



July 19, 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 19, 2026

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
who walk in obedience to him. Psalm 128:1

Prelude *Fugue number 1 in C Major*
by Johann Sebastian Bach

Welcome and Announcements

✠Opening 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 the courts above.

Lifting up our Joys

Passing of the Peace

✠Call to Worship (Congregation reads **bold print**)
(Psalm 103)

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

Who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed
like the eagles.

The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

✠Opening Prayer

Kay Jones

O Lord, open our eyes to all the good that surrounds us. From the beauty of the earth to the wonders of community, friends and family. Help us to restore ourselves by recognizing all we have been given and all we can give to one another as we all journey on our way home to you.

We forget that God loves us more than we can possibly understand and will shower us with grace and blessings throughout our lives.

✠Prayer of Confession

O Lord, you shower us with blessings large and small every day yet we do not take the time to slow down to appreciate all that you give us so freely. We give no thanks for the air we breathe, the food we eat, the people we love.... Help us to slow down and become truly aware and appreciative of all that is good so that we may fill ourselves with that peace that surpasses all understanding and share your bounty of love with others. Help us, O Lord, to recognize your blessings.

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.

Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,^[a] ¹⁵ from whom every family^[b] in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and^[c] in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Mark 10: 13-16

¹³ People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

✠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.

Giving our Gifts to God

Offertory *Take My Life/My Jesus, I Love Thee*

✠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

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 #40 *For the Beauty of the Earth* (Verses 1, 3, 4, and 5)

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given;
For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

✝Sending Forth and Final Blessing

✝Three-fold Amen

✝Chimes and Meditation

Postlude *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*



***The Altar Flowers are given to
the Glory of God, and in honor
of Jarrod, Jena, Grace, Clara,
and Baby Kramer. Prayers that
God continues to bless and
watch over them.
Presented by the Pacovsky
Family.***