



# Leap of Faith

## August 2022

*F. R. O. G.*  
Forever Relying On God



Whew! We are having a hot, hot, hot Summer! Going to the beach or relaxing in a pool makes it easier to bear. I am not much of a pool person, but now I am learning how wonderful and cooling it can feel.

I have had the privilege of using at least two pools this summer. I did more than just dangle my feet along the edge as I usually do. This time, I was "all in". However, I would not get my head wet, or try to float. I preferred to just stand in the water to get cooled off.

On a recent trip to Lake Michigan, I realized the vastness of that body of water. There were red flags out, and rangers patrolling the beach. I was rightfully scared to go into the water with the wind and whitecaps.

On Facebook, I saw something that made me realize that the water has a spiritual message for us. It said, "When you feel like you're drowning in life, don't worry! Your lifeguard walks on water!".

In Mark 6, Jesus walked on the water to get to His disciples on a boat struggling with the wind. They were not expecting that, and, of course, they were frightened. He said, "Take courage, it is I. Don't be afraid". Then He got into the boat with them, and the wind calmed down.

**COME TO WORSHIP WITH US ON ZOOM!**

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here at St. John's United Church of Christ.

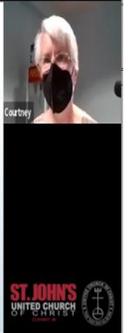
Contact [stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com) for service information.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
July 24, 2022 10:15 am



**PRELUDE**  
"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Whatever you are struggling against, Jesus will be right there with you, to calm you, be with you, and get you through it. I know the next time I am scared of the wind, waves, and struggles of life, I will remember that my lifeguard walks on water, and He walks with me!

Amen Pastor Laura

### **CONSISTORY MEMBERS**

Mary Ellen Harris (Pres)	Wayne Knudson
Jean Quillin (VP)	Edward Quillin
George Adamson (Treas)	Dennis Harris
Kelly Harris (Sec)	
Courtney Papa-Abell	

## **PLEASE COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP**

Connecting to a community of believers is vital in your Christian walk. We all need Christian Fellowship to build us up and to hold us up. If you can't join us in person or on Zoom, watch our recorded service on our website or Facebook page.

**CONSISTORY MEETING**  
**Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at**  
**6:00 pm on Zoom. If you would**  
**like to join please contact**  
**Mary Ellen Harris.**

## **Music Sunday**

We will be celebrating Music Sunday on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Laura Doty and Cindy Robinett will be bringing us our special music.

Celebrating music has been a long-time tradition at St. John's UCC.

In Randy Petersen's book "bible fun stuff" I read an article titled "Cranking up the Music". It told about music in the Bible. Let me share it with you.

"Long before rock and roll, the Israelites were cranking up their music. David instructed the Levites to play 'on harps and lyres and cymbals, to raise loud sounds of joy' (1 Chron. 15:16, NRSV). Sounds like a modern rock band with guitars and drum set. The ark of the covenant was brought into Jerusalem 'with the sounding of rams' horns and trumpets, and of cymbals, and the playing of lyres and harps' (1 Chron. 15:28). Scripture mentions several other worship services where the music and shouting got 'loud' (2 Chron. 15:14), even 'very loud' (2 Chron. 20:19)."

Music is a way that we can praise God. The Bible tells us that horns were used in religious festivals. God instructed the priests to blow horns as they marched around the town of Jericho. It was to remind the Israelites that their victory came from the Lord, not from their military. Hope you can join us on Zoom or watch our recorded service on Facebook or church website.

--Mary Ellen Harris

## **AUGUST WORSHIP LEADERS**

**AUGUST 07 Laura Doty, Pastor**

**Liturgist – George Adamson**

**14 Laura Doty, Pastor**

**Liturgist – Courtney Papa-Abell**

**21 Jamelle Godlewski Guest Speaker**

**Liturgist – Mary Ellen Harris**

**28 Laura Doty, Pastor**

**Liturgist – Kelly Harris**

*Thank you to everyone for helping out!*

## **SUBSCRIBE TO PRAYER**

To get a list of prayer request you have to subscribe to it on our web page. You will not see all the requests unless you have a subscription. You do not have to be a member of our Prayer Warriors group or even a member of our church to subscribe. For instructions on how to subscribe please, email [webmaster@sjtohnsucelkhart.com](mailto:webmaster@sjtohnsucelkhart.com)

# Bible Quiz: Parable of the Two Sons

## (Matthew 21:28-32)

<https://www.christianbiblereference.org>

1) "...There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' 'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you." ([Matthew 21:28-31](#), NIV)

In Jesus Parable of the Two Sons, who was represented by the first son?

