

Silence

A Sacred Summer

July 25, 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.
If you would like to receive *The e-Weekly* let us know at Office@StJohnChurch.net.

Gathering Music

Steve Milloy, piano

"I've Got Peace Like a River" -*Spiritual, arr. by Mark Hayes*

Greeting, Call to Worship, & Imparting Peace

Keith M. Haithcock, pastor

Call to Worship (Please stand in body or spirit.)

One: God, in a world of uncertainty, anxiety, and fear, you are our refuge.

All: We go to you when we are afraid and weak. You are our strength.

One: So much around us seems unsettled and all we hear is gloom and doom.

All: Yet your voice can speak above it all and all the rest fall to silence.

One: You tell us to be still and know who you are.

All: Help us to quiet what is restless within us so that we may be still and receive you. -silence is kept-

One: We have come to worship you, Holy One. And we offer gestures of peace to one another. May the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you.

All: And also with you. Amen. (You may be seated.)

Solo

Stephanie Dalsfoist, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" -*Ken Medema, arr. Jack Schraderr*

Community Prayer

Keith M. Haithcock

• For your abiding presence, we thank you.

-our silent prayers are lifted-

• For your forgiveness, we thank you.

- our silent prayers are lifted-
- For your hope, we thank you.
-our silent prayers are lifted-
- For those who cannot hear you, we pray.
-our silent prayers are lifted-
- For those who have shut themselves off from you, we pray.
-our silent prayers are lifted-
- For those who are hurting in body, mind, or spirit, we pray.
-our silent prayers are lifted-
- For your world, we pray.
-our silent prayers are lifted-

The Prayer of Jesus

Loving God, in whom is heaven,
 may your name be honored everywhere.
 May your kin-dom come.
 May the desire of your heart for the world be done,
 in us, by us and through us.
 Give us the bread we need for each day.
 Forgive us. Enable us to forgive others.
 Keep us from all anxiety and fear.
 For you reign in the power that comes from love
 which is Your glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Mission Moment

Stephanie Dalsfoist, Reforming Team chair
 COVID19 Updates

Instrumental

Steve Milloy, piano
 "Be Still and Know" -Steven Curtis Chapman, arr. Lloyd Larson

Psalm 46

Bill Machuga

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
 a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
 though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
- ³ though its waters roar and foam,
 though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.
5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
6 The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
8 Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
10 "Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth."
11 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge. *-silence is kept-*

Psalm 17

Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.
2 From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.
3 If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.
4 As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.
5 My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.
6 I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me, hear my words.
7 Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.
8 Guard me as the apple of the eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings,

⁹ from the wicked who despoil me,
my deadly enemies who surround me.
¹⁰ They close their hearts to pity;
with their mouths they speak arrogantly.
¹¹ They track me down; now they surround me;
they set their eyes to cast me to the ground.
¹² They are like a lion eager to tear,
like a young lion lurking in ambush.
¹³ Rise up, O LORD, confront them, overthrow them!
By your sword deliver my life from the wicked,
¹⁴ from mortals—by your hand, O LORD—
from mortals whose portion in life is in this world.
May their bellies be filled with what you have stored up for them;
may their children have more than enough;
may they leave something over to their little ones.
¹⁵ As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;
when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness. *-silence is kept-*

1 Samuel 3.1-10

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. ⁶ The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.
May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“SILENCE”

Keith M. Haithcock

Ministry of Music

Stephanie Dalsfoist, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

“Still, My Soul, be Still” -*Keith & Kristin Getty & Stuart Townend*

Generous Giving

Bill Machuga

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

Keith M. Haithcock

May the living Christ go with you,
before you to light the way,
behind you to encourage you,
beside you to befriend you,
beneath you to sustain you,
above you to watch over you,
and within you to give you peace. Amen.

Going Forth Music

Steve Milloy, piano

“How Firm a Foundation” -*Joseph Funk, arr. Cindy Berry*

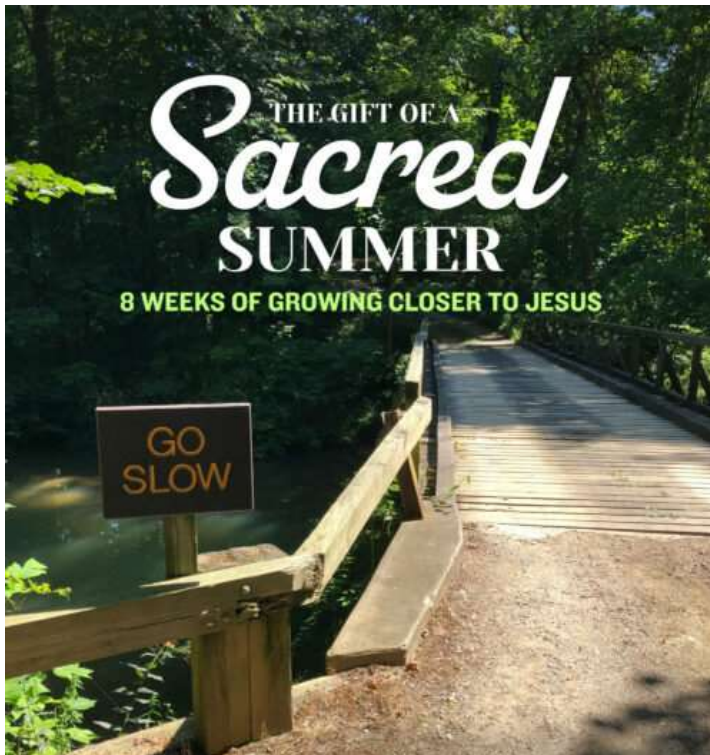
Contact Tracing Information

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

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Graphic from *The Gift of a Sacred Summer - 8 Weeks of Growing Closer to Jesus*
Greeting, and Imparting Peace by Keith M. Haithcock; **Call to Worship** by Edward Goode altered by Keith M. Haithcock; **Community Prayer** by Edward Goode altered by Keith M. Haithcock; **The Prayer of Jesus**, the prayer that Jesus taught us is found in the Gospels of Matthew (6:9a-13) and Luke (11:2a-4). The words and phrasing of the prayer are not identical in the two gospels, which indicates gospel writers may have known different versions of the prayer or understood it as a model to use in prayer; Found at: <http://www.mmaccc.org>
<http://storage.cloversites.com/marymagdaleneapostlecatholiccommunity/documents/Prayer%20of%20Jesus%20-%20author%20unknown.pdf>; **Mission Moment** by Stephanie Dalsfoist and Sandy Kerlin; **Psalm 46, Psalm 17, 1 Samuel 3.1-10** 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; **Send Out** by Lloyd John Ogilvie, Adapted slightly 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 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 29, August 5, and August 12 sessions will be at Christ Church located at 15 S. Ft. Thomas Ave., Ft. Thomas, KY 41075