

Prelude "Suite in D Major" by Henry Purcell

Greeting and Announcements

* Call to Worship

L: We have gathered here this morning to worship God.

C: We have come seeking comfort, inspiration, community and insight.

L: We have come to open ourselves to the power of God's presence in our midst.

**C: We have come to offer up the seasons and the turnings in our lives,
and to ask God's help in our learning and our growing.**

* Hymn "Take My Life, God, Let It Be", BNCH #448

* Invocation

Gracious God, throughout the ages You transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of Your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim Your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our Healer and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, we bring You our hearts and minds as reasonable living gifts. Take us as we are, our motives are mixed; our thoughts, unclean; and our will, unfree. Help us to discover what we may become and guide us to the spiritual power we truly need. Hear now our personal petitions for Your grace. [PAUSE] Have mercy upon us and grant us Your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Song of Praise (tune: Red Hymnal #493)

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.

Scripture Reading James 2:1-10; Mark 7:24-37

Sermon "Faith in Jesus' Redemptive Power", Pastor Todd Fennell

Hymn "As We Gather at Your Table", BNCH #332

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory "Suite in F Major" by Henry Purcell

* Doxology (tune: BNCH #780)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ all creatures here below.
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore. One God, Triune, whom we adore.**

Dedication of Offering

Pastoral Prayer and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Invitation and Communion Prayer

L: Holy God, we praise and bless You for creation and the gift of life and all Your abiding love which brings us closer to You, the source of all blessing. We thank You for revealing Your will in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets. We thank You especially that in the fullness of time You sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death.

C: We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave You raised Christ with power to become sovereign in Your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather Your church by which Your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life. With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy Your holy name saying: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of Your glory, O God Most High.

Holy Communion

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, You have called Your people from the East and West, and North and South, to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank You for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to Your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant Church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

* Invitation

L: God offers adoption into the family of God.

C: We invite all here to be our sisters and brothers in spirit.

L: Jesus offers eternal life in heaven.

C: We invite all here to believe in Jesus and live forever.

L: God loves us and asks us to love one another.

C: We invite all here to share this love, as God requests.

* Hymn "I Sing the Praise of Love Almighty", BNCH #50

* Benediction

Postlude "Suite in C Major" by Henry Purcell

St. John United Church of Christ Riegelsville, PA

*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024 † 10:00 a.m.

Welcome to St. John U.C.C.
Riegelsville, PA † September 8, 2024

Today's **ALTAR FLOWERS** are sponsored
by **Bill and Barbara Corrigan** in memory of loved ones.

During the month of September, the **BENEVOLENT BASKET**
is collecting **pet food** for Common Sense for Animals,
a no-kill animal rescue shelter in Stewartsville, NJ.

For those who cannot attend our services in person,
please let them know our Sunday worship services are
LIVE-STREAMED ON FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE.

Facebook—<https://www.facebook.com/SJUCCRiegelsville>
YouTube—<https://tinyurl.com/StJohnWorshipService>

CHURCH CONTACTS

Pastor: Douglas Donigian, 610-393-0737, SJRpastor@gmail.com
Pastor: Joyce Donigian, 610-392-4611, SJRpastor@gmail.com
Organist/Pianist: Kyle Page, page.kyle@gmail.com
Flower Sponsors: Barbara Corrigan, 908-995-4879, becaruba@ptd.net
Social Hall Usage: Sharon Rinaldi, 610-749-2198
Consistory President: Tony Rinaldi, 610-360-9857

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