

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.

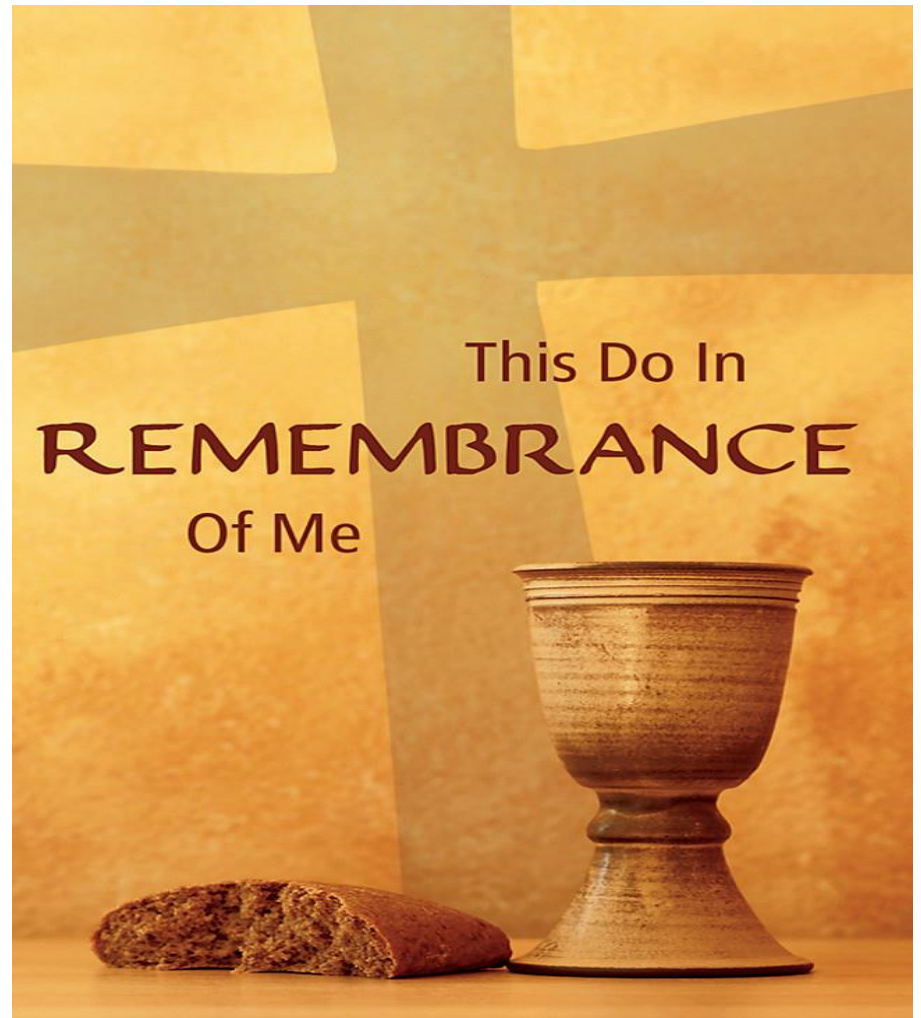
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Spiritual Communion Sunday

October 1, 2023

10:15 am

PRELUDE "Rock of Ages"

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 "I Love to Tell the Story"

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Leader: This week has been filled with joys and sorrows.

People: We have come here this day with burdens on our hearts.

Leader: God, who hears your cries, will offer you healing love.

People: Thanks be to God for such generous compassion.

ALL: AMEN.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

How quick we are to say yes to you, O Lord, and

then we turn around and forget our bold words of commitment. We really want to serve, but we are very weak and are easily drawn away by cares and fears. We pledge ourselves to working for your kingdom but find ourselves pulled this way and that by other demands on our time and energy. Forgive us, O Lord, when we so quickly drop our commitments to serving you. Heal our spirits and give us the bold courage to truly be your disciples. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

"GLORIA PATRI"

#623

Special Music By Laura Doty

"My Hope is in You, Lord"

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 25:1-9

Matthew 21:28-32 **Philippians 2:1-13**

TODAY'S MESSAGE "Doing is Better!"

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)