

# St. John's United Church of Christ



February 17, 2021

Worship Leader: Rev. Michael Pope

## **GREETING**

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Bless the Lord who forgives us all our sins.

**P: God's mercy endures forever.**

## **INVOCATIONAL HYMN**

*"Take Time to Be Holy"*

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**ALL: Almighty, all-knowing God, you love your people and your creation. Tonight we have come to acknowledge the brokenness of this world and the brokenness in our relationships. Enable us to see fully all the ways that we separate our lives from you. Create in us clean hearts and renew a good and right spirit within us through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and always. Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Dot Janitch*

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 32:22-32

New Testament Reading

Luke 4:1-13

## **CELEBRATION OF THE WORD MADE FLESH**

### **SILENT PRAYER**

L: Let us now in silence reflect on the gospel message and make our confession and our vows of repentance and new life before the Lord ... (silent prayer and meditation)

**ALL: Amen.**

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL: Last Sunday we experienced such joy! We were on the mountaintop with Jesus, witnessing his conversation with Moses and Elijah. Now we have been cast into the darkness. And this darkness is deeper than night; it is the darkness of the unknown. Tonight we will hear words that will chill our spirits. We will receive the mark of consecration of the sacrifice and commitment we are about to make for the journey. Forgive us for our fears and hesitancy, Lord. Heal our spirits. Enable us to enter into this time of learning and testing with courage and trust. For we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: The night is dark, but there is a Light which has overcome the darkness. He is the Light of the World – he will illuminate your pathway. Place your trust in him. AMEN.

# THE RITUAL OF REPENTANCE AND CONFESSION

## PREPARATION OF THE PEOPLE

## THE BLESSING AND INVITATION

## THE ACT OF CONSECRATION

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

**ALL:** I rededicate my body and all its parts to the loving rule of Jesus Christ; I dedicate and consecrate my body to him in every way. I ask for the blood of Christ to cleanse my body and make it holy once more. Holy Spirit, come and fill your temple now; restore my body under the complete dominion of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**HYMN**                      *“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”*

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

**ALL:** 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

**SENDING FORTH HYMN**              *“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”*

### BENEDICTION

**L:** Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. Let the memory of your incomplete humanity awaken you to the wonders, joys, sorrows, and pain of life.

Let your consecration be your act of transformation; of awakening to the beauty and love of seizing the moment and living it to the fullest.

Let it be said of you that here in this little part of eternity that you lived fully, loved extravagantly and helped humanity evolve into all that God dreamed we can be! You are fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of the ONE who is, was, and ever more shall be Creator, Christ and Spirit.

**ALL: Amen.**

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