

I will sing of my Redeemer and his heavenly love for me;
He from death to life hath brought me, Son of God, with him to be.
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me,
On the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

Lifting up our Joys

July Birthday Blessings

Passing of the Peace

✠ Call to Worship (Congregation reads bold print)

Come! Listen to the word of the Lord!

Help us to receive God's word and direction for our lives.

Proclaim the goodness of God's love!

Let our voices and our actions be filled with love.

Come, now is the time to worship.

Open our eyes, our hearts and our spirits this day, Lord.

✠ Opening Prayer

Pastor Jeff

✠ Prayer of Confession

Lord, how we must try your patience! We often doubt, when we should place our faith in your abiding presence. We think that we have to have all the answers, and judge others who fail to live up to our expectations. We think that we are the one thing that matters most in life. So we place ourselves at the center of our own universe. Forgive us when we show how shallow our faith is. Help us to really understand the miraculous ways in which you have already worked in our lives and will continue to work as we journey in faith.

Silent pause for reflection **Amen.**

✠ Assurance of Forgiveness

God's love is continually poured out for us. Let us drink from the cup of forgiveness and compassion. In Jesus' Name, we are forgiven. **Amen!**

Jeremiah 31:23-26

²³ Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Once more they shall use these words in the land of Judah and in its towns when I restore their fortunes:

“The Lord bless you, O abode of righteousness, O holy hill!”

²⁴ And Judah and all its towns shall live there together, and the farmers and those who wander with their flocks. ²⁵ I will satisfy the weary, and all who are faint I will replenish.

²⁶ Thereupon I awoke and looked, and my sleep was pleasant to me.

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 who 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.”

✝ 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 *America the Beautiful*

✝ 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 #699 *Let Us Break Bread Together* (Verses 1 & 2)

Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

✠ 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.

It is with deep gratitude that we remember your great love shown to us and to all of your creation. We remember the Old Testament story of how you brought your people Israel to freedom from bondage out of Egypt and into a new and bountiful land. A new beginning it was! And even more so, we thank you for coming to us in Jesus Christ to show us again your life-changing love and to call us to serve this

world for whom Christ gave the ultimate sacrifice. As we give thanks for your salvation given to us in Christ, we recommit to sharing your good news with everyone. With your whole church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious 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

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

Pastor Jeff

The Lord's Prayer

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. Come, for all things are ready.

Sharing 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

Holy God, thank you for your love which lifts us, your presence which fills us and your life which empowers us to be your people. Amen.

†Closing 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 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 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 my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

✠ **Sending Forth and Final Blessing**

✠ **Chimes/Meditation**

✠ **Three-fold Amen**

Postlude *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*



***The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God,
In Honor of our son, Christopher Holler, on his
July 4th Birthday!
And, in Honor of our country's 250th Birthday
also on July 4th!
Presented by Bill & Tracey Holler.***