



St. John's United Church of Christ
Welcome Back to Indoor Worship
October 18, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 18, 2020

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Remembering that God calls us through Christ to be ministers with each other, St. John's United Church of Christ, as inspired and directed by the Holy Spirit, seeks: To be inclusive and accessible to all people; To provide loving service to all of God's people through mission and ministry; To strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
we are glad you are connecting with us today!!*

Prelude

Sharing of Announcements and Joys & Concerns

Call to Worship:

O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless God's name;
tell of God's salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations,
God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
God is to be revered above all.

Opening Music: *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing/For the Beauty of the Earth" arr. Ingram*
performed by the Exaltation Ringers of St. John's

Prayer of Confession

God of All, we confess that we have made idols of wealth, notoriety, and other worldly measures of success. As these idols are crashing down around us, we are losing hope, losing joy, losing faith. But You are the God above all. You are the One who leads us into Your reign, a kingdom not of this world. You are the one who shows us how to truly live, by loving our neighbors as ourselves. Lead us into the true faith, O God, through Jesus Christ Your Son, who lived for us, who died for us, and lives again, teaching us to live into Your ways of love, justice, mercy, and peace. In these ways, we worship and live the true, abundant life You intended for us, now and into eternity. Amen and Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness:

God's faithfulness endures forever. God's love never ends. God's grace and mercy are always present to you through Jesus Christ. Repent; turn back to God's ways, and know that forgiveness is there, right there, for you to claim. Love is in your heart, where it has always been. Mercy is at your grasp, ready for you to give it. Grace is in every moment, every breath you take. Live into God's ways, and know God's forgiveness, mercy, and love are with you, right now. Amen.

Children's Time (Children will remain with their families during this time of sharing)

Scripture: Exodus 32:1-14

Message

"The Cat is Away"

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer (sinned and sinned against us) Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy 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 sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Dedicating Our Gifts

Gracious God, thank you that you can satisfy our every desire and need. Your word says that we should give honor to you with the first fruits of our wealth. Accept our tithes and offerings as a gift of worship to you. Multiply what we give for the effective growth of your kingdom. May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith so that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. May we be filled with all the fullness of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Music to Send Us Forth *"Leaning On the Everlasting Arms"* arr. Geordie Roberts
Performed by the combined choirs of the Penn Central Conference Choir

Benediction

Postlude

In Our Thoughts and Prayers This Morning

(please contact the church office, at 570-523-0162, with any updates)

Ongoing Needs- Betty Hackenberg, Janet & Richard Heaton, Karen Morgan, Joanne & Bill Stahley, Linda Williams, Wayne Williams.

Shut-In/Homebound- Ann Beasom, Richard Berry, Peg Brouse, Ethel Foor, Bill & Lola Fuller, Evelyn Mabus, Ken Moore, Ethel Moser, Nancy Sechler, Mary Stover, Amelia Troutman.

Immediate Concerns - Dot Bower, Scot Bower, Fred Groover, Shelia Crockett (Kay Nottis' friend), The Family of Larry Miller, Pat & Jim Pomeroy, Melissa & Tom Ransdorf, John Ruhl, Velma Ruhl, Christine Sartwell, Peg Swinehart, Samantha Wyvill.

THE OUTWARD SIGNS

October 11, 2020

Central Assoc. Dues - \$25.00; Chancel Flowers - \$42.00; Current Expenses - \$1,413.00;
Food Pantry - \$20.00; Improvements/Maintenance - \$100.00; Loose Offering - \$3.00;
OCWM - \$285.00; Reitz Est. - \$12,005.27; William Cameron Engine Co. - \$47.00;
GRAND TOTAL - \$13,940.27 THANK YOU!

CHANCEL FLOWERS - Are placed in loving memory of Charles & Aletha Crosley, and are given by Linda Sartwell.

THIS WEEK

Monday, October 19	7:00 p.m.	STEWARDSHIP/PERSONNEL (ZOOM)
Tuesday, October 20	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.	VISITATION FOR HACKENBERG FAMILY MEMORIAL SERVICE Rev. Dr. Gary Hackenberg Men's Westbranch Chorus Rehearsal (FH)
Wednesday, October 21	7:15 p.m.	BOOK STUDY (ZOOM)
Thursday October 22	9:00 a.m.	TOPS (CR)
Friday, October 23		
Saturday October 24		
Sunday, October 25	10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP (SANCT./FACEBOOK/88.5 FM)

MEMORIAL SERVICE - Rev. Dr. Gary Hackenberg's Memorial Service is planned for **Tuesday, October 20th**, at St. John's UCC, Lewisburg.

10 to 11 a.m. -- Socially distant time of visitation with Gary's family

11 a.m. -- Worship Service of Remembrance and Celebration in the sanctuary

(COVID protocols observed -- masks required, social distancing, etc., additional space in the fellowship hall for livestream will be available and radio signal for those who may be in the parking lot). Interment at New Berlin Cemetery will be after the service and will be private.

Seeking Halloween Candy Donations - Halloween will be quite different for most kids this year, with fewer Halloween events, no parties, and changes to trick-or-treating traditions. We'd like to reach out to the kids in our congregation by delivering a goody bag of candy to each kid. We have volunteers ready to deliver the bags close to Halloween, now we just need the CANDY! Please bring in **INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED** Halloween candy to the church by **Sunday, October 25th**. You may leave your candy donations in the Resource Room/Lending Center across from the office. Thank you!