

St. Philip's United Church of Christ

10708 Lavinia Drive St. Louis, Missouri 63123 314-843-5100

www.stphilipsucc.com

August 13, 2023

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost



Pastor: Rev. Laura Mignerone Council President: Sandy Stevenson

Administrative Assistant: Carol O'Shea Youth Director: Andrea Tukin

Liturgist: Pam Henson

Music Director: Mike Orzel

*indicates that you may rise as comfortably able
(text in bold read in unison)

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS and PRAYER CONCERNS

* CALL TO WORSHIP - Worship Ways

God moves among us.

We welcome your presence, Lord, no matter by what means you arrive.
Reach out your hand and I shall always be with you.

**We reach for you, Jesus, and trust that you are present when we fear or
ache.**

Your presence, O Lord, calms the seas as it calms our hearts.

**May we rest assured that you are ever present with us, assuaging our
worries as you love our anxieties into softness.**

* OPENING HYMN: "Blessed Assurance" # 543 1-3

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born on his Spirit, washed in his blood.

(Refrain)

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above, echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

(Refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

(Refrain)

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION - Worship Ways (Together)

God of so many names, you command us to come to you, yet we are doubtful of our abilities to make the journey. We are so uncertain of our steps, yet we long to have the faith in ourselves that you have in us. Be with us and embolden us through faith to rise as we are called to walk with you and walk alongside those who need companionship. Show us how to be children of God who can set skepticism down and take up the mantle of faithful presence. AMEN.

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

RESPONSE: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight,

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. These are the descendants of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.

Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him. Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem.

And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said;

“tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.”

The man said, “They have gone away, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan.’” So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.”

But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.” Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him”—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the ornamented robe that he wore, and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. Then they sat down to eat, and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.

And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a

ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

HYMN: “O Jesus, I Have Promised” # 612 1,3,4

Oh Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me hear thee speaking, in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee;
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be;
and Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end,
O give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

SERMON: “Caught”
Rev. Laura Mignerone

ANTHEM: “Be Not Afraid”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silence

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Your 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.

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

* Doxology #46 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, the heavenly host:

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication - Worship Ways (Together)

Holy One, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in ways both big and small, in ways miraculous and mundane. Use our gifts to further your loving justice in our communities near and far. AMEN.

* CLOSING HYMN: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" # 431 1-3

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;
waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
in my love's baptismal river I have made you mine for ever
go, my children, with my blessing you are my own.

Go, my children, since forgiven, at peace and pure,
here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure;
here you heard my Son's dear story, here you touched him, saw his glory,
go, my children, sins forgiven at peace and pure.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
grown in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you;
go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

ST. PHILIP'S PARKING LOT IS GETTING A MAJOR FACELIFT!!

On Tuesday August 15 and Wednesday August 16 - weather permitting. It would be best to avoid church on those two days. If you need to come to church, please park on the front lawn - just follow the cones. Our ECC staff and families will be parking on the lawn for those two days also.

Any questions please contact Mike Shelton at 314-603-4478

ALOHA SUNDAY August 20, 2023

Get into the spirit of "Aloha" by wearing a Hawaiian shirt or any flowered or bright colored shirt to worship.

If you have a lei, wear that too! If not, we are happy to provide you with a lei. There will be a box of leis at church. We are asking you to choose a lei to wear, but not to return it to the box. Please take it home with you. We cannot recycle the leis at this time.

Not attending church services yet? We invite you to wear a Hawaiian shirt at home and be part of the spirit of Aloha!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

The St. Louis UCC churches are organizing an online auction to benefit Habitat For Humanity. The auction will be held in the fall so right now we are collecting the items that will be auctioned. Please consider donating:

- a gift certificate or item(s) from your business/employer
- tickets to sporting/concert/cultural events
- a gift certificate for your talent/skill, i.e. handyman, gardening, organizing, sewing, cooking/baking, etc.
- a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant/store
- use your imagination!

Please contact Terri Karcher with questions and donations:

314-842-8739

fourkarch@att.net

BOOK CLUB

We will meet on **Sunday, August 27** to discuss *Karolina's Twins*. Our next selection is '*All The Light We Cannot See*' by Anthony Doerr. This Pulitzer Prize winning novel is set in WW II France and has been described as a gorgeous tale of soaring imagination. The date for the discussion has not yet been set, but will probably be on September 24 or October 1.

Books are checked out from the library in kit form, so members do not need to locate copies on their own. We meet after church, share a potluck lunch, and always have a good time.

For more information contact Barbara Barnes (314 843-4157)
Consider joining us!

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| 13 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 14 | 15 Parking Lot Re-do | 16 Parking Lot Re-do | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 ALOHA Sunday 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School noon Book Club | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 September | 2 |
| 3 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 4 Labor Day | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:30 Worship in-person, Facebook 9:45 Sunday School | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |



**Our
Vision
Statement**

St. Philip's Vision Statement

We are called to the body of Jesus Christ, with:

Minds to study God's word,
Mouths to proclaim the Gospel,
Eyes to see the needs of others,
Arms to welcome all,

Hearts big enough to share God's love with all God's children.



Joyce Brand

Victoria Dawson

Bob Eillson

Grace Heady

Virginia Hladnick

Mary Ann Krewson

Marilyn Milne

Jeanette Monroe

Jered Nagle

Shirley Nottelmann

Paul Shrout

Lily Swanson

Paula Williams



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