



The Worship of God

September 12, 2021
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

St. John United Church of Christ - Bellevue KY

Welcome

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

“Jacob’s Ladder” -*Spiritual, arr. Charity Book Putnam*

Greeting & Imparting Peace

Keith M. Haithcock, pastor & teacher

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

All: **And also with you.**

Solo

Jennie Malone, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

“Be Now My Vision” -*Traditional Irish Hymn, arr. Travis Cotrell*

Credo (Spoken in unison)

Richard Robbins

**I believe in the One whose image and likeness we possess;
the One who loves the world and shares humanity with us;
the One who reveals holiness and love to the human spirit;
the One who remains with us and guides us in righteousness,
reconciliation, and love for others and ourselves.**

Community Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Keith M. Haithcock

ALL: Great Giver, in whom heaven is found, holy is your name.

May your commonwealth of peace and freedom flourish on earth.

Give us this day bread for our journey and make us hungry to see the whole world nourished.

Forgive us and help us forgive one another.

Strengthen us for the challenges that lie ahead.

Let us hear your prophets and deliver us from our privilege.

**For your love is the only power, the only home, the only honor we need
in the world and in the world to come. Amen.**

Instrumental

Kaeden Kass, viola; Steve Milloy, piano

“His Eye is On the Sparrow” -*Charles H. Gabriel, arr. Gary Lanier*

Genesis 28.10-22

Richard Robbins

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, ²² and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you.”

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.

May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“VISION”

Keith M. Haithcock

Ministry of Music

Jennie Malone, voice; Kaeden Kass, viola; Steve Milloy, piano
"He will Hold Me Fast" -Ada Habershon & Matt Merker

Celebration of Holy Communion

Instructions for receiving Holy Communion

Keith M. Haithcock

Invitation to the Table

Communion Hymn

Jennie Malone, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

"Come, Gather in This Special Place"

Come, gather in this special place; the table here is long and wide;
For all who heed communion's call, there's room for thousands side by side.

The grapes have yielded essence pure, a drink to quench the gravest thirst;
The cup is passed from hand to hand, and each will sense despair reversed.

The bread is freshly baked today, a fragrant feast of grain supplied;
And even crumbs that dust our palms will leave souls fully satisfied.

Communion Prayer

Keith M. Haithcock

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise....

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Generous Giving

Richard Robbins

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.)

Keith M. Haithcock

Going Forth Music

Steve Milloy, piano

“Blessed Assurance” -*Fanny Crosby & Phoebe Palmer Knapp, arr. Mark Hayes*

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.

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, Prayer, and Imparting Peace by Keith M. Haithcock; **Credo** by Keith M. Haithcock, © 2018 Keith M. Haithcock; **Community Prayer** by Keith M. Haithcock; **The Lord's Prayer** by Parker Palmer, from Claremont United Church of Christ, Claremont, CA; **Genesis 28.10-22** from the *New Revised Standard Version of Holy Scripture*, © 1989 by The Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches; **Celebration of Holy Communion** adapted by Keith M. Haithcock; **Communion Hymn** “Come, Gather in This Special Place” from *The New Century Hymnal*, ©1995 The Pilgrim Press (#335); **Generous Giving** by Keith M. Haithcock.