

HYMN #454 "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian "

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Coming to You: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday in Easter Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ. .

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT "Alleluia, Alleluia"

**Christ is Risen, Alleluia, Christ is Risen, Alleluia
REPEAT**

RESPONSIVE WELCOME STATEMENT

At St. John's United Church of Christ, we are Living Outwardly & Valuing Everyone!

We live and work amid God's love!

In that spirit, we extend love to all who come into our midst, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, nationality, skin color, culture, differing abilities, age or political affiliations, to participate fully in all aspects of church.

Our ministry is to bring the Good News of Christ's love to all.

We work in God's name to tear down walls and build community,

to walk with each other through all of life's circumstances,

to provide for those in need,

to offer comfort to the hurting and the sick,
and to uplift the brokenhearted.

Where we fail, we ask for God's forgiveness.

May the Holy Spirit and our siblings continue to challenge us to do better.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 66)

Bless the Holy One, O peoples; let the sound of God's praise be heard.

For God who claims us, tests us, and sustains us comes and invites us to come to them.

Bless the Holy One, O peoples; let the sound of God's praise be heard.

Blessed be God, who has not rejected our prayer or removed their steadfast love from us.

Bless the Holy One, O peoples; let the sound of

God's praise be heard.

Come as we proclaim, witness, and testify to all God has done. Bless the Holy One!

HYMN #383 "Come, Let us Join"

INVOCATION

Holy and Present God, hear the sound of praise as we share this space and time gathered among you. May our hearts be opened and our minds engaged. Let the Spirit of Truth live in our songs of adoration, prayers of intercession, and words of pondering. In your name, glory and honor. Amen.

YOUNG & YOUNG AT HEART TIME

PASTORAL PRAYER~ THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #517 "I Need You every Hour"

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION & NEW LIFE

Gracious and Eternal One, we proclaim that you breathe life into us and know us fully. Yet, sometimes, you remain unknown to us. Sometimes we search for you and sometimes we fumble about for you. We rest in the assurance that when we seek you, we will find you. But, there are times when we refuse to seek, refuse to search, refuse to fumble. There are times when we rather keep you in compartments so that you will not fully impact our lives. There are moments when we close ourselves off from your revealing word, guiding hand, and nudging Spirit. Forgive us, O God, for not coming to you as you come to us—fully, persistently, and constantly—and give us strength to fumble and reach toward you in all seasons and at all times. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

WORDS OF GRACE

Beloved, you are known by God and received as you are—wonderfully and beautifully, but not perfectly made. Draw near to God who knows your limitations and loves you. Seek the Holy One who recognizes your faults and finds the good in you. Search for the Spirit who discovers you on wayward paths and redirects you. Receive the God who comes to you with peace, grace, mercy, and joy. Come to the One who will not reject or rebuff you but will renew and restore you in hope and love.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

SCRIPTURE John 14:15-21 NRSVUE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON *"Coming Soon!"*

MOMENT FOR MISSION~ Mother House Crisis Nursery

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, through whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING

Righteous God, receive these gifts we offer from our hearts and hands that they and we might be of service in your kingdom and for your glory. Amen.