



IGNITE 2022

**Justice
Diversity
Inclusion**



St. John
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

Anti-Racism - Accessible to All - Open and Affirming

*"We extend love and extravagant welcome
to all of God's children without judgment,
no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey."*

January 30, 2022

Welcome to St. John Church!

Masks are required and must always cover nose and mouth.
Contact tracing information is requested to contain virus transmission.
Please extend a respectful courtesy by silencing your cell phone.
Assistive listening devices are at the Welcome Table in the back.
Offering plates are in the front and rear of the Church.

E p i p h a n y

Welcome

No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey
you are welcome here!

Gathering Music & Lighting Candles (10:20a)

Steve Milloy, piano; Adeline Palm, Acolyte

"Jesus Calls Us" -*W.H. Jude, arr. Lani Smith*

"Take My Life and Let It Be" -*H.A Cesar Milan, arr. Donna N. Robertson*

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" -*Ludwig von Beethoven, arr. Lloyd Larsen*

Greeting and Centering Affirmation

Keith M. Haithcock

One: In service to Christ, this intentionally inclusive congregation feeds the body, mind, and spirit, gives strength, and shines God's light wherever there is darkness.

All: We are a beacon of hope and inspiration. This ministry is open, affirming, inviting, and accessible to all. We extend love and extravagant welcome to all of God's children without judgment, no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey. We embolden everyone to live out their faith, to engage in ministry, to witness, and to serve.

Opening our Heart

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

(Silence is kept.)

**All: Loving God, you have come to us in Jesus;
yet we confess that we often refuse to receive you.
We live in the world as if we did not know you.**

**Showing your love for all peoples,
you guided sages from distant lands to worship Jesus, your child.
Although we know of this love, we limit our love, building walls rather
than bridges and denying our connection with all those you love.
Forgive us and give us new hearts to love and serve you.
Write your Word within us. Make yourself known to us as we live today.
We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, in whom you reveal yourself.
Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

One: Be of good courage,
for God sent the Word into the world not to judge but to save.
I say to you in the name of Jesus the Christ:
Your sin is forgiven. Through the power of the Spirit.

All: Let us live as children of God. Amen!

Opening Hymn

Jennie Malone, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

“Lord, When I Came into This Life”

Lord, when I came into this life you called me by my name;
today I come, commit myself, responding to you claim.

Within the circle of the faith, as member of your cast,
I take my place with all the saints of future, present, past.

In all the tensions of my life, between my faith and doubt,
let your great Spirit give me hope, sustain me, lead me out.

So help me in my unbelief and let my life be true:
Feet firmly planted on the earth, my sights set high on you.

Call to Prayer

Philippians 4.6-7

Keith M. Haithcock

Dismiss all anxiety from your minds; instead, present your needs to God through prayer and petition, giving thanks for all circumstances. Then God’s own peace, which is beyond all understanding, will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Community Prayer

1 Corinthians 13.1-13;

Richard Robbins

¹Even if I can speak in all the tongues of earth—and those of the angels too—but do not have love, I am just a noisy gong, a clanging cymbal. ²If I have the gift of prophecy such that I can comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge, or if I have faith great enough to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away everything I own to feed those poorer than I, then hand over my body to be burned, but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient; love is kind. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, and it is not snobbish; ⁵it is never rude or self-seeking; it is not prone to anger, nor does it brood over injuries. ⁶Love doesn't rejoice in what is wrong, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷There is no limit to love's forbearance, to its trust, its hope, its power to endure. ⁸Love never fails. Prophecies will cease; tongues will be silent; knowledge will pass away. ⁹Our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect. ¹⁰When the perfect comes, the imperfect will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child. But when I became an adult, I put childish ways aside. ¹²Now we see indistinctly, as in a mirror; then we will see face to face. My knowledge is imperfect now; then I will know even as I am known. ¹³There are, in the end, three things that last: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Luke 4.21-30 (Rise in body or spirit.)

²¹Then he said to them, "Today, in your hearing, this scripture passage is fulfilled."²²All who were present spoke favorably of him; they marveled at the eloquence of the words on Jesus' lips. They said, "Surely this isn't Mary and Joseph's son!" ²³Jesus said to them, "Undoubtedly you'll quote me the proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself,' and say, 'Do here in your own country the things we heard you did in Capernaum.'" ²⁴But the truth is, prophets never gain acceptance in their hometowns. ²⁵"The truth is, there were many women who were widowed in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens remained closed for three and a half years and a great famine spread over the land. ²⁶It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but to a woman who had been widowed in Zarephath, near Sidon. ²⁷Recall, too, that many had leprosy in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one was cured except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸At these words, the whole audience in the synagogue was filled with indignation. ²⁹They rose up and dragged Jesus out of town, leading him to the brow of the hill on which the city was built, with the intention of hurling him over the edge. ³⁰But he moved straight through the crowd and walked away.

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.

May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

All: Thanks be to God.

Song of Response

“Gloria a Dios”

Jennie Malone, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

¡Gloria a Dios, gloria a Dios, gloria los cielos!
¡Gloria a Dios, gloria a Dios, gloria los cielos!
¡A Dios la gloria por siempre! A Dios la gloria por siempre!
¡Alleluya, amén! Alleluya, amén! ¡Alleluya, amén! Alleluya, amén!
¡Alleluya, amén! Alleluya, amén! ¡Alleluya, amén! Alleluya, amén!

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
To God be glory forever! To God be glory forever!
Alleluia, amen! Alleluia, amen! Alleluia, amen! Alleluia, amen!
Alleluia, amen! Alleluia, amen! Alleluia, amen! Alleluia, amen!

Homily

“EXTEND LOVE”

Keith M. Haithcock

Ministry of Music

Jennie Malone, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

"Lord of the Dance" -*Sidney Carter/19th c. Shaker Tune, arr. Don Hart*

An Invitation to Share our Gifts

Richard Robbins

When we give our gifts: tithes and offerings, talents and time,
we are witnesses to the transforming love of God in Christ.
You are invited to give as generously as you have received.

Offering plates are available at both the front and back of the Sanctuary. You may place your offering there as you leave. May God continue to bless you as you give generously.

An Offering of Music

Steve Milloy, piano

"More Love to Thee" -*W.H. Doane, arr. Molly Ijames*

Unison Blessing of our Gifts

Richard Robbins

**Accept these gifts, we humbly pray, O God.
Let them give you honor and glory as we serve the needs of your people.
And let the called and redeemed of God say, Amen.**

Closing Song

“Peace I Leave with You”

Jennie Malone, voice

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you.
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you.

Not as the world gives, I give my peace to you.

Send Out (Rise in body or spirit.)

Keith M. Haithcock

Going Forth Music

Steve Milloy, piano

"Love Lifted Me" -H.E. Smith, arr. Patti Drennan

Welcome to St. John Church!

For more information about St. John Church go to: www.StJohnChurch.net.

To receive *The e-Weekly* or Prayer List, email Office@StJohnChurch.net.

To meet with the Pastor call: 859.261.2066, ext.202; email Pastor@StJohnChurch.net.

To make a prayer request for the Prayer List, email PrayerList@StJohnChurch.net

No online connection? Call the office at 859.261.2066, ext. 201 for all these things.

Office hours: Tuesdays 10am to 5pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 10am to 2p.m.

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Plaster Repair Warning!

Please do not use the West door or stairwell off the parking lot due to the plaster repair which has begun. Thank you.

