



**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."*

February 13, 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; Theo Baldwin & Steve Phillips, piano duet; Adeline Palm, Acolyte
"In Christ Alone" -*Stuart Getty & Keith Townend, arr. Lloyd Larson*
"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" -*Aaron Williams, arr. Ralph Long*
"Blessed Assurance" -*Phoebe Palmer Knapp, arr. Joel Raney*

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

“Heaven Shall Not Wait”

Jennie Malone, vocal

Heaven shall not wait for the poor to lose their patience,
the scorned to smile, the despised to find a friend:
Jesus is Lord; he has championed the unwanted;
in him injustice confronts its timely end.

Heaven shall not wait for the rich to share their fortunes,
the proud to fall, the elite to tend the least:
Jesus is Lord; he has shown the master's privilege;
to kneel and wash servants' feet before they feast.

Heaven shall not wait for the dawn of great ideas,
thoughts of compassion divorced from cries of pain:
Jesus is Lord; he has he has married word and action;
his cross and company make his purpose plain.

Heaven shall not wait for triumphant Hallelujahs,
when earth has passed and we reach another shore:
Jesus is Lord in our present imperfection;
his power and love are for now and then for evermore.

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 15.12-20

Bobby Moreland

¹²Tell me, if we proclaim that Christ was raised from the dead, how is it that some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then all of our preaching has been meaningless—and everything you've believed has been just as meaningless. ¹⁵Indeed, we are shown to be false witnesses of God, for we solemnly swore that God raised Christ from the dead—which did not happen if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶Because if the dead are not raised, then Christ is not raised, ¹⁷and if Christ is not raised, your faith is worthless. You are still in your sins, ¹⁸and those who have fallen asleep are in Christ the deadest of the dead. ¹⁹If our hopes in Christ are limited to this life only, we are the most pitiable of the human race. ²⁰But as it is, Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Luke 6.17-26 (Rise in body or spirit.)

¹⁷Coming down the mountain with them, Jesus stopped in a level area where there were a great number of disciples. A large crowd of people was with them from Jerusalem and all over Judea, to as far north as the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon— ¹⁸people who had come to hear Jesus and be healed of their diseases, and even to be freed from unclean spirits. ¹⁹Indeed, the whole crowd was trying to touch Jesus, because power was coming out of him and healing them all.

²⁰Looking at the disciples, Jesus said:

“You who are poor are blessed, for the reign of God is yours. ²¹You who hunger now are blessed, for you'll be filled. You who weep now are blessed, for you'll laugh.

²²You are blessed when people hate you, when they scorn and insult you and spurn your name as evil because of the Chosen One. ²³On the day they do so, rejoice and be glad: your reward will be great in heaven, for their ancestors treated the prophets the same way. ²⁵But woe to you rich, for you are now receiving your comfort in full.

²⁶Woe to you who are full, for you'll go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you'll

weep in your grief. ²⁷Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in the same way.”

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, vocal

¡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

“*BEACON OF HOPE*”

Keith M. Haithcock

Ministry of Music

Jennie Malone, vocal

“Home Where I Belong” -Pat Terry

 **Ignite Moment** *Ignite Justice, Diversity, and Inclusion 2022*

Dean Griffith

An Invitation to Share our Gifts

Bobby Moreland

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

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” -William Gardiner, arr. Dan Forrest

Unison Blessing of our Gifts

Bobby Moreland

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 (Please rise in body or spirit.)

Jennie Malone, vocal

“Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos” (We Are Marching in the Light of God)

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, Oo, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, Oo, we are marching in the light of God.

Send Out (Rise in body or spirit.)

Keith M. Haithecock

Going Forth Music

Steve Milloy, piano

“Joyful Hymn of Praise” -Faye Lopez

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.

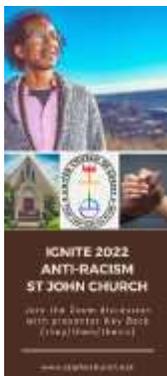
To make a prayer request for the Prayer List, email PrayerList@StJohnChurch.net.

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

Office hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10am to 4pm.

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YOU ARE INVITED!

Join an online Zoom discussion on Anti-Racism with presenter Key Beck
Thursdays February 10, 17, 24 at 6:30PM EST

To reserve a spot and get updates/connection info click [HERE](#)

“There is nothing to prepare.

Just bring an open and willing heart for discussion!”