

St. John's United Church of Christ
An "Open and Affirming" Congregation
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - FATHER'S DAY
GRADUATE RECOGNITION
Rev. Alice Rauch, Pastor

The Service: 10:00 a.m. June 21, 2026

(Let us be silent and prayerful as we prepare ourselves for worship.)

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.

In 2026 We Are Dreaming God's Dream Together

Prelude

Announcements

*Call to Worship

Come, all who are weary, and all who are seeking a fresh start. God does not leave us as we are but invites us into a life of beautiful renewal.

We come to let go of our old habits and heavy burdens. We hunger for the transforming grace of God.

Do not be conformed to the patterns of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.

Lord, open our spirits to your life-changing words. Break down the walls we have built and make us new.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; God's mercies are new every morning. Let us worship the God who transforms our lives and makes all things new!

Amen!

*Opening Hymn *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"* #43

Prayer of Transformation and New Life: Gracious God, we confess that we often cling to our old ways and judge others by human standards. We fail to be ambassadors of peace, allowing division and trespasses to linger. Forgive us, we pray. By the power of your Holy Spirit, strip away our old habits and renew us. Transform us so that we might become the very righteousness of God, bringing healing to our broken world. Amen.

Sung Response *"Spirit of the Living God"* #283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Grace: *Hear the good news! If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! In Christ, the world has been reconciled with God, who is not counting our trespasses against us. Receive God's forgiveness and walk in peace.*

Passing of the Peace: *The Peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!*

Song of Joy

"How Can I Say Thanks"

#14

How can I say thanks for the things you have done for me?
Things so undeserved, yet you gave to prove your love for me;
The voices of a million angels could not express my gratitude.
All that I am, and ever hope to be; I owe it all to you.

To God be the glory, to God be the glory,
To God be the glory for the things you have done.
With your blood you have saved me;
With your power you have raised me;
To God be the glory for the things you have done.

Honoring our Graduates

Words for All, Especially Children

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Message

"Transformation Happens"

Morning Prayer

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.

Special Music

"Morning Has Broken"

Celebrations and Joys

*Singing Our Gratitude as We Dedicate our Offerings #376 Stanza #1

God, we thank you for our people, roots dug deep within the soil,
Hardy spirits, rich in loving, strong for struggle, bold for toil.
Faithful Rock of generations, you whom parents' parents praised:
Here is hope as we remember may our song to you be raised.

*Dedication of Gifts and Offerings:

Holy One, thank you for the privilege of giving. Bless these gifts and those who give. Enable us to trust and participate in your abundance. Extend wisdom and discernment as we allocate these offerings. Expand our reach and impact for your kingdom and glory. Amen.

*Hymn

"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"

#417

*Benediction

Postlude

TODAY

St. John's is pleased you have joined with us today. We hope that you have found this time to be a blessing. **Please sign** the attendance book located in the Narthex (and kindly include your mailing address/telephone number and/or email) or fill out a Welcome Card (located on the Welcome Table in the Narthex) and introduce yourself to the people who are worshipping around you. If you are looking for a new church family and are interested in knowing more about St. John's, please indicate that following worship to the Pastor or one of the greeters. Offering plates are located at the rear of the Sanctuary.

THANKS TO OUR MUSICIANS - We thank the Nelson Family for providing us with special music today and sharing their talents.

SUMMER THEME BEGINS TODAY - "Transformed: Real Change for Real Life". We believe that God is still transforming hearts, relationships, communities and the church. Today: "From Labels to Beloved"!

THIS WEEK

Monday, June 22	11 am - 1 pm 1 pm - 4 pm 7 pm - 8 pm	Community Harvest Training (GP/FH) Community Harvest (KTCHN) Women's/Men's Barbershop (FH)
Tuesday, June 23	9 am 10:30 - Noon 7 pm - 9:30 pm	TUESDAY TRUDGERS (FH) Willowbrook Strings (FH) Men's Westbranch Chorus (CH.RM)
Wednesday, June 24	9 am	GARDEN HARVEST (GARDEN)
Thursday, June 25	8:30 am- 10:30am 9 am - 10:30 am 1:30 pm - 3 pm 7 pm	WW (FH) TOPS (CR) Trailside Troubadours (FH) Women's Barbershop Chorus (SANCT)
Friday, June 26		
Saturday June 27		
Sunday, June 28	10 am	WORSHIP, ONA SUNDAY, CHILDREN'S CHURCH

NEXT SUNDAY - ONA Sunday - "From Welcome to Celebration", Celebrating the image of God in all people!