



THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

at
*St. John's United Methodist Church
Rock Hill, South Carolina*



THE SILENT MEDITATION

"I believe that we learn by practice. Whether it means to learn to dance by practicing dancing or to learn to live by practicing living, the principles are the same. In each, it is the performance of a dedicated precise set of acts, physical or intellectual, from which comes shape of achievement, a sense of one's being, a satisfaction of spirit. One becomes, in some area, an athlete of God. Practice means to perform, over and over again in the face of all obstacles, some act of vision, of faith, of desire. Practice is a means of inviting the perfection desired."

~ Martha Graham

The Worship of God

4 October 2020 at Eleven o'clock in the morning

THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

THE GREETING AND WELCOME

Sarah D. Crockford, Director of Children's Ministries

THE INVOCATION

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY

"As the Grains of Wheat"

*Dr. Timothy D. Belflowers, organ
setting by Edwin T. Childs*

†THE CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

Rev. Ryan L. Powell, Associate Pastor

Leader: *Break open our hearts this morning
to hear your word, O God.*

People: Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!

Leader: *Come and let us worship with great joy!*

People: Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!

Leader: *God is about to do something new in our lives!*

People: Let God's will become strong in our lives!

ALL: Amen!

~ continued on next page ~

†THE OPENING HYMN

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Hymnal, No. 158

1. Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throng rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!
2. Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!
3. Praise yet the Lord again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FROM CORINTHIANS AND COLOSSIANS

Hymnal, No. 888

Leader: *This is the good news
which we have received,
in which we stand,
and by which we are saved:*

ALL: Christ died for our sins,
was buried,
was raised on the third day,
and appeared first to the women,
then to Peter and the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe Jesus is the Christ,
the Anointed One of God,
the firstborn of all creation,
the firstborn from the dead,
in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God
was pleased to dwell
by the power of the Spirit.
Christ is the head of the body, the church,
and by the blood of the cross
reconciles all things to God. Amen.

(1 Corinthians 12: 1 – 6: Colossians 1: 15 –20)

†THE GLORIA PATRI

Hymnal, No. 71

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. Amen.

THE MOMENT FOR CHILDREN

Sarah D. Crockford

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR ELLISON FRANCES COMER

THE MUSICAL RESPONSE

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

THE MOMENT FOR CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Rev. Ryan L. Powell

THE MORNING PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 3:4b-14

Rev. David C. Surrent, *Senior Pastor*

THE SERMON

"Straining Forward, Gaining Growth"

THE OFFERING

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

Lauren Pace, *soprano*
arr. by Martin Green

~ To give electronically, please use the "*St. John's UMC – Rock Hill*" app OR text *stjohnsrhgive* to 77977 ~

The church leadership is deeply grateful for all financial giving in 2020.

Please remember that due to the virtual worship environment in which we find ourselves, giving has been slowed.

Please do your best to monitor your giving records and keep them as current as absolutely possible.

Please contact the business office should you need assistance in any way.

Again, thanks most greatly!

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†THE CLOSING HYMN

"Be Thou My Vision"

Hymnal, No. 451

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and though with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
3. Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

†THE BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Psalm XIX"

Dr. Belflowers, *organ*
by Benedetto Marcello



WELCOME GUESTS

As part of the living Body of Christ, we are called to love as Christ loved. We believe that we are to love and welcome all persons—and by that we mean *ALL*, because each and every person is created in the image of God, is of infinite worth and represents someone “for whom Christ died!” (Rom. 14:15) Therefore, we welcome persons of every race, socioeconomic status, family make-up, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, mental and physical ability and faith story. We invite *ALL* persons to join us on our journey together as we strive to practice loving acceptance of each person and engage in respectful discussion of our differences. To fully experience this welcome, we encourage visitors and new members to become involved in a small group within the Church, such as a Sunday School class, Bible study, ministry group, or volunteer opportunity. To learn more about the life and ministries of our church, visit www.stjohnsrh.org. **Please register your attendance with us by using the link provided during our Livestream of worship today!**

St. John's United Methodist Church

321 S. Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730 ~ 803-327-3113
www.stjohnsrh.org



Serving this Morning

Preacher	David C. Surrett
Liturgist:	Ryan L. Powell Sarah D. Crockford
Music	Timothy D. Belflowers Lauren Pace
Production Team	Val Kenney Hannah Lunny Evan Crockford

Our Ministry Staff

Reverend David C. Surrett, *Senior Minister*
Reverend Ryan L. Powell, *Associate Minister*
Dallas Ball, *Contemporary Worship Coordinator*
Dr. Timothy D. Belflowers, *Director of Music and Worship & Organist*
Sarah D. Crockford, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Angela Douglas, *Housekeeper*
Katie Goodwin, *Director of Weekday Ministries*
Lexie Grainger, *Nursery Coordinator*
Linda Greene, *Director of After-School Program*
Val Kenney, *Director of Youth & College Ministries*
Hannah Lunny, *Director of Communications*
David Powell, *Facilities Manager*

