

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

Counters: Mike Beamish &
John Gibbons



September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:30a Worship	28	29	30 10a History Team 10a Membership & Outreach	31	1	2
3 9:30a Worship	4 Office Closed	5	6 10a History Team 6p Choir Rehearsal	7	8	9
10 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	11 2p Trustees	12	13 10a History Team 1p Women's Fellowship 6p Choir Rehearsal	14	15	16
17 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	18	19	20 10a History Team 12p Council 6p Choir Rehearsal	21	22	23 3p Annual Church Picnic – Troy Community Park
24 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	25	26	27 10a History Team 6p Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30



September 3, 2023

“Who Am I?”

Happy Birthday!



*Madelyn Reed – 9/8 Spero Mengos – 9/7 Joyce Heffelfinger – 9/12
Matt Pierce – 9/14 Joan Meredith – 9/15 Traci Kropp – 9/19
Barb Gibbons – 9/21 Ruth Simpson – 9/27*

St. John's United Church of Christ

130 S Walnut St

Troy, OH 45373

(937) 335-2028

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 "Sunshine and Joy Medley"

Mark Hayes

***OPENING WORDS** Give praise to the Lord, sing to Him, sing praise to Him; Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those who see the Lord rejoice. from Psalm 105

***SONG OF THE MORNING** "How Great Thou Art" (Insert)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Gather before God, our rock and refuge. Come together to listen for the voice of our Creator.

People: The Word of God shakes the foundation of the earth. We expect to be changed by God's message to us.

Liturgist: This is God's holy day, a time to lay aside distracting interests. How will we honor God in word and deed?

People: We will delight in the Word and works of our God. We will join together in praise and good works.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (In Unison)

We are known by you, gracious God, better than we know ourselves. You have given us life and you have renewed our spirits. You are our hope and our trust. Touch us here, for you are far beyond our reach. Dwell with us here to lift our aspirations and inspire confidence among us. Amen.

Annual Church Picnic

St. John's Annual Church Picnic will be held at Troy Community Park on September 23 at 3:00pm. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex. The cornhole tournament begins earlier at 2:30pm. If you want to play, find a partner and sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. St. John's will provide tableware, chicken, chips and water. Please bring a covered dish to share. You may also want to bring lawn chairs. We will eat at 4:00pm followed by Bingo. Please bring new or gently used items to be used as Bingo prizes. come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon with our church family and friends.

Church World Service

For the month of September, St. John's will be collecting donations to provide blankets to people for comfort in times of crisis. Help our neighbors around the world recover from disasters and get a fresh start. \$50 can provide five warm blankets for a family left homeless by a tornado or other disaster. Special envelopes are available in the Narthex or you can make a notation on your regular envelopes for CWS blankets.

Worship Time Change

Our worship time will go back to 10:30am beginning next Sunday, September 10th with Adult Sunday School back and starting at 9:30am in the café.

Attendance and Giving

Total Attendance last week 8/27/23 = 38

Week of 8/27/23	Month of August	Monthly Budget
\$248.00	\$5,342.41	\$10,129.17

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Dan & Kate Alexander: Congratulations to the Alexanders! They welcomed their son William Mideli into the world on August 27th. St. John's is supporting them with meals.

Cheryl Braun: Joyce Swank's sister in law passed away. Please pray for Joyce and her family as they grieve.

Wayne and Gretchen Cunningham: Please pray for Stephanie Stroepe's parents as they continue to battle multiple health issues.

Katie Gascho: Katie underwent surgery last Monday and is recovering. Members of St. John's are supporting the family with meals.

Em Finney: Ginny's sister, Em, has been on our prayer list for a very long time as she continues to battle her illness. Ginny reports that she is holding her own but seems to be getting weaker. Please continue to pray for Em.

Michael Ham: As Michael's health struggles continue, he can certainly use all the prayers that our congregation can offer. Ginny reports that Michael continues to weaken.

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.

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

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

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.

HYMNS OF CHOICE: Do you have a hymn that we haven't sung for a while? Do you have a favorite hymn? Today is your opportunity to "Name That Tune" and we'll sing a verse!

MORNING PRAYER

Pastor Don Crist

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 3:1-15

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

"Who Am I?"

OFFERTORY INVITATION (Liturgist)

Our gifts go where we cannot go. They witness to people we will never meet. They praise God who has provided for us every day of our lives. Let us give thanks through our offerings.

OFFERTORY

"Andante"

W.A. Mozart

***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)**

O God, we cannot forget all your benefits. Accept our offerings as expressions of praise and acts of true worship. We pour out our thanks for all you have given us and for all you do for us. Use us and our gifts to bring the changes for good that you intend for our world. Amen.

THE 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.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #438 "It Is Well With My Soul"

(Black Hymnal)

Pastor: Let us gather around the table with the offering of bread and drink upon it and the promise of the Living Christ among us. This is the welcome table of God where all who seek to be at peace with their neighbor and all who seek the mercy of God in Christ are embraced. Come, for we are invited in to this holy mystery. Come.

All: We are ready!

Liturgist: Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who believe in me shall never be thirsty.

All: We are hungry and thirsty. O Lamb of God, we come!

Pastor: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus offered the bread in thanksgiving and said...

All: "Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

[The bread is distributed and we will eat together.]

Liturgist: In the same way, and by the same authority, Jesus offered the cup in thanksgiving and said,

All: "Take, drink. This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me."

[The juice is distributed and we will drink together.]

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit. Come. Open our eyes to the mystery of Christ's presence in these ordinary things in these our ordinary lives. May they be for us the very essence of the living Christ in our midst. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready!

CLOSING HYMN: #393 "Blessed Be The Tie That Binds"

(Black Hymnal)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Gavotte"

G.F. Handel

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Today's hymns were chosen by members of the congregation!

God is Still Speaking,