



August 2, 2026
Season after Pentecost
The Reverend Jenny Anderson

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

**All who are able, standing*

ENTRANCE

GATHERING

After the gathering, a bell will ring to signal the beginning of worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Clap Your Hands

John Yarrington

* HYMN

185 When Morning Guilds the Skies

Laudes domini

When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries
may Jesus Christ be praised.
Alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair:
may Jesus Christ be praised.

The night becomes as day,
when from the heart we say,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
The pow'rs of darkness fear,
when this sweet chant they hear,
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let all the earth around
ring joyous with the sound:
May Jesus Christ be praised!
In heaven's eternal bliss
the loveliest strain is this:
May Jesus Christ be praised!

**Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this th'eternal song,
through all the ages long,
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

*** GREETING**

You have come from afar and waited long and wearied.
Let us sit side by side,
sharing the same bread drawn from the same source
to quiet the same hunger that makes us weak.

**Then standing together let us share the same spirit, the same thoughts
that once again draw us together in friendship and unity and peace.**

*** OPENING PRAYER**

God beyond all seeing and knowing,
we meet you in the night of change and crisis,
and wrestle with you in the darkness of doubt.
Give us the will and spirit
to live faithfully and love as we are loved. **Amen.**

*** ACT OF PRAISE**

70 Glory be to the Father

Meineke

**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.**

PRESENTATION OF THE BIBLES

Today is Promotion Sunday, a special tradition in the life of our church. On this day, our students moving to a new Sunday School classroom are welcomed into their next class, and we present Bibles to our rising Pre-K and 3rd grade students.

Our rising 6th graders have also moved into the Youth Room. They will receive their Bibles as part of the Confirmation journey.

At this time, I would like to invite Carol, Donna, Pam, and Angela to come forward to help present the Bibles. They faithfully serve as the teachers of our elementary Sunday School classes.

I would also like to recognize everyone who has taught or assisted with our children and youth this past year. If you have served in this ministry, please stand. We especially recognize Stephanie, Jeff and Rebeka, and all who have shared their time and gifts. Thank you for your dedication to nurturing the faith of the next generation.

We now invite these students to come forward to receive their Bibles. Please come when your name is called.

Entering 3rd Grade this year:

- Julia Anderson
- Marigold Love
- Montgomery Scritchfield

Receive the Word of God.
 Learn its stories and study its words.
 Its stories belong to us all,
 and its words speak to us all.
 They tell us who we are.
 They remind us that we belong to one another,
 for we are the people of God.

We rejoice in this step in your journey with God.
We pray that God will guide you, your family, and all of us
as you use this Holy Bible
in your home,
in your Sunday School classes,
and in our worship.
May we all continue to learn together
and grow in our love for God's Word.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Now we invite all of our children and youth to come forward for the Blessing of the Backpacks.
 As they make their way forward, if you are a teacher, administrator, school staff member, or retired educator, would you please stand so we may recognize and thank you for your ministry in education?

Today we gather around these backpacks, which will be carried by the children and youth before us.
 These backpacks will hold books to be read,
 assignments to be completed,
 and the tools they need for learning.
 Some days they will be so full that they seem almost too heavy to carry.
 Other days they will be light and nearly empty.
 Yet each day these backpacks represent the work, growth, and opportunities that lie before these students.
 We bring them before God as symbols of their learning and dedication.
 May this blessing remind each student that they are surrounded by the love, prayers, and encouragement of this congregation every school day.

Let us pray together.

Gracious God,
 we lift before you these students.
 Bless them as they learn, grow, discover, and explore.
 We also pray for the parents, teachers, administrators, school staff,
 and all who support them each day.
 Grant them wisdom, patience, compassion, and strength.
 May every student know they are deeply loved,
 every educator know their work is holy,
 and every family know they are supported by this congregation.
 As a church, help us encourage these children and youth
 as they grow in wisdom, faith, and love.
 In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open wide the window of our spirits, O Lord,
 and fill us full of light;
 open wide the door of our hearts,
 that we may receive and entertain thee
 with all our powers of adoration and love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 32:22-31

Old Testament p. 37

* HYMN

386 Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

Candler

All are invited to sing, seated: 1 all 2 trebles 3 men 4 all

1. Come, O thou Traveler unknown,
 whom still I hold, but cannot see!
 My company before is gone,
 and I am left alone with thee.
 With thee all night I mean to stay,
 and wrestle till the break of day;
 with thee all night I mean to stay,
 and wrestle till the break of day.

2. I need not tell thee who I am,
 my misery and sin declare;
 thyself hast called me by my name,
 look on thy hands and read it there.
 But who, I ask thee, who art thou?
 Tell me thy name, and tell me now.

But who, I ask thee, who art thou?
Tell me thy name, and tell me now.

3. Yield to me now, for I am weak,
but confident in self despair!
Speak to my heart, in blessing speak,
be conquered by my instant prayer.
Speak, or thou never hence shalt move,
and tell me if thy name is Love.
Speak, or thou never hence shalt move,
and tell me if thy name is Love.

