Prayer in Preparation
Loving God, whom we praise and glorify, cleanse us today by your word so we may aspire to the perfection of love among us and throughout your world. Prune away the dead debris of our fears and failures so we can become productive branches, reaching out to feed a world starving for genuine love and yearning for community. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements
(Due to COVID we will not be singing the hymns in the Sanctuary. Please note the * indicates you should stand.)

Prelude “Let us Talents and Tongues Employ” Arr. Behnke

*The Call to Worship
   One: We worship God, whose love was revealed in Jesus. Let all the ends of the earth turn to our God.
   All: We will worship and give God our praises. We will proclaim the good news to others.
   One: Beloved, we are called to love as God loves us. We are to love one another as sisters and brothers.
   All: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. We seek to let God’s love be perfected in us.
   One: Remember that God claims you and has high expectations of you.
   All: Christ is the vine; we are the branches. We will bear fruit when we abide in the vine.

*Opening Prayer (In unison)
Loving God, we come as your children to grow and learn. We desire for you to abide within us, and for your grace to be revealed anew daily. As your branches, we ask you to nourish us for continued growth. May you transform our hearts and minds as we hear your Word and engage in holy dialogue through prayer. Amen.

Hymn “Woke Up This Morning”

Prayer of Confession
A Time for Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Special Music “To a Wild Rose” MacDowell

For the Child in Us All Pastor Lisa

*Sharing the Peace of Christ
Peace be with you
   And also with you

Scripture Lesson John 15:1-8
This is the Word of God for the All of God
Thanks be to God

Sermon “I Am. . . .” Pastor Lisa

Hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Share Our Blessings with Others
Thank you for being so generous in your care of St. John’s UCC and its mission, through your participation and giving. Your stewardship makes a difference. You may make your offering several ways including online, by text at 833-502-0657, in the offering basket in the Narthex or mail. We are grateful for your support.

*The Doxology
Prayer of Dedication (In unison)
Generous God, we offer you the fruits of our time, talents and resources in celebration of all that we have been given. May the gifts nourish and strengthen the community to grow spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

The Lord’s Prayer (In Unison)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Creative, connecting God, you have sent your Spirit and made us the body of Christ; from child-like faith, to youthful energy, from middle-aged mindfulness, to elder’s wisdom. We thank you for this time, this remembrance. Increase our faith. Help us to love. Encourage us to act. Amen.

Hymn “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Preaching: Reverend Lisa Hart
Director of Music Ministry: Ruth Notch
Director of Youth Ministries: Katie Sternhagen
Liturgist: Monica Hart
Technology Team: Steve & Josh Hawkinson
Usher Team: Ken Ruff
Handbells: Jan Boehm, Lee DiFani, Barb Nichols, Debbie Spitzer
Song leaders: Mike & Kathy Scherr

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