

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

August 25, 2024

Psalm 84

"At Home with God"

We don't know how the original would have sounded, but modern translations usually divide Psalm 84 into five verses, which makes it perfect for praying during the week from Monday through Friday. For the next five days of the week, pick a phrase or two from each verse to read in the lectio divina style.

Lectio divina is an ancient method of prayer which invites the pray-er into a deeper attitude of listening and responding to God through scripture. To pray lectio divina, set aside a time of 25-30 minutes. The five steps of lectio divina are preparation (a time of silence), reading (reading a single word or phrase slowly and carefully 2-3 times), meditation (asking the reading to open its meaning to you today), praying (responding to what you have heard) and contemplation (welcoming the Word deeply into your heart and soul). With Psalm 84, you may wish to pray with these or other phrases.

Monday: How lovely is your dwelling place... OR My heart and my flesh sing for joy...

Tuesday: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest at your altars...OR Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise...

Wednesday: Happy are those whose strength is in you... OR They go from strength to strength, the God of gods will be seen in Zion...

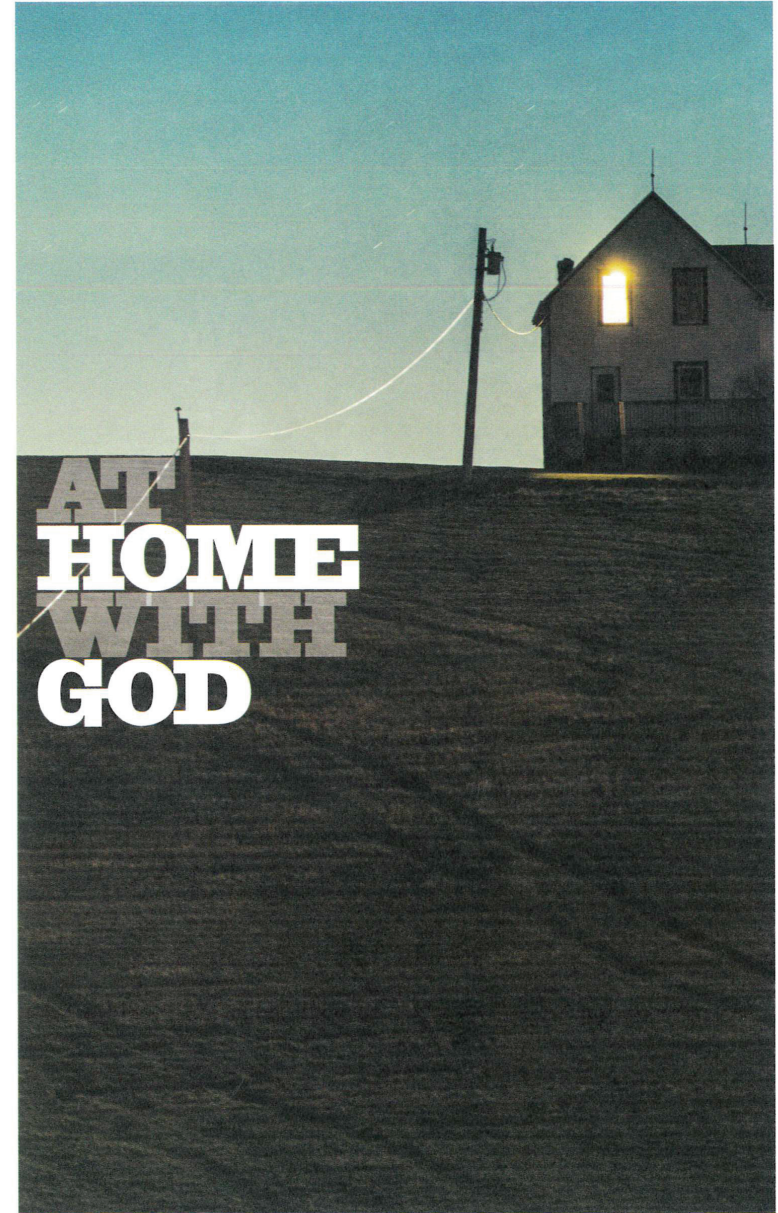
Thursday: Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer give ear, O God of Jacob!... OR O God; look on the face of your anointed...

Friday: No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly... OR Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you...



