

St. John United Church of Christ
“In Christ We Live, Celebrate, & Serve”

September 21, 2025

15th Sunday after Pentecost (C)

Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor

David R. Ekstrand, Dir. of Music

9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship

9:30 Sunday School for Children

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Large print bulletins are available from the Ushers.

Bold italic denotes congregation reads or sings.

*Denotes all who are able, please stand.

WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH A SMILE AND WAVE

*RESPONSE¹

“He Has Made Me Glad”

#657

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart;

I will enter his courts with praise.

I will say, “This is the day that the Lord has made!”

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad,

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad,

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

Psalm 79:1-9

Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low.

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

Take My Life and Let it Be

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER²

Search for the Lord each day.

God waits where we least expect it.

Search for the balm in Gilead.

God bring healers in our need.

Cry out to the Lord in times of distress.

God comes speedily to meet us.

Come! Worship the One who hears our pleas as we pray:

Great Healer, be our balm of Gilead, for we ache to be made whole. Come to us in times of trial and heal our sin-sick souls. Amid those who prey on your little ones, help us live faithfully as children of light. May we be found faithful in a little, that you may entrust us with much. Amen.

*HYMN

“God Has Spoken by the Prophets”

#667

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 119:105, Philipians 1:27, John 3:16

PRESENTATIONS

LITANY OF WISDOM BASED ON PROVERBS 3

My children, says the Lord, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments;

For length of days and years of life they will give us.

Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you, says the Lord.

Inscribe them on the tablet of our heart!

Then, O Lord, shall we find favor in your sight,

And good repute among the people.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,

And do not rely on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge him,

And he will make straight your paths.

Honor the Lord and turn away from evil.

It will be healing and refreshment for your body.

Keep sound wisdom and prudence,

And they shall be life for your soul.

Then you shall walk on your way securely,

For the Lord will be our confidence.

RESPONSE

“Thy Word”

#664

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

pg. 666

ANTHEM

Can’t Stop Praising His Name

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 16:1-13

pg. 74

MEDITATION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

#476

PASTORAL PRAYER & UNISON LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

*RESPONSE³

"As Saints of Old"

Vs. 3 #570

***With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you,
not just to serve your cause,
but share your love with neighbors too.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.***

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION²

***You call us to be honest and wise with our riches, O God,
that your realm may be blessed for the benefit of all. May we be
found faithful with a little, and also with much, as we share our
blessings. May our offerings bring your healing and light
wherever there is need. Amen.***

*HYMN

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

#688

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

We Are God's People

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