4. 'Tis Love! 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me,
I hear thy whisper in my heart.
The morning breaks, the shadows flee,
pure, Universal Love thou art.
To me, to all, thy mercies move;
thy nature and thy name is Love.
To me, to all, thy mercies move;
thy nature and thy name is Love.

* GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 14:13-21

New Testament p. 19

SERMON

Five Loaves and Two Fishes

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Modern Affirmation

UMH p. 885

Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,
whose holy faith let us now declare:

We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.
We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance

of the truth of Christ,
 and find strength and help in time of need.
We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

INVITATION

UMH p. 12

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
 who earnestly repent of their sin
 and seek to live in peace with one another.
 Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Leader to people) Hear the good news:
 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
 that proves God's love toward us.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(People to leader) **In the name of Jesus Christ,**
you are forgiven.
(Leader and People) **Glory to God. Amen.**

* THE PEACE

OFFERING

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Holy Manna

William Moore, *The Sacred Harp*

Brethren, we have met to worship
 and adore the Lord our God;
 will you pray with all your power,
 while we try to preach the Word?
 All is vain unless the Spirit
 of the Holy One comes down;
 brethren, pray, and holy manna
 will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely,
 let us love each other too;
 let us love and pray for sinners,
 till our God makes all things new.
 Then He'll call us home to heaven,
 at His table we'll sit down;
 Christ will gird Himself, and serve us
 with sweet manna all around.

* DOXOLOGY

95 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old 100th

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

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH p. 18

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
 always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
 Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And so,

with your people on earth
 and all the company of heaven
 we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might
 heaven and earth are full of your glory**

Hosanna in the highest.**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.****Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ
 By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
 you gave birth to your church,
 delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
 and made with us a new covenant
 by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us
 he took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
 gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
 Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
 gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Drink from this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,
 poured out for you and for many
 for the forgiveness of sins.
 Do this, as often as you drink it,
 in remembrance of me.”

And so,
 in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 in union with Christ’s offering for us,
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered us here,
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.
 Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
 that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
 redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
 one with each other,
 and one in ministry to all the world,
 until Christ comes in final victory,
 and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
 all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father
 now and for ever.

Amen.

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

All are invited to receive the bread and cup.

Come forward at the direction of our ushers.

You will receive communion by intinction. Receive the bread and dip it in the juice.

*During the giving of the bread and cup, all are invited to sing "In Remembrance of Me"
found on the next page.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

* HYMN

614 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

For the Bread

**For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

**By this pledge that you do love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

**With our sainted ones in glory
seated at the heavenly board,
may the church that's waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.**

**In your service, Lord, defend us,
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world where you have sent us,
let your kingdom come, O Lord.**

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

* POSTLUDE

Hymn Prelude on *Holy Manna*

Wilbur Held

§ In Remembrance of Me



1. In re - mem-brance of me, eat this bread. ____ In re -
 (2. In re -) mem-brance of me, heal the sick. ____ In re -
 (3. In re -) mem-brance of me, search for truth. ____ In re -



mem-brance of me, drink this wine. ____ In re-mem-brance of
 mem-brance of me, feed the poor. ____ In re-mem-brance of
 mem-brance of me, al - ways love. ____ In re-mem-brance of

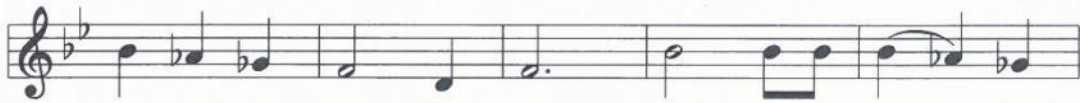
Third time to Coda ⊕



me, pray for the time when God's own will is
 me, o - pen the door and let your neigh - bors
 me, don't look a - bove, but in your



done. ____ 2. In re - in, let them in. ____ Take,



eat, and be com - fort - ed; drink and re - mem - ber,



too, ____ that this is my bod - y and pre - cious

D.S. al Coda



blood shed for you, ____ shed for you. ____ 3. In re -

⊕ CODA



heart, ____ look for God. ____



Do this in re - mem-brance of me. ____

WORDS: Ragan Courtney (Matt. 6:10; 1 Cor. 11:23-25)

MUSIC: Buryl Red

RED
Irregular

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Ministry of Worship

Preacher	Reverend Jenny Anderson
Liturgist	Rebekah Bryant
Lay Reader	Mark Fissel
Greeters	Joan Piercy, Paula Matson
Ushers	Charles Piercy, Warren Spooner
Acolyte	Annabelle Quattlebaum
Crucifer	Emily Scraper
Organist and Director of Music	Jamie Council Garvey
Choir	The St. John Choir
Cantor	Sawyer Branham
Pianist	Larry Millen
Clarinet	Corey Grant
Offering Counter	Nesbit Dasher
Worship Technicians	Donald Tilton, Adam Kuehl

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Weekly Stewardship	
2026 Budget	\$631,305
Weekly Giving	\$6,737
YTD Giving	\$248,938
YTD Other Income	\$54,553
YTD Expenses	\$364,660
Attendance 7/26	Sanctuary: 98 Lake: 35 Online: 43

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St. John United Methodist Church

St. John is a welcoming and affirming congregation.

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