

March 11, 2018 – 10:00 am
4th SUNDAY IN LENT

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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



John 3:14 “Just as Moses lifted
up the snake in the wilderness,
so must the Human One be lifted
up. . .”

10207 Lincoln Trail

Fairview Heights, IL

Telephone 397-6323

e-mail: stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Fax 397-1189

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 INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: “**How Deep the Father’s Love for Us**”

Stuart Townsend

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Light has entered our world; rejoice!

Light is God’s gift to each, and to all together.

MANY: Give thanks to God for days of watchful care.

The steadfast love of God endures forever.

One: Let those whom God has redeemed rejoice!

Let them tell the world of God’s good news!

MANY: We will thank God for wonderful works.

We will rejoice in God’s love for all humankind.

One: By God’s word, we are delivered from destruction.

By God’s mercy, we are healed and made whole.

MANY: Our voices will join in songs of joy.

Our lives will offer sacrifices of thanksgiving.

*OPENING HYMN: **#23 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”**

*CALL TO CONFESSION:

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Healing God, we are sick through our sinful ways. We are impatient, complaining, and troubled. By our self-indulgent habits, we are destroying ourselves and depriving others. As a church, we seem content to be dead in our trespasses, for we are afraid to embrace the changes that come with the new life you offer. We cry out to you in our trouble. Save us from our distress. Amen

*SUNG RESPONSE: “**Create in me, a clean heart, O God**”

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

*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 READINGS: **Numbers 21:4-9**

EPISTLE READING: **Ephesians 2:1-10**

ANTHEM: **"You are My All in All/Fairest Lord Jesus"**

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL LESSON: **John 3:14-21** Pastor Rosemary

SERMON: **"What or Who Saves Us?"**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **#547 "Amazing Grace"**

PASTORAL PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed 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 #774**

**Shepherd, lead, lead me in your righteousness,
make your way plain before my face.
For it is you, God, you, God only,
who makes me to lie down in safety.**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: **"God So Loved the World" John Stainer**

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.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**

For life-sustaining gifts that we so often take for granted – for shelter, food, and meaningful tasks to do; for your steadfast love that awakens us and raises us from our sinful ways; for your word that guides and heals us – we give you thanks, gracious God. As we invest a part of all you entrust to us to further the ministries of the church, may we show to others the immeasurable riches of your grace in Jesus Christ. Make this church a beacon of hope for the world. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: #596 “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”**

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

***BENEDICTION:**

THE BELL RINGS, AS WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD, TO SPREAD THE JOY OF CHRIST TO ALL.

**POSTLUDE: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
Roger C. Wilson**

“Our Worship has ended – Now our Service begins.”



PRAYER LIST: *Today we lift up in prayer Sheri Bryant*
And prayers for healing: Ardella Morris, LaVerne Kistler, Terry Kissel, Darlene Schaperkoetter, Ted Bauer, Syd Safriet, Tom Petroff, Mary Ann Glen, Sarah Paul, Russ Hursey, David Seneczyn, Irma Krupp, Jeanette Brown, Don Sheridan, Steve Banjavcic

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 – Sue Williams

Ushers – Ginny Ganschinetz & Tyler Underwood

Activities of the church:

Every Sunday = Adult Sunday school at 8:45 a.m.

Tuesday – Church Council 7 p.m.

Boy Scouts

Wednesday - Lenten study and light supper 6 p.m.