

**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH**  
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY  
**WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND**  
**UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE**

**July 2, 2023**

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST // IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICE

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Liturgist: Jean Weller

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**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

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PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer  
Accompanist

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“If I Had a Hammer”

SJU original songbook

If I had a hammer  
I'd hammer in the morning  
I'd hammer in the evening  
All over this land  
I'd hammer out danger  
I'd hammer out a warning  
I'd hammer out love between  
My brothers and my sisters  
All over this land

If I had a bell  
I'd ring it in the morning  
I'd ring it in the evening  
All over this land  
I'd ring out danger  
I'd ring out a warning  
I'd ring out love between  
My brothers and my sisters  
All over this land

If I had a song  
I'd sing it in the morning  
I'd sing it in the evening  
All over this world  
I'd sing out danger  
I'd sing out a warning  
I'd sing out love between  
My brothers and my sisters  
All over this land

I got a hammer  
And I've got a bell  
And I've got a song to sing  
All over this land

It's the hammer of justice  
It's the bell of freedom  
It's the song about love between  
My brothers and my sisters  
All over this land

## CALL TO WORSHIP

~ Written by Joseph W. Daniels, Jr., *The Africana Worship Book Year A (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006)*, 68

Lord, just as you have welcomed us when we were strangers with no home, just as you have taken us in when others said, "No," we ourselves seek to welcome those who have come to worship and praise your holy name.

**We welcome you this morning in this place to sit down and be present with us. Let us worship God!**

**Amen.**

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

~ Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, *Discipleship Ministries, January 2023*

**Merciful God, we confess that, though we claim to love you, our lives do not always reflect that love. We offer hospitality out of obligation instead of love, out of care for our own well-being instead of others. We hesitate to welcome others out of fear of rejection instead of extending compassion as the fruit of your love for us. In our relationships, too often we choose expediency instead of integrity, believing the ends justify the means. Help us, we pray. Free us to live as your children who welcome, nurture, and love our neighbors as we learn to grow as disciples of Christ. Amen.**

*(silence is kept)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 10:40 – 42

## HYMN

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

GTG #203

***Refrain:***

*Jesu, Jesu*

*Fill us with your love*

*Show us how to serve*

*The neighbors we have from you*

Kneels at the feet of his friends

Silently washes their feet

Master who acts as a slave to them

***Refrain***

Neighbors are wealthy and poor

Varied in color and race

Neighbors are near us and far away

***Refrain***

These are the ones we should serve

These are the ones we should love

All these are neighbors to us and you

***Refrain***

Loving puts us on our knees

Willing to wash others' feet

This is the way we should live like you

***Refrain***

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH

Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan

MESSAGE

**“GROWING:  
QUENCHING THE THIRST”**

Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan

CALL TO GENEROSITY

Generous God, you have poured down on us all manner of gifts and blessings; our offerings to you seem small in comparison. The gospel reminds us that not even the smallest act of mercy and compassion – a cup of cold water – will go unnoticed by you. Give us the eyes to see those in need, the ears to hear those who cry for justice, and the hearts to comfort those hurting and grieving. If we all were to offer a cup of cold water, the world would be flooded with compassion. We ask this in Christ, our rock, and our redeemer. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to The Lord’s Table

The Holy One be with you.

**And also with you.**

Open your hearts to the One who is Love.

**We open our hearts to you, O God.**

Let us give thanks to God who takes risks for love.

**For the courage of the Holy that lives in us, we give thanks.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Holy Triune God, Creator, Son and Holy Spirit. From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is praised among all peoples.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with your people on earth and all the company of heaven who forever proclaim to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord,**

**God of power and might**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes**

**In the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

You are holy, Almighty One! Blessed are you, Jesus Christ! In the power of the Spirit you created all things, blessed them, and called them good. You created people, all people in your image and called them very good.

You called to yourself a people to make your mercy and truth known in all the world. We betrayed your calling;

**You were faithful.**

We wandered from the way;

**You called us to return, and led us home.**

And still we turned from your ways, abused your creatures, and made ourselves slaves to sin and death.

At the right time you came and dwelt among us, as one of us, bringing good news to the poor, healing the sick, raising the dead, sharing table with the unrighteous, loving everyone, and teaching the way that leads to life.

By your incarnation, life, suffering, execution and resurrection You gave birth to your church, delivered us from the bondage of sin and death and made a new covenant with us by water and the Spirit.

On the night of your betrayal, Lord Jesus, you took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to your disciples and said, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood."

Blessed Trinity, in remembrance of all you have done to save us, we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has come among us. Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen. Christ abides with us.**

**Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Spirit on us.

**Pour out your Spirit on us.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts.

**Pour out your Spirit on these gifts.**

Make these gifts the body and blood of Christ.

**Make us, through them, Christ's body alive in the world.**

### The Lord's Prayer

### Breaking the Bread and Giving the Bread and Cup

COMMUNION SONG

"This Is My Song"

(video; [CC])

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CLOSING SONG

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

*Refrain:*

*Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise*

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee

*Refrain*

Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee

*Refrain*

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold  
Take my intellect and use every power as thou shall choose

*Refrain*

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine  
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne

*Refrain*

## BENEDICTION

God keep you safe.  
May your thirst be quenched.  
May your hearts be blessed with knowing you are loved.  
And may you share that love with all who come your way.  
**Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer  
accompanist

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*Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible*

### **Matthew 10:40 – 42**

10:40 "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

10:41 Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous;

10:42 and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple -- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