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE
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BUL0413





St. John's United Church of Christ
 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
 August 25, 2024



* Please stand if it is comfortable to do so. **Bold print** is everyone in unison

PRELUDE: CHURCH BELL
WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GREET ONE ANOTHER

***CHORAL INTROIT** *Surely the Presence of the Lord* # 263

***GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** (responsively)
 O God, you are our hiding place and shield.
Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.
 Uphold us according to your promises, that we may live.
We hope in your Word.

***OPENING HYMN** *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* (vs. 1 & 3) #613

***WE INVITE GOD TO WORSHIP** (unison)
Our worship would be worthless if you were not present, O Holy One. We thank you for being here among us. We ask that you make us constantly aware of your presence that we may be willing to follow as your Spirit leads. Give us humility to set aside our best-laid plans and follow you instead. This day is for you. Help us not to make it about us. We surrender to your leading as we worship. Amen.

***RESPONSE** *How Great Thou Art* (chorus) #33

SPECIAL MUSIC *My God is Powerful* VBS Participants
The Power Shuffle

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (children come forward during *Jesus Loves Me* and depart during *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)

OFFERING INVITATION**
 Let us give back to God with gratitude for all blessings received.

***RESPONSE** *From All That Dwells Below the Skies* #49

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

We are grateful for the privilege of investing our time, resources and even our very lives in that which matters to you, Most Holy One-- preaching the gospel, pursuing justice, brokering peace and caring for the hungry, sick and the forgotten. We joyfully share what we have, and we ask that you would take these offerings, multiply them and use them for your purposes. **In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

WE GATHER IN PRAYER

Silent Prayers – Pastoral Prayer-The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)
 Congregational Response: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (chorus) #86

SCRIPTURE:

Old Testament: Psalm 84
 New Testament: Ephesians 6:10-20
 L: This is the Word of God **P: Thanks be to God**

SPECIAL MUSIC *On Eagles Wings* Jonathan Clark

MESSAGE *The Gospel Armor*

***CLOSING HYMN** *O God of Every Nation* #680
 (sung to tune of *Lead On, O King Eternal* #632)

***BLESSING** (responsively)

Go out, and make known the mystery of the gospel. Keep alert and pray at all times. Draw strength from God's power and so stand firm against all that would corrupt you.

May God arm us with truth and righteousness; may Christ Jesus give us words of Spirit and life; and may the Holy Spirit draw us near to God's presence and bless us with honor and grace. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Go In Peace* #445

* **POSTLUDE**

**You may place your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary or online at myucc.org and clicking on the *contribute* button. Please prayerfully consider setting up regular online donations to continue our outreach into the community.



ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

- **Continuing Prayer Requests: Bruce Deckard, Gary Meyer, Don Osborne, Jr., Family of Carole Klein, Family of Franklyn Schroeder, Luis Prada (pastor Debbie's brother in law) . For the silent trials and struggles everyone is carrying, let's include all in our prayers.**
- Please keep Don Black Sr. in your prayers. He has been hospitalized with pneumonia. He does request no visitors at the time.

Addresses for Shut-ins and Others

Norma Meyer, Colonial Assisted Living, - Room 142, 1622 S Hart Street Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

Susie Milligan, Colonial Assisted Living, - Room 118, 1622 S Hart Street Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

Leona Conway, Willow Manor, - Room 73B, request correspondence be sent to 2009 Forbes Rd. Vincennes, IN

Marge Beamon, The Villages at Oak Ridge, -1694 Troy Rd. Washington, IN 47501

Home

Bruce Deckard

Gary Meyer

Michael Lankford

Gayle Huffer-

Ellen Riggs-



If you have a caregiving need such as a hospital stay, a visit or desire communion, please contact the church office, Janet Goodman (co-chair of Caregivers) or any caregiver listed below. We would appreciate your help and want to make sure everyone is blessed by St. John's when you need it! **St. John's UCC Caregivers**- Ed and Brenda Cummings, Cindy Deckard (co-chair), Connie and Dan Coulter, Peggy Meyer, Ray Pieper, Terry and Janet Goodman, Lonny Vieck, Larry and Betsy Marchino.

Vacation Bible School "The Power To Empower" was held during the month of August. The children who attended experimented with various powers of God through science. They created art, sang songs, ate theme-related snacks, played games, all the while learning about Bible stories and how God empowers our lives.

