

September 16, 2018 – 10:00 am
17th Sunday after Pentecost

**ST. JOHN UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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



"Who do people say that I am?"

***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.

PRELUDE: “Open Our Eyes with Be Thou My Vision” Hayes

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:** Based on Psalm 19

One: Come away from dullness and complacency.
Wake up! God is calling us to listen and learn.

**MANY: The heavens are telling the glory of God.
The firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.**

One: How long will we refuse the wisdom God
offers? How long will we ignore God’s counsel
and reproof?

**MANY: The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul.
The decrees of God are sure, making wise the simple.**

One: Our waywardness separates us from God.
Then, when we call on God, we hear no answer.

**MANY: We gather to renew our relationship with
God. We seek enlightenment and the revival
of our souls.**

***OPENING HYMN: “All God’s People” (on screen)**

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

**God of all wisdom, renew our sense of awe and wonder
as we gather before you, the Source of all knowledge.
Make your Word known to us, and stretch out your
hand to touch us. Draw us away from our own devices
that we may truly listen to the witness of all creation
speaking of wonders we have ignored. Give us eyes to**

see beauty in all around us. Align us with truth and righteousness. Quiet our scoffing and awaken our trust. Show us the disciplines we need to stay in touch with you each day. Amen.

***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.**

EPISTLE READING: James 3:1-12 Lay Liturgist

PSALM RESPONSE: Psalm 19, NCH Page 630

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

***GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 8:27-38**

SERMON: “Who do you say that I am?” Verse 29

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: (words on screen)
“Open My Eyes That I Might See”**

PASTORAL PRAYER: Beginning with Silent 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 765 “Alleluia”

**You are worthy, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
You are worthy, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: “I Have Decided” Eugene Thomas

***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:**

**We offer the treasures of this world as a way of
recalling all of us to a right relationship with you, O
God, the Source of all wisdom and truth. Your design
for life is more to be desired than the finest gold. To
learn from you and to serve you is our highest joy.
May our offerings and our daily lives communicate this
message. Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN: NCH 52**

“There is a Name I love to Hear”

***BENEDICTION:**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE: NCH 75 Verse 3**

**Lord, make me more humble.
Lord, make me more humble.
Lord, make me more humble, until we meet again.
Humble, humble, humble, until we meet again.**

POSTLUDE: “Triumphal March” Edward Grieg