

## Serving Us Today

**Disciples:** All Members

**Organist:** Ginny Beamish

**Minister:** Don Crist

**Altar Decoration:** Becky Pierce

**Liturgist:** Sarah Wittman

**Head Usher:** Mike Beamish

**Choir Director:** Becky Pierce

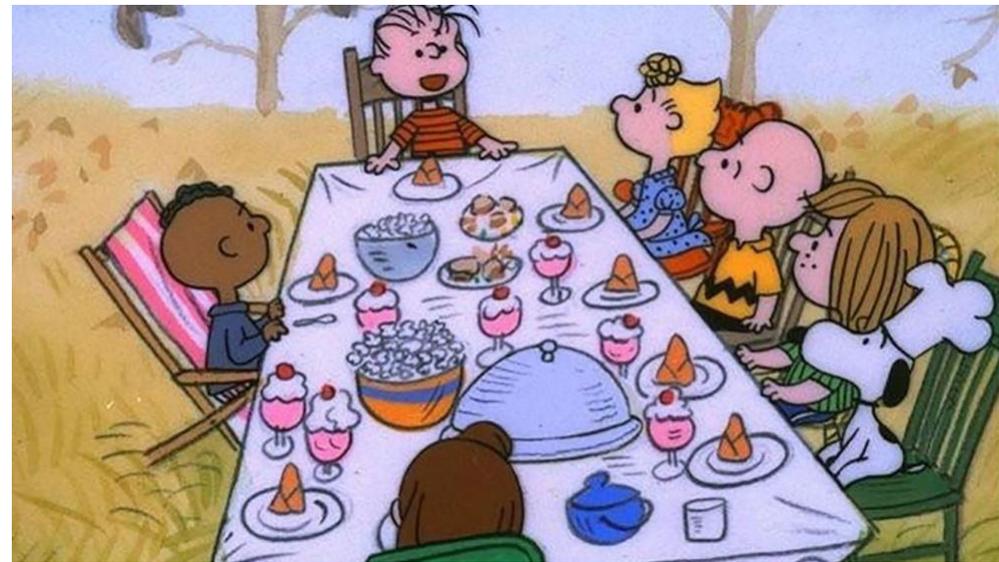
### Special Music

Today we welcome Emily Williams and her flute to St. John's. Emily is a junior at Troy High School and is a member of the State-of-Ohio-Superior-Rated THS Marching Band. She also competed on the THS Tennis Team this fall. Emily is the youngest of three sisters and has a white Maltese dog named Piper. Thank you, Emily for sharing your musical talent with us today.



**Wi-Fi Network: Welcome**  
**Passcode: hereiamlord**

**God is Still Speaking,**



**November 6, 2022**

**“Good Grief!”**

**St. John's United Church of Christ**

**130 S Walnut St**

**Troy, OH 45373**

**(937) 335-2028**

**Pastor Don Crist**

## INTROIT

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Liturgist)

A friendly welcome to all! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here.

### BELLS TO WELCOME THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

**PRELUDE** "Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott" Johann Rinck

**OPENING WORDS** (Liturgist) So you have grief now, but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one is going to take your joy away from you. John 16:21

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Liturgist: Isaiah: surprised by the Holy One in the Temple— A vision, a call, a response:*

**People: Here I am: Send me!**

*Liturgist: Paul: surprised by the Spirit at his hateful work— An interruption, a challenge, a response:*

**People: I received from the Lord the word of grace I now proclaim!**

*Liturgist: Let us worship the One whose call surprises and challenges us.*

### \* PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (In Unison)

**We take courage, O God, for your Spirit abides with us and we rejoice in your treasure that enriches the community inside and outside these walls in word and song, prayer and story, and the community of those who live around us and are blessed by this church, and those who will be blessed by them, and those who are always blessed by an expanding circle of love. Amen.**



Today, Sunday, November 6th	9:30am 10:30am	Sunday School Worship
Wednesday, November 9th	10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm 6:00pm	History Team Women's Fellowship Vision Choir
Thursday, November 10th	10:00am	Twisted Stitches

## Shiny Red Apple

by Kaji Douša | published on Nov 4, 2022

“For each tree is known by its own fruit.” – Luke 6:44 (NRSV)

You talk to people from just about anywhere other than here, and here’s what they will tell you about us in the U.S.: we don’t know how to pick fruit.

