



**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 16, 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

"Sanctuary" -*John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs, arr. Carol Tornquist*

"How Deep the Father's Love for Us" -*Stuart Townsend/Appalachian hymn, arr. Lloyd Larson*

"The Promise of God's Love" -*Frederick M. Lehman / J.E. French, arr. Patti Drennan*

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 “Great is Your Faithfulness” Theo Baldwin, voice; Steve Milloy, piano

Great is your faithfulness, Oh God, Creator,
with you no shadow of turning we see.
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;
all of your goodness forever will be.

Refrain: *Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed your hand has provided,
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. *Refrain*

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 12.1-11

Bill Machuga

¹Now dear sisters and brothers, I want to instruct you on the matter of spiritual gifts. ²Remember how, when you were still nonbelievers, you were drawn to mute idols and led astray by them? ³It is for this reason that I want you to understand that no one can be speaking under the influence of the Holy Spirit and say, "Curse Jesus"; by the same token, no one can say, "Jesus Christ reigns supreme," unless under the influence of the Holy Spirit. ⁴There is a variety of gifts, but always the same Spirit. ⁵There is a variety of ministries, but we serve the Same One. ⁶There is a variety of outcomes, but the same God is working in all of them. ⁷To each person is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one, the Spirit gives wisdom in discourse, to another, the word of knowledge through the same Spirit. ⁹Through the Spirit, one person receives faith, through the same Spirit, another is given the fist of healing; ¹⁰and still another, miraculous powers. Prophecy is given to one; to another, power to distinguish one spirit from another. One receives the fist of tongues; another, that of interpreting tongues. ¹¹But it is one and the same Spirit who produces all these gifts and distributes them as she wills.

John 2.1-11 (Rise in body or spirit.)

¹Three days later, there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had likewise been invited to the celebration. ³At a certain point, the wine ran out, and Jesus' mother told him, "They have no wine." ⁴Jesus replied, "Mother, what does that have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵She instructed those waiting on tables, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶As prescribed for Jewish ceremonial washings, there were six stone water jars on hand, each one holding between fifteen and twenty-five gallons. ⁷"Fill those jars with water," Jesus said, and the servers filled them to the brim. ⁸"Now," said Jesus, "draw some out and take it to the caterer." They did as they were instructed. ⁹The caterer tasted the water – which had been turned into wine – without knowing where it had come from; the only ones who knew were those who were waiting on

tables, since they had drawn the water. The caterer called the bride and groom over¹⁰ and remarked, "People usually serve the best wine first; then, when guests have been drinking a while, a lesser vintage is served. What you've done is to keep the best wine until now!"¹¹ Jesus performed this first of his signs at Cana in Galilee; in this way he revealed his glory, and the disciples believed in him.

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"

Theo Baldwin, voice

¡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

"IN SERVICE TO CHRIST"

Keith M. Haithcock

Ministry of Music

Theo Baldwin, voice

"The Potter's Hand" -Darlene Zschech, arr. Lloyd Larson

Generosity Update

Tim Smith and Steve Phillips

An Invitation to Share our Gifts

Bill Machuga

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

The St. John Handbell Choir

"One Bread, One Body" -*John B. Foley, arr. Martha Lynn Foley*

Unison Blessing of our Gifts

Bill Machuga

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

"We Shall Not Give Up the Fight"

Theo Baldwin, voice

We shall not give up the fight, we have only started,
we have only started, we have only started.

We shall not give up the fight, we have only started,
we have only started, we have only started.

Together we'll have victory, hand holding hand,
hand holding hand, hand holding hand.

Together we'll have victory, hand holding hand,
hand holding hand, hand holding hand.

Never, ever put to flight, we're bound to win,
we're bound to win, we're bound to win.

Never, ever put to flight, we're bound to win,
we're bound to win, we're bound to win.

We shall not give up the fight, we have only started,
we have only started, we have only started.

We shall not give up the fight, we have only started,
we have only started, we have only started.

Send Out (Rise in body or spirit.)

Keith M. Haithcock

Going Forth Music

Steve Milloy, piano

"To God Be the Glory" -*W.H. Doane, arr. Larry Shackley*

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.

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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Melissa Stephen's Ecclesiastical Council

The covenant members of St. John Church are encouraged and invited to participate in Melissa's Ecclesiastical Council at St. John Church today, Sunday, January 16, 2022 at 3pm. (Please note, we will be following all COVID guidelines.)

Melissa has been on this journey for decades. She has broad and well-crafted tools of spiritual gifts and talents, a life-long and deep heritage in the church, a discerning faith with freedom to question and seek, a passion for the poor, and a call for the love of God for all of God's children.

Your presence is appreciated.