

*Prayer of Dedication

All: God of all, God of everything, God of everyone. We share with you the giving and the receiving. We bring these gifts in the same spirit that we have received. May they be blessed in their use and may we be blessed in our sharing of Your generosity. AMEN.

Closing and Blessing

*Closing Hymn: "For the Beauty of the Earth" (The Hymnal #12)

*Benediction and Blessing¹

*Ringing of the Church Bell

*Please to stand if able

At the end of the service, please self-usher yourself out of the sanctuary, with those in the back exiting first.



Save the Date – Upcoming Events

Thursdays - NONE THIS WEEK - Bible Fellowship - 6pm in Fellowship Hall and ZOOM

Oct. 26 - Cologne Academy's Truck or Treat - 6pm to 830pm

Nov. 1 - Consistory Team Meeting - 6pm via ZOOM

Nov. 4 - Find Food Carver County Volunteering - 12pm to 4pm at NYA City Hall parking lot

Nov. 6 - All Saints Day with Holy Communion - 915am

Nov. 12th - "Footloose" at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater, hosted by Women's Guild - 1030am

Nov. 20 - His By Grace concert and Pie Social - 915am (Free will offering to benefit the Southwest Carver County food shelf)

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

All Saints Day Service. This will be a Sunday to remember those who have come and gone before us. Please invite your friends and family to join us. Bring a small memento in honor of a loved one, to be placed on the altar for the service. If you have a special poem, reading, or musical suggestion you'd like considered for the service or want to participate, contact Pastor Scott.

Fruit of the Spirit. This month's ministry is Hurricane Ian Relief. Look for the special collection basket at the rear of the sanctuary.

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

¹ Liturgy adapted from <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-25c-october-23/>



Welcome to St. John's United Church of Christ

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

www.stjohnsuccnya.org

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



"Rain in an Oak Forest" by Ivan Ivanovich Shishkin

Rev. Scott Siefert | Organist: Penny Rolf

October 23, 2022 - Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

**Ringing of the Church Bell
Announcements**

Children's Message

John 6:35 "I Am the Bread of Life" - Christine Wing

Call to Worship - Inspired by Psalm 84

Liturgist:

One: Our souls longeth for the Lord.

All: We long for the living God.

One: The sparrow found a house and a swallow built a nest for herself.

All: We gather together in this sacred space.

One: Blessed are those whose strength is in you.

All: Our hearts are with You.

One: The Lord is our sun and shield.

All: Blessed are we that trust in You.

***Opening Hymn: "Blessed Assurance"** (New Century Hymnal #473)

Prayer of Invocation

One: O God, we come through years of losses and disappointment. We come from broken days, wasted hours, and painful moments. Yet our hands are out, expecting love so wide it seeps through our fingers. We hold only what we share. We come to hold our blessings through our worship and praise of You.

All: We receive only that which You share with us.

Prayer of Confession

One: God, too often we place too much trust in ourselves. We think that we are better than others. We look down on those whom we see as lesser. We look down on those that are different from us. We look down on those in need and think if only they were more like us. We fail to see that they are also created in God's image and are beloved of God. God we know that too often we don't take the time to know each other and to share in each other's stories of heartache, perseverance, and longing.

All: We ask, O Holy One, for your forgiveness.

—Time of Silent Confession—

Assurance of Grace

One: God hears our calls for mercy. When you come to God with a clean and repentant heart you will be forgiven. You are granted the grace that only comes from the Holy One. God supplies the harvest that gives us eternal renewal. Thanks be to God. **AMEN.**

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 84 (KJV) How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them. Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools. They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah. Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had

rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 18:9-14 ⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Pastoral Meditation: "God of Mercy"

Hymn of Response: "Praise to the Living God" (New Century Hymnal #8)

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.

Collection and Presentation of the Offering

Invitation to the Offering

One: We are invited to repay the grace we have received with our resources, time, abilities, and compassion from a deep and wide place of gratitude. These gifts are from prophecies, dreams, and hopes of the future from all you children. Be generous in your repaying, rephrasing, and repairing.

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