And it’s true. Everyone everywhere else has a very different set of fruit-picking methodology. Apparently, we pick our fruit by manhandling it. This is not effective. (And yes, I’m just as guilty as the rest of us.) We employ the wrong senses to discern what good fruit is.

What happens when we eat bad fruit? It messes up our insides. It makes us sick. It can even kill us.

Bad fruit, to Jesus, is spiritual poison.

But there are those who peddle us with bad fruit all the time. Just listen to a political ad in a hotly contested place. The airwaves are rife with toxic fruit, poisoned apples polished to a high gloss.

Don’t pick your poison. Choose life. Choose love. Good fruit is love.

How do you bear good fruit?

You love. You love first. You love powerfully. You love before you do anything else.

### Prayer

*May I be known for my love, O God. Thank you for your rapturous fruit. Amen.*

**\*HYMN:#25** “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (Red Hymnal)

**SCRIPTURE READING** (Liturgist) Hagai 1:15b-2:9

**A TIME FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES:** Ginny will be leading us all in the singing of some children’s songs. Children age 5 and under are invited to gather together in the Sunday School area at the conclusion of this time.

**MORNING PRAYER**

Don Crist

**THE LORD’S PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy 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.**

**SILENT PREPARATION FOR LISTENING**

We invite you to use these few moments of silence to welcome the Inner Teacher to speak to you as Don shares the morning message.

**SERMON**

“Good Grief!”

Don Crist

**OFFERTORY INVITATION** (Liturgist)

God, you call us to give as we have received. You call us to respond to your grace. Let our generosity express our gratitude for your goodness in our lives.

**OFFERTORY**

“Vaniation III”

Don Freundenburg

**\*DOXOLOGY: (In Unison)**

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

**\*DEDICATION PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**We take courage, O God, for your Spirit abides with us and we rejoice to bring our treasure to meet yours enriching the community inside this familiar place, and the community of those who live around us and may be blessed by our gifts and share your love as our hearts expand. Amen.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "Remember Me" w/Emily Williams, flute  
Adams/Andres

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION FOR CHILDREN:**

If there are children in worship this morning, we invite them to come to the front for a few moments with Pastor Don. It is important that children know that they, too, are welcome at Christ's communion table.

**Pastor:** God calls us, community of saints, beloved of God. We are invited to come and gather at the table of love and liberation, to feast on the dreams of God, to be nourished by but a taste of what God desires to do among us.

**Liturgist:** *God calls us from institutional halls of power, from shelters and the streets; God calls us from classrooms and pulpits, bars and prison cells.*

**Remember our homebound in your thoughts and prayers. Cards are welcome:**

**Barb Bartel:** 4675 Orbison Rd., Troy, OH. 45373

**Beulah Bowers:** 1220 N. Dorset, Troy, OH 45373

**Carletta Gritzmaker:** 2896 West Main Street, Troy, OH 45373

**Joan Meredith:** Lakeview Wing #213, 1567 Garbry Road, Piqua, OH 45356

**Janet Walpole:** c/o The Lindley Inn, 9000 Hocking Hills Dr, Room#144, The Plains, OH 45780

**Please note: Updates and/or amendments to the prayer list are appreciated. Typically, prayer requests will be removed after 4 weeks. If you or a loved one needs to remain on the list, please contact Betty Schaffner at 937-335-6713 or Joyce Reives at 937-477-8268. Thank you.**



## **PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Pam, niece of Joyce Heffelfinger:** Please keep Pam in your prayers as she's very ill and hospitalized.

**Logan Heath:** Prayers have been asked for this student at Fairlawn High School. He was in an auto accident and is paralyzed. Please pray for him and his family.

**Dot Thompson:** Please pray for Earl Reives' sister who continues with health struggles. She's waiting on a prosthetic arm which should improve her quality of life. In the meantime, a cancerous spot on her intestine was detected and she is working with doctors on a treatment plan.

