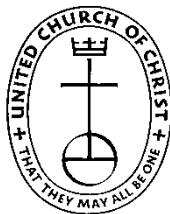


October 29, 2017 – 10:00 am
REFORMATION SUNDAY
ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**An Open and Affirming congregation
where all are welcome**

Our mission is to worship and serve God
in our church, community, and the world.



10207 Lincoln Trail

Fairview Heights, IL

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Fax 397-1189

Please respond with words in **bold print**.

*Please stand if comfortably able

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.

THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: "How Firm a Foundation" John Purifoy

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Gather together to her stories of faith and courage.

Listen for the ways God has acted among us.

Many: Our ancestors in the faith listened for God's word.

They dared to believe God's promises.

One: Leaders like Moses and Paul saw evidence of God's work.

They believed they were face-to-face with God's truth.

Many: They looked beyond the present moment.

They lived for dreams not yet realized.

One: Many felt God's love in knowing Jesus.

They experienced a new relationship with neighbors.

Many: We have come seeking community centered in Christ.

We want to feel God's presence as we worship.

*OPENING HYMN: #386 "The Church is One Foundation"

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the earth was formed, long before there were people on this planet, you were fashioning life in its myriad forms. Out of the billions of years you have been creating, our lives have come to this moment of meeting. We stand in awe before you, amazed to discover that you care about us, tiny blips on the screen of eternity. O God, we want our lives to count for something. Show us how to fit into your plans. Amen.

*GLORIA: #759

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,
Three-in-One; As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

FIRST TESTAMENT READING: **Deuteronomy 34:1-12**
Lay Liturgist (Page 265 in the Pew Bible)

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL LESSON: **Matthew 22:34-46**
Pastor Rosemary (Page 1202 in the Pew Bible)

SERMON: **“It’s All About Love”**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **#456 “More Love to Thee, O Christ”**

PASTORAL PRAYER beginning with silent personal prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed it be your 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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE: **#812 Three-Fold Amen**
Amen, Amen, A-men.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: “Shepherd of Love” John W. Peterson

*DOXOLOGY: **# 780**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

**As we give ourselves and our offerings, we pray, O
God, that they may reveal your love in such a way that many
will respond. Awaken in us a love for you and for one
another that is contagious. Remove from us all apathy,**

pretension, and greed that we may grow in holiness and compassion, living joyously in communion with you. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: #439 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”**

DURING THE HYMN THE LIGHT IS EXTINGUISHED AND CARRIED OUT INTO THE WORLD.

***BENEDICTION:**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: #236 Halleluja (sung twice)
Halle, halle, hal-le-luja. Halle, halle, hal-le-luja.
Halle, halle, hal-le-luja. Halleluja, hal-le-lu-ja!**

***POSTLUDE: “In God We Trust” R.J. Hughes**

Serving in Christ’s Name:

Ministers – All members of St. John UCC

Participants in Today’s Worship:

Pastor – Rev. Rosemary Captain

Minister of Music – Sharon Banjavcic

Liturgist – Sharon Banjavcic

Ushers – Jim Turnbull and Melinda Stidham