

Closing and Blessing

*Closing Hymn: "Be Now My Vision" (The New Century Hymnal #451)

*Benediction and Blessing¹

*Ringling of the Church Bell

*Please to stand if able



Save the Date – Upcoming Events

Wednesdays - Bongards Market - 3pm to 6pm

Thursdays - Be One in the Spirit Bible Study on Acts of the Apostles Bible Fellowship - 6pm in Fellowship Hall

Aug. 4 - Game (and Pizza) Night - 7pm in Fellowship Hall

Aug. 5 - Find Food Carver Co. Volunteering - noon to 4pm.
(Contact Michelle for details sjuccbongards@gmail.com)

Aug. 8th - Faith and Service Review Meeting - Via ZOOM at 6pm

Aug. 14th - St. John's Got Talent - 915am followed by pie social

Aug. 17th - Shoe Bus at the Market - 3pm to 6pm

Sep. 11th - Growing in God's Love (Faith Formation in-person Sunday School for ages 4 to 10 years) starts - 915am in Fellowship Hall

Oct. TBD - Faith Formation for Middle Schoolers - Contact Pastor Scott for details on Confirmation classes)

Scan the QR code to head over to our website for a full calendar of services, events, announcements and more!

Announcements and Messages for the Community

Fruit of the Spirit. We are kicking off a new monthly ministry program. Each month, we will highlight a cause, service project, or mission that St. John's has chosen to support. This month, our local public schools are featured with collections to be donated to Cologne Academy's Compassion Fund and Central's Raider Room.

St. John's Got Talent. Calling all singers, musicians, dancers, and orators! We want your special talents for our Sunday Worship on August 14th. Contact Pastor Scott if you'd like to participate in this fun worship service.

Consistory Team Meeting and Members. There is one opening on our Consistory Team. Please pray-fully consider serving. Everyone is welcome to attend Team meetings. Input and engagement from the Congregation is encouraged. Contact Michelle Bachmann at 952-361-3033 or Pastor Scott.

For Pastoral Care. Please contact Pastor Scott at 804-350-0826 or email pastorsjuccbongards@gmail.com.

¹ Liturgy adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-c-july-24-2022/>



Welcome to St. John's United Church of Christ

12984 Co Rd 51 - PO Box 124 - NYA, MN 55368

www.stjohnsuccny.org

Thank you for worshipping with us. We are so glad that you are here!



"Miser" by Margret Hofheinz-Döring

Rev. Scott Siefert | Organist: Penny Rolf | Violinist: Mary Hudson

July 31, 2022 - Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Ringling of the Church Bell

Announcements

Call to Worship

One: Our Loving God gathers us from the east and the west, from the north and from the south.

All: The Holy One is in our midst. Let us say so!

One: We cried out to our God in the time of trouble and eased our distress.

All: The Holy One is in our midst. God leads us on right paths.

One: Our Provider satisfies our thirst and meets our needs.

All: The Holy One is in our midst. Consider God's steadfast love.

***Opening Hymn:** *“He Leadeth Me”* (The Hymnal #466)

Prayer of Invocation

One: Holy One, we worship you as your people. You tether us to you in righteousness and covenant. Reveal your face to us. Let us see you in our midst, in our neighbors, and in ourselves.

All: God of abundance. Clothes us in your love and compassion. Fashion us as your people for you are our God.

Prayer of Confession

One: Gracious One, you have knit us together wonderfully. You have promised your abiding presence in our lives and have guided us with love. And yet, at times, we turn away from you and toward the path of destruction and discord.

All: We judge others rather than love them and we fail to even honor ourselves as your beloved creation.

–Time of Silent Confession–

Assurance of Pardon

One: The God of mercy bends toward us with love and hope. The Holy One leads us when we wander onto divergent paths and nourishes our hunger for the newness of life. If God, grace abounds freely, abundantly, and extravagantly.

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 49:1-12 (NRSV) ¹Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world, ²both low and high, rich and poor together. ³My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. ⁴I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp. ⁵Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me, ⁶those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches? ⁷Truly, no ransom avails for one’s life, there is no price one can give to God for it. ⁸For the ransom of life is costly, and can never suffice ⁹that one should live on forever and never see the grave. ¹⁰When we look at the wise, they die; fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others. ¹¹Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling places to all generations, though they named lands their own. ¹²Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like the animals that perish.

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 12:13-21 (NRSV) ¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all

kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

Children’s Message

Pastoral Meditation: *“My Stuff”*

Hymn of Response: *“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”* (The Hymnal #286)

Prayers and Concerns

Joys – Concerns – Blessings

Please share any special concerns, joys, and blessings.

Silent Prayer – Pastoral Prayer – Lord’s Prayer

ALL: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. AMEN.

Presentation of the Offering**

An offering collection plate is placed at the entrance of the sanctuary and will not be passed during worship.

Invitation to the Offering

One: Jesus said, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” The promise of life abundantly invites us to trust God’s provision and abundance of resources for all. We share our gifts from the abundance given to us.

***Hymn:** *“Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow”* (The Hymnal #551)

***Dedication Prayer**

All: Loving God, may we demonstrate our love through these gifts. Bless them and magnify them so that all creation will benefit from your abundance and gift of life and love.