

ELEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

August 4, 2024

John 6:24-35

"Bread of Life"

A Communion litany based on John 6:24-35

One voice: In the beginning, the Holy Three danced in the chaos just before creation. Out of their dance was formed All-That-Is, and they looked at it and blessed it, calling it very, very good.

Many voices: One of the parts of that creation was humanity. That's all of us! Created in God's image, we sometimes believed that we, alone, were All-That-Is, and our arrogance drove us from the beauty and peace that The Holy Three wished for us.

One voice: Many voices called throughout time, for humanity to return to our place in All-That-Is. But we did not always listen. When the time was right, one part of the Holy Three, that part called Christ Jesus, came to speak so we could hear.

Many voices: Jesus said, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. And the people replied, Teacher, give us this bread always.

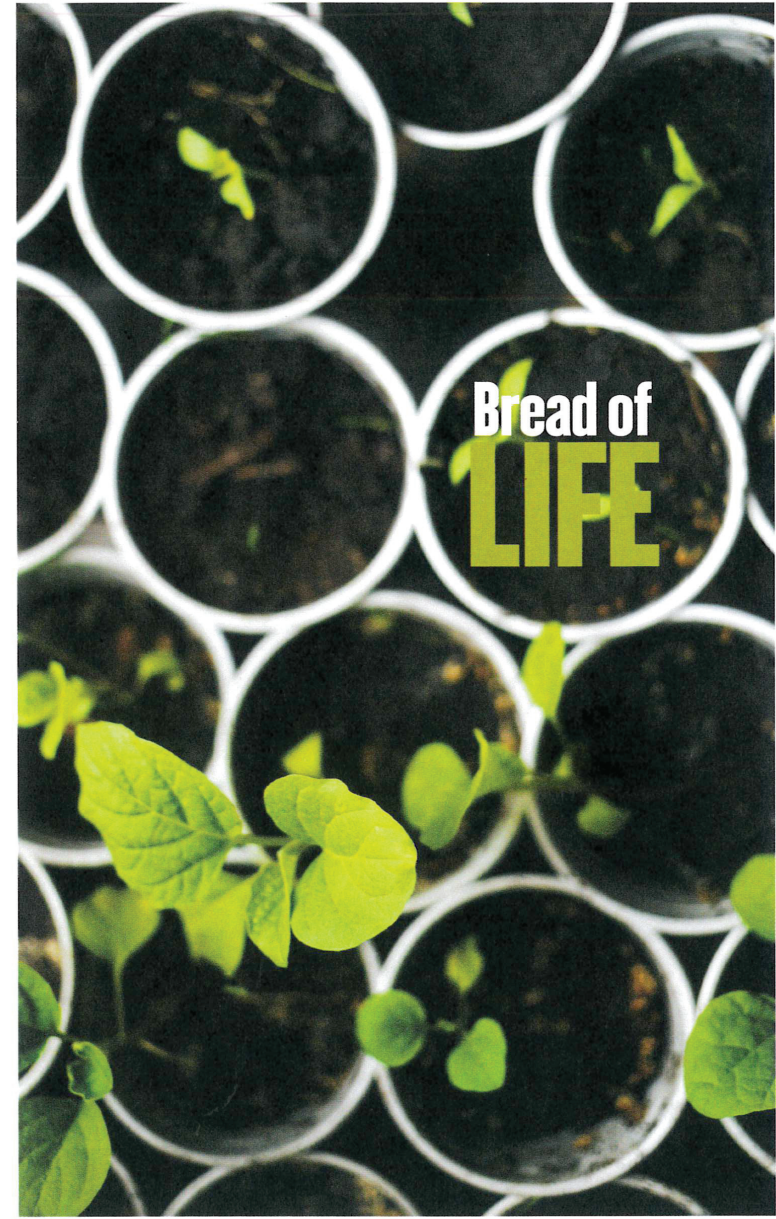
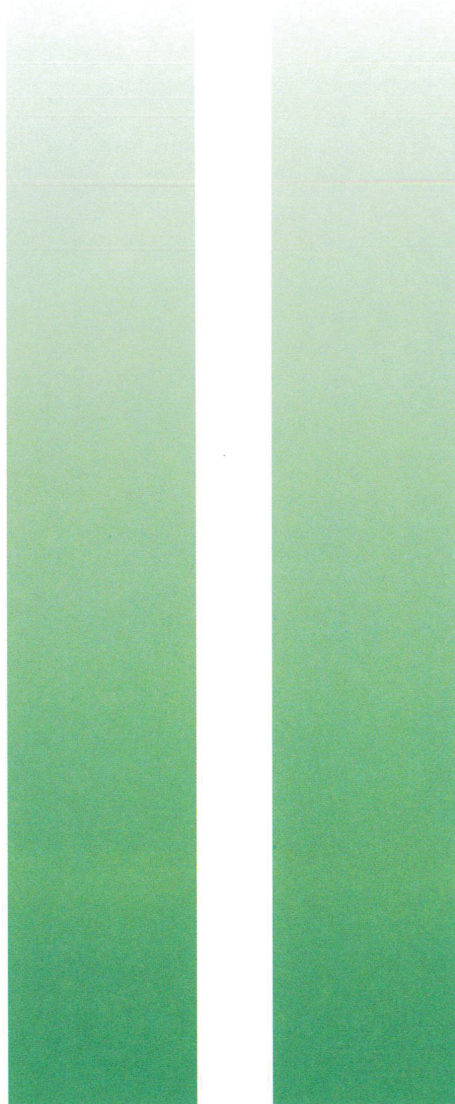
One voice: And so, on the night before Jesus was killed by those who were threatened by his message of love and care for All-That-Is, he gathered with his closest friends and chosen family, and he gave them bread, saying "This is my body, the living bread that gives life to the world." After they ate, he passed them a cup and said "This is the cup of new life, that you might believe in the one whom the Holy Three has sent." Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Many voices: And so they ate and drank. And so we eat and drink and remember and rejoice.