- Rebellious children
- Sinners who repent
- Jesus
- The priests and elders of the temple.

2) Who was represented by the second son?

- Rebellious children.
- Sinners who repent.
- Jesus.
- The priests and elders of the temple.

3) Which of these did Jesus NOT compare the Kingdom to?

- Seed sowed along a path
- A fig tree
- A mustard seed
- Yeast

4) Which is *NOT* a lesson of this parable?

- It is never too late to turn away from a sinful life.
- We are called to be obedient and do God's work, not to follow our own agendas.
- We are called to love one another as God has loved us.
- We must *do* God's work, not just profess and talk about it.

**HOW DID YOU DO?**

THE ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON THE NEXT PAGE.

# BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1) "...There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' 'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you." ([Matthew 21:28-31](#), NIV)

**In Jesus Parable of the Two Sons, who was represented by the first son?**

The correct answer is: Sinners who repent

Sinners such as prostitutes and the corrupt tax collectors had lived very wicked lives. However, once they turned away from sin, like the first son in the parable, they were as worthy as anyone of God's kingdom.

**2) Who was represented by the second son?**

The correct answer is: The priests and elders of the temple.

The temple officials professed to do God's will, but, like the second son in the parable, they actually were corrupt and self-serving. Their temple positions and outward holiness did not impress or fool God; they had wickedness in their hearts.

**3) Who was represented by the father of the two sons?**

The correct Answer is: God

God has work for all of us to do. Some of us, like the first son, refuse at first but then see the light. Others of us, like the second son, are hypocrites. We go to church and pretend to be holy while continuing to lead sinful lives.

**4) Which is NOT a lesson of this parable?**

The correct answer is: We are called to love one another as God has loved us.

That's certainly one of Jesus' major teachings, but not in this parable.

It is never too late to turn away from a sinful life. Like the prostitutes and tax collectors, we always have the opportunity to turn away from sin and be in harmony with God.

We are called to be obedient and do God's work, not to follow our own agendas. The father did not ask his sons to just do something useful. He called them to do *his* work in *his* vineyard.

We must *do* God's work, not just profess and talk about it. It is of no value to pretend to be holy like the priests and elders of the temple.

Season after Pentecost Year C	First* reading and Psalm	Alternate* First reading and Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<b>Proper 14 (19)</b> Ninth Sunday after Pentecost August 7, 2022 <u>ART</u> -- <u>PRAYER</u>	<u>Isaiah 1:1, 10-20</u>  <u>Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23</u>	<u>Genesis 15:1-6</u>  <u>Psalm 33:12-22</u>	<u>Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16</u>	<u>Luke 12:32-40</u>
<b>Proper 15 (20)</b> Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 14, 2022 <u>ART</u> -- <u>PRAYER</u>	<u>Isaiah 5:1-7</u>  <u>Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19</u>	<u>Jeremiah 23:23-29</u>  <u>Psalm 82</u>	<u>Hebrews 11:29-12:2</u>	<u>Luke 12:49-56</u>
<b>Proper 16 (21)</b> Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 21, 2022 <u>ART</u> -- <u>PRAYER</u>	<u>Jeremiah 1:4-10</u>  <u>Psalm 71:1-6</u>	<u>Isaiah 58:9b-14</u>  <u>Psalm 103:1-8</u>	<u>Hebrews 12:18-29</u>	<u>Luke 13:10-17</u>
<b>Proper 17 (22)</b> Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 28, 2022 <u>ART</u> -- <u>PRAYER</u>	<u>Jeremiah 2:4-13</u>  <u>Psalm 81:1, 10-16</u>	<u>Sirach 10:12-18</u> <i>or</i> <u>Proverbs 25:6-7</u>  <u>Psalm 112</u>	<u>Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16</u>	<u>Luke 14:1, 7-14</u>

## IT'S A NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

Please pray for the teachers and students to have a good year and that God would bless them.

## Prayer

Dear God,

I thank you for the week that is ahead. I know you will be with me every step of the way. Please give me your strength, wisdom, and guidance. Help me be a blessing to others as you are to me! Amen.



St. John's United Church of Christ  
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### **Contact Information**

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Face Book - *St. John's United Church of Christ*

Northwest Association IKC - [www.nwaikucc.org](http://www.nwaikucc.org)

Indiana-Kentucky Conference - [www.ikc.org](http://www.ikc.org)

United Church of Christ – [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)