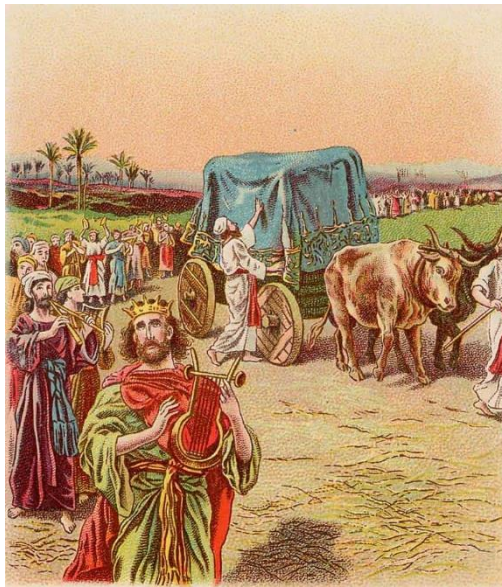


July 15, 2018 – 10:00 am
8th Sunday after Pentecost

ST. JOHN UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST

We are an Open and Affirming congregation,
where all are welcome.



God's Chest is returned to the City of David

10207 Lincoln Trail

Office 397-6323

Fairview Heights, IL

email: stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9-3

Pastor Rosemary Captain

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.

PRELUDE: **“Nearer My God to Thee”** Sorensen

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Based on Psalm 24

One: Before the earth was formed,
we were chosen by God to be God's people.

**MANY: God gathers us together that we might
sing of joy and hope, as God's beloved.**

One: Before the stars glittered in the night sky,
we were chosen through Christ to be God's
family.

**MANY: God gathers us together that we might
carol the good news of redemption.**

One: Before the rivers flowed to the seas,
we were chosen by the Spirit to serve creation.

**MANY: The Spirit gathers us together that we might
dance in the fields of peace with our sisters
and brothers.**

*OPENING HYMN:**NCH 73 “Enter, Rejoice, and Come in”**

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

**Ruler of all worlds, whose glory surrounds our unseeing
eyes, our muffled hearing and our dulled emotions,
come to awaken us to the mystery of your will. Speak**

to us a word of truth that reveals our deceit and leads us away from falsehood. Touch us with healing grace that allows us to admit our woundedness and accept the comfort you offer. Let your Spirit move among us so we may recognize your presence in one another and in our own lives. May our response to you be faithful and our praise genuine. Amen.

Let us give God our thanksgiving and praise.

***GLORIA PATRI"**

**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: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Lay Liturgist

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL LESSON:**

Mark 6:14-29

SERMON: "Dancing for Joy or for Revenge"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 487**

"Surely No One Can Be Safer"

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: NCH 772

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting. Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. God alone fills us.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: “Morning has Broken” McDonald

***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:**

In this company of seekers, we find our inheritance – the deep richness of God’s grace. With this company of seekers, we offer our gifts, so that others might be able to set their hopes on Christ, with whom we are all blessed by God. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: NCH 475**

“God’s Eye is On the Sparrow”

***BENEDICTION:**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Three-fold Amen**
“Amen, Amen, Amen”

POSTLUDE: “Great and Mighty” Bigley/Carraway

“Our worship has ended – Now our service begins.”