

APOSTLES' CREED (In Unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit the one holy Universal Christian Church. The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER (Responsively)

Pastor: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"*

Welcome to St. John's United Church of Christ



We are happy to welcome everyone attending St. John's United Church of Christ. May God Bless you with His abundant love.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Spiritual Communion Sunday

May 7, 2023

10:15 am

PRELUDE *"Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation"*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING (Responsively)

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The power of the Holy Spirit moves among us!

People: Praise the Lord!

OPENING HYMN *"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Leader: The Lord is our refuge.

People: We can find peace in God's abiding love.

Leader: When troubles assail us, we call upon the Lord.

People: When joys abound, we call upon the Lord.

Leader: Welcome this day to God's house, one of many dwellings of the Almighty One.

People: We thank you and praise God for his refuge and sanctuary. AMEN.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Lord of mercy, there are so many times in our lives when we feel alone. We wonder where you are. We cry out to you in our confusion, pain, and hurt.

We begin to doubt that you even care or exist. Stop us from going down this path of self-destruction. Help us look around and find the many ways in which you have blessed our lives. Forgive us when we are so quick to doubt and so arrogant in our demands of your responses. Give us a spirit of patience and willingness to be ready to hear your voice. Strengthen us for the ministries of love and hope that you have placed before us; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

"GLORIA PATRI"

#623

Special Music by Pastor Laura Doty
"Day by Day"

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 31:15-16

John 14:1-14 1 Peter 2:4-10

TODAY'S MESSAGE

"The Comfort of Time"

Pastor Laura Doty

DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

"Doxology"

#625

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of the People – Kelly Harris

Pastoral, The Lord's Prayer (Debts, Debtors)