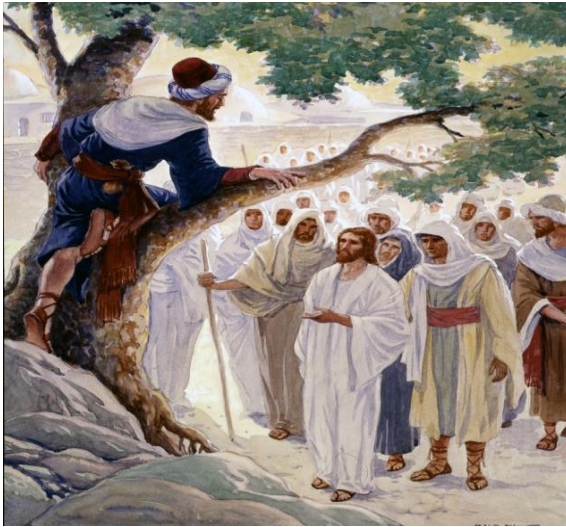


**November 3, 2019 – 10:00 am**  
**21st Sunday After Pentecost**



**ST. JOHN**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION**

10207 Lincoln Trail  
Fairview Heights, IL Telephone 397-6323  
e-mail: [stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com](mailto:stjohnuccfh@wisperhome.com)  
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Rev. Rosemary Captain

- CCLI LICENSE #11164431
- PLEASE RESPOND WITH WORDS IN BOLD PRINT
- COMMUNION LITURGY BY REV. THOM SCHUMAN
- SCRIPTURE TEXTS FROM THE COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE.
- \*PLEASE STAND IF COMFORTABLY ABLE.
- **NCH** IS THE NEW CENTURY HYMNAL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE BELLS CALL US TO WORSHIP  
AND THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY.

PRELUDE: **“Amazing Grace” Lani Smith**

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We gather in awe

**MANY: standing in the presence of the One  
who crafted the stars, the mountains, the seas.**

One: We gather in faith,

**Many: trusting that the One who has held little children  
holds our lives in the heart of God.**

One: We gather in need,

**ALL: seeking the One who longs for justice  
to grace each and every person in creation.**

\*OPENING HYMN: **NCH 312**

**“We Love Your Realm, O God”**

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION:

\*UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS:

**Surrounded by so many seductions, Patient God, we  
find it difficult to see you in our lives. Justice has a hard  
time surviving when there is so much persecution and  
affliction towards the little ones of the world. Our  
neighborhoods, our families, even our churches, are  
filled with strife and contention.**

**We cry for help, Listening God; forgive us! As we  
wait for your grace to fill our lives, may we open our**

**hearts to your hope and healing, always giving thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

*Silence for personal confession*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

Rich, poor; young, old; sinner, saint. We are all God's children, and God transforms each of us into the people we are meant to be.

**Broken, we are mended; separated from others, we are made one; longing to serve, we are sent forth. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

**\*GLORIA: NCH 759**

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three- in-One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**FIRST TESTAMENT READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4**

**Lay Liturgist**

**RESPONSIVE READ OF Psalm 119 Page 701**

**EPISTLE READING: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12**

**Lay Liturgist**

**\*GOSPEL READING: Luke 19:1-10**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**SERMON:**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: NCH 349 "I Come with Joy"**

**PASTORAL PRAYER:**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come; Your 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY: "Jesus Is Calling" Franklin Ritter**

**\*DOXOLOGY: NCH 780 (DIFFERENT WORDS)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done.  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**

**How easily we overlook the Zaccheus in our midst - the father short of money, the woman short of hope, the children short of food. As we offer our gifts, we pray you would open our hearts to recognize all around us, especially those looking for you in us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*HOLY COMMUNION: On the Screen**

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

**For what you have given us, God, thank you. For what you call us to, God, thank you. For filling us again, thank you! Help us to be, all that you know we can be. In Christ's name, in your love, we ask it. Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN: NCH 455 "I Am Yours, O Lord"**

**\*BENEDICTION AND COMMISSION:**

One: God gives us the vision,

**MANY: so let us go to see others as our sisters and brothers.**

One: Jesus gives us the eyes,

**MANY: so let us look in all the unexpected places to welcome all into our lives.**

One: The Spirit calls us to watch,

**MANY: so let us bear witness to the justice and hope coming into our shattered world. Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE: "For All the Saints" Lani Smith**

**GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE YOUR GOD.**

