



# The Gift of a Sacred Summer

July 18, 2021

St. John United Church of Christ Bellevue KY

## Welcome

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here. If you would like more information about St. John Church go to [www.StJohnChurch.net](http://www.StJohnChurch.net). If you would like to receive *The e-Weekly* let us know at [Office@StJohnChurch.net](mailto:Office@StJohnChurch.net).

## Gathering Music

Steve Phillips, piano

"Processional for a Joyful Day" -Dale Wood

## Greeting, Call to Worship, Imparting Peace

Keith M. Haithcock, pastor

As we come to worship and pray, think back to a time in your childhood. You might still be in that time of life, or it might be a few years ago. But think back to a time when you just felt free to run around outside without a care in the world. You shouted and yelled and laughed and danced and played and were silly and didn't care what others thought.

You simply were in that moment.

How did it feel then?

How does it feel now?

Let that spirit be in you this morning. Feel free to offer everything of yourself in this moment in worship to God. **Amen.**

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

**All: And also with you.**

## Solo

Charmaine Moore Kitsinis, voice; Steve Phillips, piano

"You're Worthy of My Praise (with O Worship the King)" -David Ruis, arr. by Lloyd Larson

## **Affirmation** (Spoken in unison)

Richard Robbins

**We believe in God:**  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
**We trust in God.**  
**We are called to be the Church:**  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus,  
crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

## **Community Prayer**

Keith M. Haithcock

## **Instrumental**

Steve Phillips, piano

*"We are Travelers on a Journey" -arr. by Mark Hayes*

## **Psalm 150.1-6**

Richard Robbins

<sup>1</sup> Praise be to God!  
Praise God in God's own sanctuary;  
praise God in the mighty firmament!  
<sup>2</sup> Praise God for God's mighty deeds;  
praise God according to God's surpassing greatness!  
<sup>3</sup> Praise God with trumpet sound;  
praise God with lute and harp!  
<sup>4</sup> Praise God with tambourine and dance;  
praise God with strings and pipe!  
<sup>5</sup> Praise God with clanging cymbals;  
praise God with loud clashing cymbals!  
<sup>6</sup> Let everything that breathes praise God!  
Praise be to God!

## **Luke 18.15-17** (Standing)

People brought babies to Jesus, hoping he might touch them. When the disciples saw it, they shooed them off. Jesus called them back. "Let these children alone. Don't get between them and me. These children are the kingdom's pride and joy. Mark this: Unless you accept God's kingdom in the simplicity of a child, you'll never get in."

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.

May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **Sermon**

"HOW WE PLAY"

Keith M. Haithcock

## **Ministry of Music**

Charmaine Moore Kitsinis, voice; Steve Phillips, piano

"Bright and Beautiful: A Children's Suite" -arr. by Mark Hayes

## **Generous Giving**

Richard Robbins

As we leave today, please keep your masks on while in the Church house and keep distancing. You will find an offering plate in the back and in the front as you exit the Church house.

God has given each of us skills, talents, and abilities. Just think of the impact we can make through the ministry of St. John Church when our giving matches our mission.

Not only do we sustain this ministry, but we also experience change in ourselves and our community as we seek for the common good. We give thanks for each moment of time, each talent expressed, and each offering given. May God continue to bless you as you give generously.

## **Send Out** (Standing)

Keith M. Haithcock

## **Going Forth Music**

Steve Phillips, piano

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" -arr. Larry Shackley

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## **Contact Tracing Information**

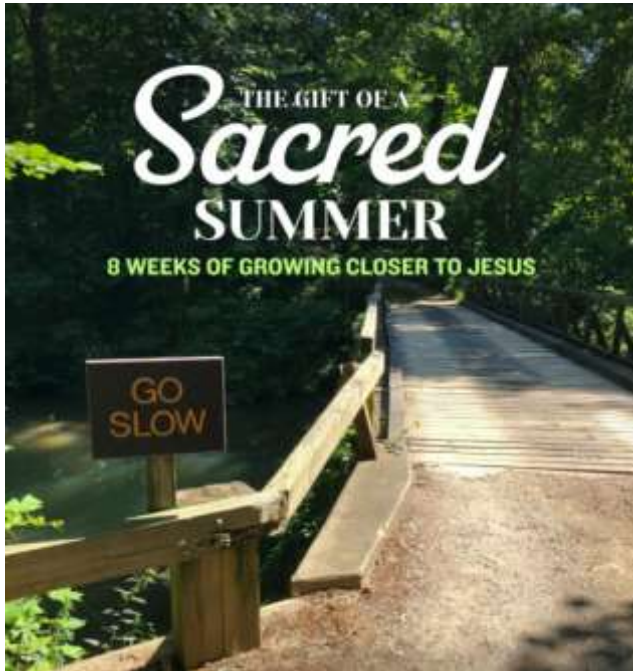
In an effort to keep everyone healthy, contact the Church office at 859.261.2066 ext. 201 or [Office@StJohnChurch.net](mailto:Office@StJohnChurch.net) if you are diagnosed with COVID after this service.

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**Greeting, Call to Worship, and Imparting Peace** by Keith M. Haithcock; **Affirmation**, United Church of Canada, 1980 from *The New Century Hymnal*, ©1995 The Pilgrim Press (#887); **Psalm 150.1-6** from the *New Revised Standard Version of Holy Scripture*, © 1989 by The Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches adapted for *The New Century Hymnal Psalter* (#723) and **Luke 18.15-17** from *The Message*, © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene H. Peterson; **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 to receive weekly reminders and updates.

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 22, July 29, August 5, and August 12 sessions will be at

Christ Church located at 15 S. Ft. Thomas Ave., Ft. Thomas, KY 41075