

**St. John's United Church of Christ**  
**August 29, 2021**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

\*Please stand as you are able, in body or in Spirit.

Gathering Song (words on screen)

*"Find a Home Here"*

Unison Welcome

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here"

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

*"The peace of Christ be with you"*

*"And also with you"*

Prelude

*"Chant"* by Andrew York

Jeff Diller, classical guitar

\*Call to Worship

*from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*

Who may abide in the presence of God?

**Who may live on God's holy mountain?**

All those who walk blamelessly and do what is right.

**All those who speak truth from their heart.**

\*Hymn #58

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

Call to Confession

*from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*

With sincere hearts and minds, let us confess our sins before God and the world, trusting in God's mercy to forgive.

Prayer of Confession

*from Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship*

**Merciful God, whose care never ceases, we come to you as we are. We are tired from trying to do more than we can manage. We are anxious about problems which go unresolved. We are worried about events beyond our control. We do not easily let go. For mistakes we cannot redeem, for tasks left undone, for uncertain goals, we need your forgiveness and ask for your understanding. For recovery of strength and enthusiasm, we pray for your Spirit. For fullness of life, generous hearts, and contented souls, we pray to be followers of Christ Jesus. In your mercy, restore us and lead us. Amen.**

Kyrie

Hymnal Companion C-4

Words of Assurance

*from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*

Friends, do not despair: God renews us by the word of truth that we might become the first fruits of God's creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

\*Glory Be to the Father #704

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27

Children's Sermon

Roxanne Davenport



## Installation of the 2021-22 Consistory

### *Greeting*

Pastor: Grace, mercy, and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth.

**People: To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### *Introduction*

Pastor: Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the life of the world. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

**People: There are different ways of service, but the same God is served.**

Pastor: There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

**People: The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.**

Pastor: Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

**People: It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.**

Pastor: If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

**People: All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.**

### *Presentation*

Pastor: These people have been called by God, in accordance with the faith and order of this church, to serve among us as deacons, elders, and trustees. They have accepted their call and are before us in witness to their willingness to serve.

### *Covenant*

Pastor: Sisters and brothers in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with responsibility for particular service in the ministry of the church, whether gathered or scattered.

Pastor: Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

Consistory members: I am.

Pastor: Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

Consistory members: I do, relying on God's grace.

Pastor, addressing the congregation: Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our siblings in Christ who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm

our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

**\*People: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

***\*Congregational Unison Prayer***

**Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties that your church may prosper in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

***Declaration***

Pastor and Consistory President: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of St. John's of the United Church of Christ, we rejoice to announce: you are installed as deacons, elders, and trustees.

**People: Thanks be to God.**