



Summer Worship at St John

August 29, 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

"Capricho catalan (from España)" -*Issac Albéniz*

Greeting & Imparting Peace

Dean Griffith

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

All: **And also with you.**

Solo

Jennie Malone, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

"Healing River" -*Fran Minkoff & Fred Hellerman, arr. Marianne Kim*

Affirmation (Spoken in unison)

Sue Jelinek

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

Dean Griffith

Instrumental

Steve Milloy, piano

"I Surrender All" -Winfield S. Weeden, arr. Carol Tornquist

Luke 15.11-32

Sue Jelinek

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even

a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Luke 18.18-30

A certain ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁹ Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honor your father and mother.'" ²¹ He replied, "I have kept all these since my youth." ²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²³ But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich. ²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁶ Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ He replied, "What is impossible for mortals is possible for God."

²⁸ Then Peter said, "Look, we have left our homes and followed you." ²⁹ And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who will not get back very much more in this age, and in the age to come eternal life."

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.

May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"THE PRINCE AND THE PRODIGAL" Dean Griffith, guest preacher

Ministry of Music

Jennie Malone, voice with Steve Milloy, voice & piano

"By Your Love" -*Jeanne Cotter*

Generous Giving

Sue Jelinek

As we leave today please keep your masks on and greet one another after you exit the Church house while observing 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 (Rise in body or spirit.)

Dean Griffith

Going Forth Music

Steve Milloy, piano

“Gigue (from Ten Little Performance Pieces)” -Max Reger

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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Deadline to register is Monday, August 30th!



ZOOM BIBLE ENCOUNTER

The Nature of the Bible
a five-week series facilitated by Dean Griffith

Thursdays from 6:30p to 7:30p
September 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2021

The study will look at several questions about the book itself, in its present form, as a basis for studies of its content. The five classes will include questions of inspiration, authenticity, historical and translation accuracy, with thoughts about how we know what we know - and what we *don't* - and how the text has changed over its life. The final week will look at why and how the Bible has become so central to our faith.

To register for the Zoom log-in email Pastor@StJohnChurch.net, or call 859.261.2066, ext. 202 by **Monday, August 30**.