On September 8, a breakfast will be held **for all** to kickoff Rally day and our new Children's Sunday School year! During worship service the fourth graders will be presented with their very own Bible. There will also be dedication of the new Pray-Ground and **OPENING OF THE 150th ANNIVERSARY TIME CAPSULE!** Don't Miss out!

After worship we will have the CEREAL DROP. It's not too late to bring in a box or two of cereal and watch them fall like dominos on Rally Day! Make plans now to attend!

On September 15, the children will be singing one of their songs from VBS during worship service. All children are invited to sing along whether they attended VBS or not. We will practice during Children's Church on Sunday the 8th and do a run through the morning of. The link to the song "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" is also on the St. John's UCC Children and Family website on Facebook.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY in the parking lot needs books for all ages. Please bring your used books in good condition and share them with others. Take a book for yourself. Books from the library may be kept, returned or passed on.

BUS TRIP TO FOX THEATRE IN ST. LOUIS: Join us on Thursday, November 7th for a day trip to see The Neil Diamond Musical, A Beautiful Noise, based on his life and music. The cost is \$150 and includes round trip bus transportation from Robinson, IL, admission to show, dinner at Niemerg's on the way home. This trip is being organized by Sheri Stodghill and flyers are available in back of sanctuary. If we have 12+ folks going from Vincennes, the bus will pick us up in the Walmart parking lot at 8am .

CALLING ALL POSSIBLE CONFIRMANDS: Pastor Debbie Jo would like to briefly meet with any young person (Grade 7 and up) and their parents, following worship today to discuss the 2024-2025 Confirmation Class. If you are unable to attend but are interested in Confirmation, please contact Pastor immediately.

LABOR DAY worship is on September 1st. You are invited to wear your regular work clothes to church so we can recognize your occupation. Children are encouraged to dress as what they want to be when they grow up. Join in the fun as we celebrate!

175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION will take place in worship on September 15th. Music (including our 175 anthem by Trevor Murry) will be provided by the Choir, the children will sing as will Jonathan Clark. We will host the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, the UCC President and General Minister in our pulpit. A catered meal will follow with a message from Rev. Al Willhouse and others. It will be a great day of celebration and we hope everyone will join us!

ST. JOHN'S UCC STAFF and VOLUNTEERS

Pastor	Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins
Liturgist	Janet Goodman
Head Usher	Cheryl Meyer
Organist	DeEtta Welte
Music Director, Pianist	Becky Brockman
Children /Family Ministry Coordinator	Will Meyer
Nursery Attendant	Darcie Bahr
Projection	Jill Doggett
Sound	Lonny Vieck
Church Secretary	Angie Robinson
Church Board President	Jana Vieck
Greeters	VBS Children

Many thanks to the helpers and supporters of our 'power' filled VBS!

They are **Brenda Cummings** and **Betsy Marchino** for providing wonderful snacks, **Jerri Johanningsmeier** for the perfect window decor in the sanctuary, **Pastor Debbie Jo** for her messages to the children, **Vera Mattingly** for assisting with the motions to songs, **Eric Meyer** for his help on electrical matters, **Will Meyer** for leading games and posting announcements on Facebook, **Sarah Lowe** for her assistance, and **Jill Lopez**. Also, much appreciation to **Brian Fillingim** on sound for the Sunday sharing and to all the children who participated in VBS! We had fun!

**You may place your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary or online at myucc.org and clicking on the *contribute* button. Please prayerfully consider setting up regular online donations to continue our outreach into the community.



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



Virtual Worship Service is still available on the church website, myucc.org. Worship Services are also "Live Streamed" on the Church's FACEBOOK page



THIS WEEK in the Life of St. John's

SUNDAY, August 25

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am
Vacation Bible School 9:15-11:30 am
Worship 10:30 am VBS Recognition
Special Music Jonathan Clark
Children's Church

MONDAY, August 26

BABE Store 12-5:30 pm
Friends 5-6:15 pm

WEDNESDAY, August 28

Laundry Love 6-8
Choir 7pm

THURSDAY, August 29

Dinner & Conversation el Coral 6pm

LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAY, September 1

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am Choir Resumes Singing
Children's Church

MONDAY, September 2

Labor Day Office Closed
Evangelism & Membership 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, September 4

Choir 7pm

THURSDAY, September 5

Dinner & Conversation Old Chicago 6pm

FRIDAY, September 6

Phoebe's Mission 4:30-6 pm