**Wayne Cunningham:** Please pray for Stephanie Strobe's father who continues to battle bone and liver cancer. He is currently in treatment now with two more rounds of chemo to go.

**Brent Adkins:** Brent is participating in both cardiac and pulmonary rehab. Meds are still be tweaked a bit. He's continuing to gain strength and stamina. All in all, his progress has been amazing. Please continue to pray for his progress.

**Em Finney:** Ginny's sister, Em, has been on our prayer list for a very long time and needs our prayers now more than ever as her illness progresses, and her health deteriorates.

**Michael Ham:** Despite his life-long health issues, Michael has accomplished a great deal in his life and is very active in the Troy community. As his health issues mount, Michael could certainly use all the prayers that we at St. John's can offer.

**Joe Valentine:** Please pray for Barb Bartel's son, Joe, as he continues to struggle with family issues.

**Erika, Logan and Brianna Wilson:** Please pray for Sharon's grandchildren that they may know the love, peace and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Pastor:** God calls us as we are, from wherever we are, to come and be in solidarity with Christ, who lives and loves on the margins.

**Liturgist:** *God whispers "come" and live abundantly, turning from all that claims blessings flow from money, power, or control.*

**Pastor:** Come, and love relentlessly; following Christ on paths of uncertainty, taking risks for one another, calling down unjust power from its throne and lifting up the lowly, the impoverished, the burdened.

**Liturgist:** *To answer the call of Christ is to find ourselves no matter our social location, choosing to align ourselves with the causes of the marginalized, the oppressed, the outcast, and the isolated, with the faith that together, we might en flesh new possibilities of healing, of connection, of freedom from all that destroys.*

**Pastor:** When these are the desires of our hearts, we open ourselves to God.

**Liturgist:** *Blessed are those, Jesus said, who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*

**Pastor:** And so let us come to the table, expectant, eager, open to tasting the rich blessings of heaven born from unexpected places, and people, and experiences.

**Liturgist:** *In the meal, we remember the life, death, and resurrection of the One who still takes on flesh among us today.*



Pastor: On the night he would be arrested, Jesus gathered his friends and companions. In the midst of a tense and dangerous time, they found each other at table, connecting over the story of God-enfleshed among them. And as they did so, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread and shared it with his disciples saying, “Take, eat; this is my body which is given to you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he also took the cup, gave thanks to God, and shared it with his disciples, saying, “Drink from this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

**People: And so we pray, Come Holy Spirit, Breath of God, Renewer of life, settle on these gifts and all who gather here, that we might be transformed in our remembrance of your radical love, your eternal embrace, and your grace that makes all things new. For the sake of our shared lives, the life of this land on which we live, and the lives of those yet to come, nourish us and renew our hope that soon Christ may rise again among us.**

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** Pastor Don

**\*HYMN:#76** “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” (Black Hymnal)

**BENEDICTION** Don Crist

**POSTLUDE** “The Abundant Life” Garrett Parker

*(All hymns used by permission, CCLI License # 11076943)*

#### **Adult Sunday School**

Adult Sunday School will be at 9:30am next Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> in the café. Next week’s topic will be “*Reinventing Thanksgiving – Being Together and Celebrating the Memories*” with Mike Beamish leading.

#### **Women’s Fellowship**

On Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, Women’s Fellowship will be meeting at 11:15am to go to the Do Good Restaurant. There is a sign up in the narthex, please RSVP by October 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Poinsettias**

The Ministry and Worship Committee invites you to be part of this year’s Advent/Christmas Poinsettia Display. Please consider a donation of \$10 (or more) in the special Poinsettia Envelopes you will find in the narthex. You may also designate your gift on the fourth line of your regular giving envelope. Please indicate in whose memory or in whose honor you are making the gift.

Mike Wilson Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner  
with your St. John’s Family

Sunday, November 13, 2022  
right after worship

Just like your own family Thanksgiving,  
everyone will bring a dish to share.  
Table service and beverages will be provided.

Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex for attendance and  
donation intentions.