One voice: Let us pray. Brother Jesus, we thank you that you have given us the bread that is your body, the cup that is the source of life. We eat and drink today in the strong name of the Holy Three - Creator, the Christ and the Redeemer. Amen.



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE
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St. John's United Church of Christ
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
 August 4, 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)

Let all who hunger for God come to God's holy space!

Blessed are those whose desire is for the Lord; let us lift our hearts and voices in thanksgiving.

Let all who thirst for God enter the temple of the Lord.

Blessed are those who worship in spirit and in truth. Let us worship God with prayer and praise!

***OPENING HYMN** *We Come as Guests Invited* #386
 (Sung to tune of The Church's One Foundation #272)

***WE INVITE GOD TO WORSHIP** (unison)

Give me daily bread, dear Lord, I pray. I am so much in need of bread to feed all the hungry parts of me. Keep me aware, please, that food for mind and feeling and spirit is as important as my body's bread. And give me love, and hope, and trust, and openness, too, on which to feed, on which to live. Come, be with us in our worship. Amen.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Fill the World with Love* Christina & Shawn Schlag

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Backpack Blessing

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 give you thanks, O God, for the gift of your Word and this sacrament. May we be sustained and strengthened from our worship in community here today, from having heard your Word proclaimed and from feasting on the bread of life. Use our time, gifts and talents to do your work in the world around us, 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 51: 1-12

New Testament: John 6:24-35

L: This is the Word of God P: **Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE *The Jesus Diet*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution; Consecration and Sharing of the Elements

Thanksgiving Prayer (unison)

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *One Bread, One Body* (vs. 1-2) #393

***BLESSING** (responsively)

We have gathered together as the body of Christ and have been fed, body and spirit, with the bread of life.

Encouraged, nourished and strengthened, let us share the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to God, Amen.

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

* **POSTLUDE**



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 Kelly (Willis), Alexander, and their family in your prayers. Karen Willis, the mother of Kelly, who recently passed . If you would like to send cards, Kelly and Jake's address is P.O. Box 256 Monroe City, IN 47557

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.

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

CEREAL DROP is coming on September 8th. Bring in a box or two of cereal and watch them fall like dominos on Rally Day!

BECOMING W.I.S.E.: We are looking for another two volunteers to come aboard our WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged) team before beginning the process. WISE promotes mental well-being and helps reduce the stigma related to mental health issues. If you are interested, please let Pastor Debbie Jo know.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION: Acting on a joint recommendation from the Christian Education and Membership & Evangelism Committees, the Board approved developing a PRAY-ground for our children in worship. Check out the upcoming newsletter for more details.

LET'S GET MESSY! We have six volunteers to serve as the Core Team for Messy Church and we will soon begin training. If you would like to help with the monthly Messy Church program, please let Pastor Debbie Jo know ASAP. We hope to launch this outreach ministry in October or November.

INDIANA-KENTUCKY CONFERENCE annual meeting will take place on August 23-24 at St. Mark's UCC in New Albany, IN. They will be celebrating the Conference's 60th Anniversary. We need 2 delegates to attend and represent us at this meeting. Let the church office know if you would like to take part.

COMMUNION AT ST. JOHN'S UCC is open to EVERYONE, no matter their age, church affiliation or non-affiliation, Confirmed or not. If you belong to Christ you are welcome at the table. It is God's table, not ours. No one should be denied God's grace through the sacrament.

ST. JOHN'S UCC STAFF and VOLUNTEERS

Pastor	Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins
Liturgist	Terry 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	Jonathan Lange
Church Secretary	Angie Robinson
Church Board President	Jana Vieck
Greeters	VBS Children

Church Board Members

Jana Vieck	President
Jake Alexander	Vice President
Betsy Marchino	Secretary
Ed Cummings	Treasurer
Hope Clausman	Board Member
Steve Cooper	Board Member
Jill Doggett	Board Member
Saundra Lange	Board Member
Krisi Mattingly	Board Member
Cheryl Meyer	Board Member
Mark Schutz	Board Member

Committee Chair's

Worship	Becky Brockman
Christian Education	Sarah Lowe
Outreach & Benevolence	Larry Marchino
Evangelism & Membership	Janet Daniels
Church Facilities	Marvin Covey
Wilhelm Parsonage	Sandee Covey
Preschool	April Brown
Technology	Brian Fillingim
Memorial	Sarah Lowe
Investment/Finance	Ed Cummings
Personnel	Jake Alexander



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 4

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am
 Vacation Bible School 9:15-11:30 am
 Worship 10:30 am Communion/ Blessing of Backpacks
 Special Music Christina and Shawn Schlag

Children's Church

MONDAY, August 5

BABE Store 12-5:30 pm
 Friends 5-6:15 pm
 Evangelism & Membership 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, August 7

Preschool Open House
 Caterpillar 6-7 pm
 Butterflies 7-8 pm

THURSDAY, August 8

Technology 10am
 Dinner & Conversation Café Moonlight 6pm

LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAY, August 11

Adult Sunday School 9:15 am
 Vacation Bible School 9:15-11:30 am
 Fellowship 10 am
 Worship 10:30 am

Special Music Ladies Group

Children's Church

MONDAY, August 12

BABE Store 12-5:30 pm
 Friends 5-6:15 pm
 Outreach & Mission 6:30 pm
 Preschool Butterflies Resume Class

TUESDAY, August 13

Preschool Caterpillars Resume Class

WEDNESDAY, August 14

Choir Resumes 7pm

THURSDAY, August 15

Pastor out of Office
 Dinner & Conversation Procopio's 6pm