

July 1, 2018 – 10:00 am
Sixth Sunday of Pentecost

**ST. JOHN UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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



JESUS HEALS

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

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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.

Liturgy written by Thom M. Schuman

PRELUDE: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" W. Croft

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: Come among us, Healing God; we wait for you.

MANY: We come, hungry for your Word to bless us.

One: Come among us, Compassionate Christ;
we hope in you.

**MANY: We come, hungry to be filled with the
Bread of Heaven.**

One: Come among us, Restoring Spirit;
we wait and hope in you.

MANY: We come, eager to rest in your peace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray

With you, God of Wholeness, those who work the
graveyard shift of life find the dawn of resurrection;
those who look for healing are led to the living waters.

Christ our Companion: richer than Gates or Buffet,
you chose to become as poor as Mother Teresa,
to touch us with hope; you set aside Glory's robe,
to wear the servant's towel, so we might touch you
and be made whole.

Spirit of Grace: you encircle us with love which
never ends; you touch us with grace which mends all
brokenness; you pour out mercy, which heals any

wound we cause. God in Community, Holy in One, we lift this prayer in the name of Jesus, the beloved Son of God. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN: NCH 571**

“O God of Love, O God of Peace”

***CALL TO RECONCILIATION:**

There is nothing, nothing, which can divide us – in life and death - from God. So let us confess our worst faults and eager failings, so we may be touched by the healing power of God. Join me as we pray together, saying,

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**We want to touch the hem of your garment, O God.
Forgive us for being afraid to touch those who come to us for hope; we want to love the whole world.
Forgive us for ignoring our neighbor; we long for peace:
Forgive us for the pain we inflict on our families and friends; we want to share with those we love and like:
Forgive us for walking past those who need you most.**

**Forgive us, Loving God, for we do not excel
in everything you call us to do. Give us grace: to touch those who frighten us; to carry the Bread of Life to the hungry; to offer the blessings of the kingdom to everyone we meet, even as you have graced us in Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior. *Silence***

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Listen to the Good News!
Hope in God, for God's love has no ending; God fills us with grace and hope, this day, and forever.**

God hears our voice, and listens to our prayers,

redeeming us from all our sins. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

Let us give God our thanks and praise!

***GLORIA: NCH 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: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Lay Liturgist

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL LESSON:**

Mark 5:21-43

SERMON: "Jesus is Life"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 175**

sung to the tune Tallis' Canon **"O Christ, the Healer"**

A PRAYER AND HYMN FOR OUR COUNTRY:

(Prayers Written by Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia)

"America, the Beautiful"

(verse one)

**O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountains majesties
above the fruited plain!**

**America! America! God shed God's grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!**

ONE: Lord of all, as we draw near another Independence Day, we confess our dependence on you. Thank you for extending abundance, mercy, and protection to our nation through the years.

Every resource, freedom, and opportunity we have is a good gift from you. Without you, we are lost.

ALL PRAY: In humility, we seek your face. In repentance, we turn from our ungrateful, destructive and selfish ways.

In faith, we call on your power to forgive our sin and heal our land.

(verse two)

**O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!**

ONE: Pour out your Holy Spirit on those who govern our land, leaders of our nation, our state, and our community and all who are running for office.

Grant them a love of justice. Open their minds with wisdom and compassion, so all people may be treated fairly and with dignity.

Open their ears to the cries of the desperate and powerless so cycles of poverty, disease, and abuse may be broken.

Open their eyes to see how best to respond
and open their hearts with courage to do the right thing,
even when pressured to do otherwise.

Dawn a new day of integrity and servant leadership
upon our land. Shower down your Spirit of collaboration
for the common good that there may be lasting peace
and plenty for all.

*The congregation is invited to lift up their own silent
prayers for our nation*

ONE: We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Leader and
Savior forever, who taught us to pray, Our Father, who
art in heaven....

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.**

(verse four)

**O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed God's grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: “**Finlandia (Song of Peace)**” J. Sibelius

*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:

**From our present abundance, we offer our gifts to you,
Generous Heart, so that the hungry might be fed, so
that the broken might find healing, and so the grieving
might be comforted. Amen.**

*HOLY COMMUNION: (Responses will be spoken)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts to God.

We open our hearts to the God of healing and joy.

Lift your songs to God.

**We offer glad songs to the One who brings us
wholeness.**

Hear our voices as we sing our joy to you,

God of the listening Heart

So we lift our voices in praise,

joining with those in heaven and earth,

who forever praise your name:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God who hears our voices.

**More than those who watch for morning, all creation
waits for you. Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes with healing grace.
Hosanna in the highest! (Be seated)**

Holy are you, Listener to our deepest longings,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. . .

As we remember his life for us
as we seek to grasp the hem of your grace,
we tell of that mystery we call faith:

**Christ died, so we might be made well and live;
Christ was raised, death overcome with amazement by
the resurrection;
Christ will return, calling to us, ‘children, get up!’**

Come among us, Source of healing,
your Spirit gracing the bread and the cup,

Then, when that Day of Joy comes, and we are all made
new, and we see completely, we will fill your Heart
with joy and praise, singing to our God in Community,
Holy in One. Amen.

Come, for all things are ready.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS.

*RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING. Go now to
where you find friends and neighbors, as well as family
and strangers.

**We will share that never-ending love of the Healer of
all.**

Go now, with that faith which dares to touch the
outcast, with hearts that break for the pain of others.

We will share the compassion of the Friend of the broken.

Go now, carrying word and wonder to a weary world,
waiting in silence for the songs of hope to sing to all
creation.

**We will follow the dryer of tears wherever we are led.
Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN: NCH 591 “This Is My Song”**

***BENEDICTION:**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: Amen, Amen, Amen**

POSTLUDE: “Postlude in C” George Blake

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