

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

February 8, 2026

5th Sunday after the Epiphany(A)

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

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY PRESENTATIONS

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH A SMILE AND WAVE

*RESPONSE¹ ***“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*** #489

***Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.***

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

Alice Eloise’s Silver Linings: The Story of a Silly Service Dog

Written by Sarah Kathryn Frey & Illustrated by Kit Laurence Nacua

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PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

Here I Am To Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER Quotes from 1 Peter 4:8-11

We gather to worship with love for God and all God’s people.

Scripture tells us, “Above all maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.”

Whether we gather here, or at homes, or in communities, love is shared.

“Be hospitable to one another without complaining.”

Whatever we do in life, God inspires and blesses us to do so with righteousness and joy.

“Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

And so, as we worship, we unite in prayer:

Receive our worship and prayers, O God, as those who desire to shine your love everywhere. As Scripture tells us, “Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God.” And, “whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things.” Fill us with your Spirit, O God, so that we may honor you and continue speaking and serving as faithful disciples of Jesus, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

#96

RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING

Psalm 112:1-9a

Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

***Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.***

Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.

***They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.***

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

***For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.***

They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.

***Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.***

They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 58:6-10

pg. 647

ANTHEM

Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

Glockenspiel

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:13-16

pg. 4

MEDITATION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN ***“Christ, You Call Us All to Service”*** #571

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 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

*RESPONSE² ***“For the Life That You Have Given”*** #684

***For the life that you have given,
for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor,
with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you,
living what we pray and sing.***

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

With generous hearts we offer our gifts of love and service through our time, talents and treasure. Bless these offerings to shine the light of your love in the world. Help us all to be and see the silver linings lived with faith in you. Amen.

*HYMN ***“Here I Am, Lord”*** #559

*BENEDICTION (SOUPER BOWL OF CARING COLLECTION)

*POSTLUDE *This Little Light of Mine*

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