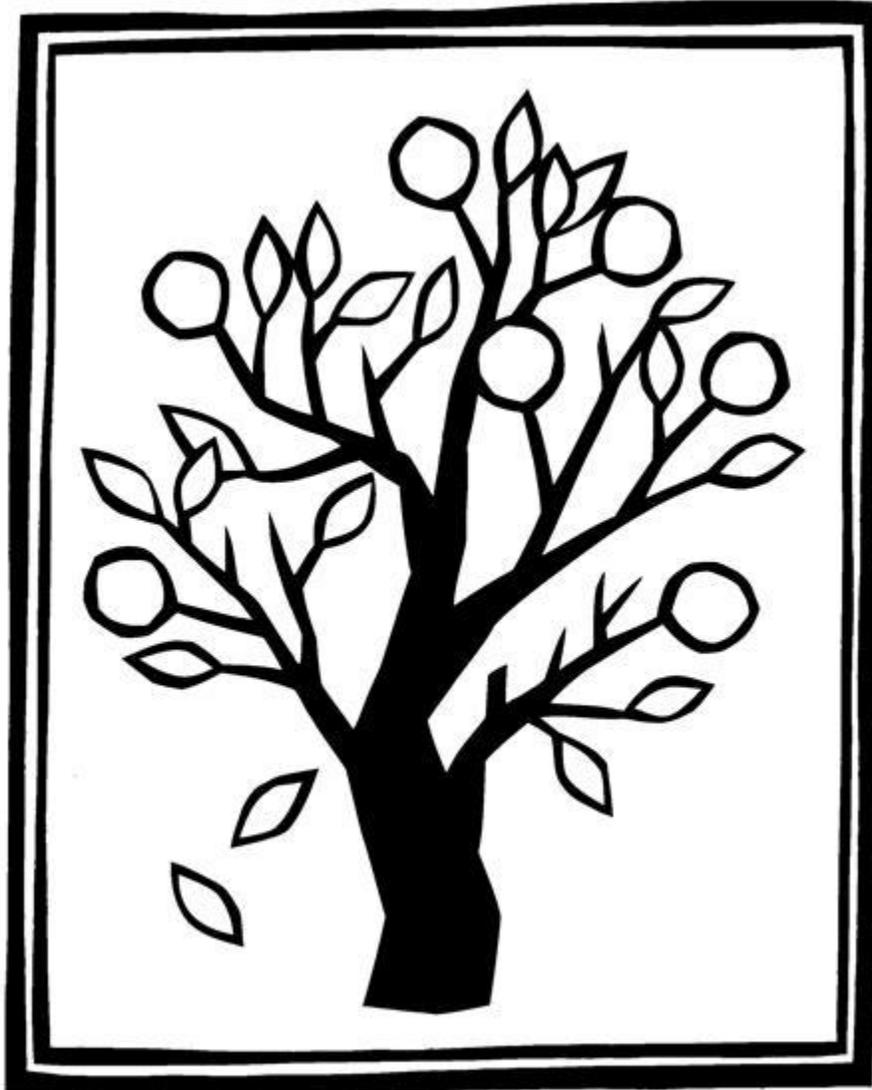


St. John United Lutheran Church Seattle, WA

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# Service of the Word

10:30 AM  
Fall 2021



Whether you're joining us in-person or online, it is good to be together to worship God this morning! We invite you to find your place among the gathered.

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Current COVID Protocols:

- ✧ Masking is required during worship all times, unless you are in the *Verified Vaccinated-Only Section*.
- ✧ Please refrain from singing unless you are masked AND seated in a *Verified Vaccinated-Only Section*.
- ✧ All worship leaders and singers are fully-vaccinated.

An asterisk (\*) before a heading signals an invitation to stand, in body or spirit. Words in **bold print** are meant to be spoken by the assembly. The weekly insert contains the readings and hymn.

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## Prelude

## Welcome

Welcome Statement - The community of St. John United welcomes all persons into membership, leadership and full participation in the life of our congregation without regard to gender or sexual identity, race, age, ability, economic status, illness, or other human conditions. We affirm that Jesus Christ has entrusted the ministry of reconciliation and healing to the Church and we actively seek to include all who have felt excluded or alienated, especially people who identify as transgender, bisexual, gay, and lesbian.

Land Acknowledgement - We respectfully acknowledge that our church, St John United, and many of our homes are on the unceded land of the Duwamish people, the first stewards of this land who are still here and continue to acknowledge their ancient heritage.

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GATHERING

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

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## \*Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.  
*Silence for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**

**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**

**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Listen when we call out to you for help.**

**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

**(See Insert)**

**\*Greeting & Prayer**

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray... **Amen.**

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WORD

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching and song.

