



ON-LINE WORSHIP ORDER

# The Gift of a Sacred Summer

July 4, 2021

St. John United Church of Christ Bellevue KY

## Greeting & Imparting Peace

Melissa Stephens

One: May the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

~

**Thank you for your financial support to the mission and ministry of the Church!**

**US mail: 520 Fairfield Ave., Bellevue, KY 41073; Online: [StJohnChurch.net](http://StJohnChurch.net)**

~

## Community Prayer

Melissa Stephens

### Micah 6.8

Cherie Draper

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

### Isaiah 1.16-18

<sup>16</sup> Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;  
remove the evil of your doings  
from before my eyes;  
cease to do evil,  
<sup>17</sup> learn to do good;  
seek justice,  
rescue the oppressed,  
defend the orphan,  
plead for the widow.  
<sup>18</sup> Come now, let us argue it out,  
says the LORD:

though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be like snow;  
though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.

## **Amos 5.21-24**

<sup>21</sup> I hate, I despise your festivals,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

<sup>22</sup> Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them;  
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals  
I will not look upon.

<sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

<sup>24</sup> But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

## **1 John 3.17-18**

<sup>17</sup> How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister<sup>[a]</sup> in need and yet refuses help? <sup>18</sup> Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

## **Matthew 25.35-40**

<sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.

May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **Ministry of Music**

Steve Milloy, voice & piano

"For Everyone Born" -*Shirley Erena Murray*

**Sermon**

“JUSTICE”

Melissa Stephens, guest preacher

**Send Out**

Melissa Stephens

**Going Forth Music**

Mark Behnken, organ

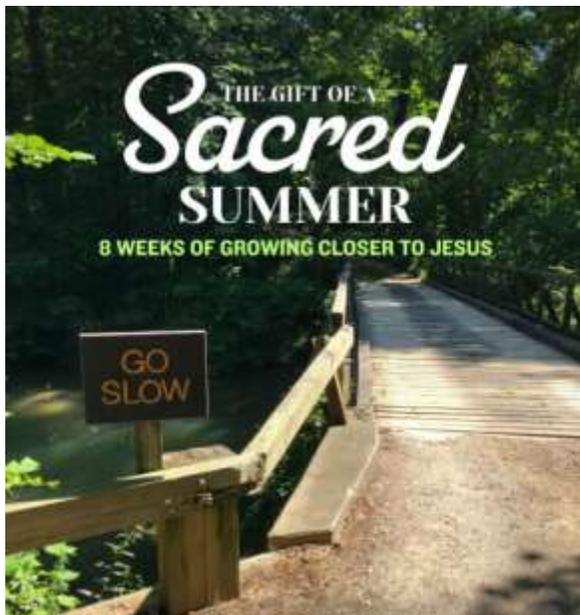
“Patriotic Medley” -arr. Mark Behnken

---

Copyrights, Notes & Acknowledgments: All items are used with permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net #A-712481.

Graphic from *Gathering*, United Church of Canada, PENTECOST 1 2021. Used with permission. **Greeting and Imparting Peace** by Keith M. Haithcock; **Matthew 11.28-30** from the *Holy Bible, New International Version* © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. and *The Message*, © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene H. Peterson; **Micah 6.8; Isaiah 1.16-18; Amos 5.21-24; 1 John 3.17-18; Matthew 25.35-40** from the *New Revised Standard Version of Holy Scripture*, © 1989 by The Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches; **Generous Giving** by Keith M. Haithcock.

**A joint effort with Christ Church, UCC Ft. Thomas and St. John UCC Bellevue**



**Thursday “Circles” (Small Groups)**

**In-Person, 7pm to 8pm**

**Registration Information: Each Circle session stands alone. It’s summer! Attend as you can. Please register at: [Pastor@StJohnChurch.net](mailto:Pastor@StJohnChurch.net) or 859.261.2066, ext. 202**

**There will not be a Zoom option for this series.**

**Circles will go deeper on the same themes and spiritual practices as the sermons.**

**July 8, August 5, and August 12 sessions will be at Christ Church located at 15 S. Ft. Thomas Ave., Ft. Thomas, KY 41075**

**July 15, July 22 and July 29 will be at St. John Church located at 520 Fairfield Ave., Bellevue, KY 41073**