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**Readings (see insert)**

*Readings conclude with:* Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

## Hymn of the Day

(See insert)

### \*Prayers of Intercession

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

After Each Petition: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### \*Peace

*Please use no-contact greetings.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## Announcements

## Offertory

### \*Thanksgiving for the Word

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illuminate our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

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SENDING

God blesses us and sends us forth to carry out God's mission.

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## **\*Blessing**

People of God,  
you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.  
The holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **\*Sending Hymn**

(See Insert)

## **Invitation to Fellowship**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

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← SCAN to visit our donation page for  
no-contact giving.

Thank you for supporting this community.

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## Announcements

**Fellowship Hour is Changing: Coffee, Tea, and Treats on 1st Sundays on the back patio. Every other Sunday, unhosted fellowship on the front patio.**

This summer, the back patio has been a pleasant gathering place to say hello and catch up in-person. This fall, we will continue to gather outdoors. Since many of our coffee/tea hour volunteers are not able to attend in-person, we've decided to have a simple, treat-free gathering most Sundays. We will call for volunteers for the 1st Sunday of the month for a special fellowship hour. You are encouraged to gather for conversation and *bring your travel mug with your preferred hot drink!* This is our interim approach to keep the warmth of fellowship going as the weather gets cooler.

### Join the Church Choir

Are you ready to start singing again? We've phased out the virtual choir, as we gradually return to in-person worship. If you are fully vaccinated, you may choose to voluntarily share proof of vaccination with any member of the church staff. If you're ready to sing in-person, or simply curious, contact Nathan ([doublenorwich@hotmail.com](mailto:doublenorwich@hotmail.com)) to let him know and we'll know that you're ready to be invited to sing!

### **Opportunities to fund vaccine delivery**

The New York Times has reported that some donated vaccines have gone unused due to lack of infrastructure and personnel for delivery. If you would like to contribute to this effort, our resident epidemiologist, Alison Roxby suggests these two options. To give globally, see [Gavi.org](https://www.gavi.org). The donate button is at the top of the web page. If you want to be more local, [AARTH African American Reach and Teach Health, aarth.org](https://aarth.org) has organized many of the clinics in central and south Seattle.

### **Green team update: New Street Trees (tree planting party to be scheduled soon)**

Seen those mysterious white markings on the paved parking strip on the north side of the church? They mark the locations for our new street trees, arriving sometime this fall. The Green Team is working with the City of Seattle to obtain permits for concrete cutting and tree planting. We will be getting trees from the city, including three **Turkish filberts**. The team will send out info once we're able to schedule a tree planting work party.

### **Send us summer photos or a video!**

We're making a video to welcome you back! Send us your favorite selfie or video and show us what you've been up to! Whether you relaxed at home, made a project, visited friends & family, or travelled, no experience is too small or too big to share. Please upload your video or photo to this folder: Welcome Back Video (linked in the weekly email) or [email to Nathan](mailto:nathan@church.org).

### **COVID Phases & Protocols**

We are currently in the Red Phase of our Covid precautions, which is our most cautious. The bad news is that COVID-19 remains a real threat to our communities. The good news is that we've learned about what kinds of practices limit its spread and impact. For more information about what this means for in-person gatherings, contact any member of the church staff.

**Find Us On Social Media:**

Instagram: /StJohnUnited

Facebook Page: /StJohnUnited

Facebook Group: Community of St. John United

YouTube Channel: SJU by the Zoo

**St. John United Staff**

**Rev. Anna Rieke**, *Pastor*

**Victoria Poling**, *Dir. of Community Engagement*

**Susan Friedrich**, *Church Administrator*

**Nathan Jensen**, *Music Director*

**Devon Hathaway**, *Custodian*

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[office@stjohnunited.org](mailto:office@stjohnunited.org)

[doublenorwich@hotmail.com](mailto:doublenorwich@hotmail.com)

**Church Office Hours**

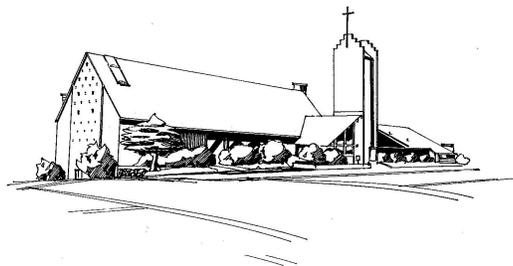
Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 9am - 2pm

Wednesday: 9am - 2pm

Thursday: 9am - 2pm

Friday: 9am - Noon



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[www.stjohnunited.org](http://www.stjohnunited.org)

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