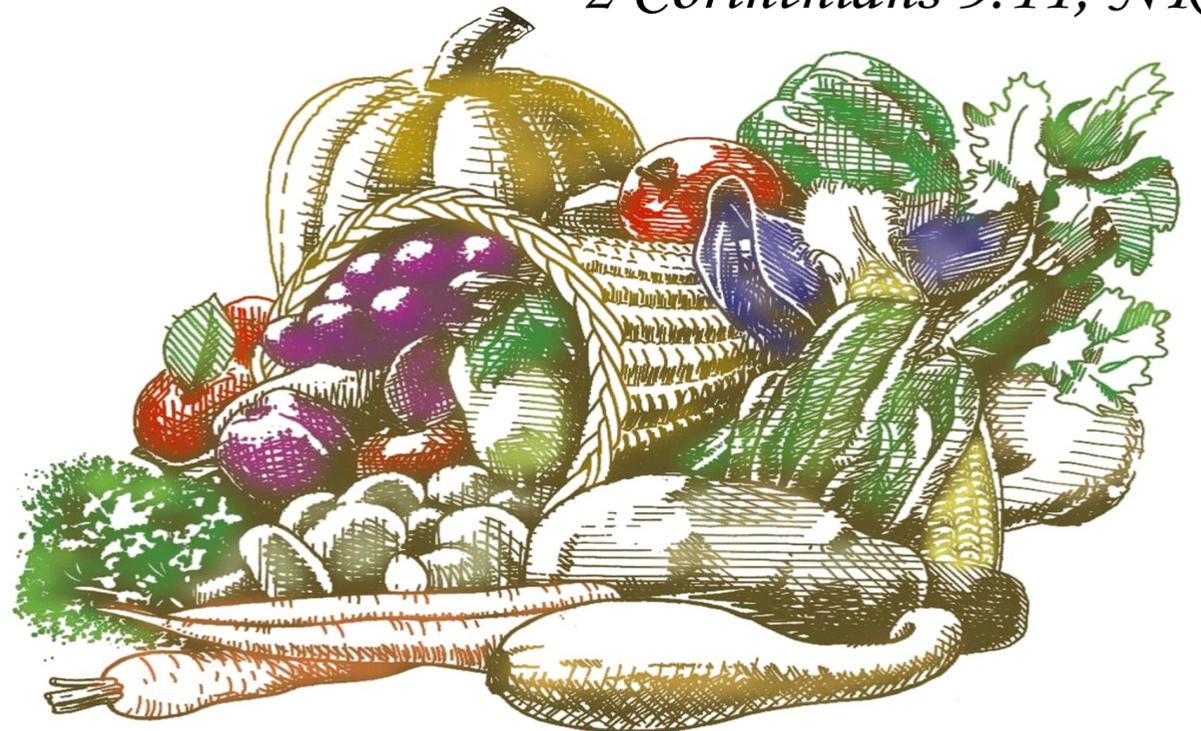


*You will be enriched
in every way for your
great generosity,
which will produce
thanksgiving to God
through us ...*

2 Corinthians 9:11, NRSV



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW LONDON
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Rev. Joyce A. Rich, Pastor
Don Peachey Band, Music

Sunday October 21, 2018

Welcome to this place of Worship. Please feel free to use the Sanctuary as a place for quiet prayer before service.

**indicates that you are invited to stand. You may choose to rise up in spirit only if that is better for you.
You are invited to read aloud the **bold-face** print.*

Please register your attendance in the red folio and pass it toward the outside aisle. After all have signed, pass it back to the center.

PRELUDE

GREETINGS

God is good **all the time.**
All the time **God is good.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUESTION OF THE DAY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy God, we are filled with joy in knowing you.

We praise you for your loving kindness!

What a delight to trust in you, O God.

From the depths of our souls, to the fullness of our hearts, we are thankful.

ANSWER TO THE QUESTION OF THE DAY

OFFERING *Our special gifts for mission in October support the annual UM World Communion Offering.*

Offertory

Song of Offering #95 *UMH “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Prayer of Dedication

We give with joy, loving God, in thanks for all you have allowed us to experience. By your love, we have survived and learned and grown. We dedicate these gifts to your use, God. Equip us to be an inviting, caring community where anyone can find a genuine welcome and be lifted up by your love and grace. Amen.

MESSAGE “Thanks to You” Rev. Joyce Rich

HYMN #77 *UMH “How Great Thou Art”
#2158 *FWS* “Just a Closer Walk With Thee”

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Bless God and proclaim God’s greatness to the world.

In Christ, we are growing in wisdom and understanding.

How wonderful are the works of God!

There is glory in humble tasks done in God’s name.

Abounding joy awaits you in God’s service.

We are thankful that God goes with us!

Amen. **And Amen.**

***POSTLUDE** “God Bless America”

***Potluck Lunch in Cottrill Hall**

Liturgical resources drawn from: *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler © 1996 United Church Press; and *Before the Amen: Creative Resources for Worship*, edited by Maren C. Tirabassi and Maria I. Tirabassi © 2007 Maren C. Tirabassi and Maria I. Tirabassi.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

How good it is to join in prayers of thanksgiving and songs of praise! You have been good to us, gracious God! May your Holy Spirit fill our worship today. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** *Please extend the peace of Christ to others.*

CHILDREN OF GOD TIME

SCRIPTURE READING

I Thessalonians 1:2-3 *NRSV*

II Corinthians 9:6-12 *NRSV*

HYMN #526 *UMH “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
#509 *UMH* “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

TIME OF PRAYER

How Is It With Your Soul?

Lifting of Prayer Requests

Unison Prayer

Gracious God, Source of all Blessings,

You have been extravagant in your Generosity.

You have planted within us the seeds of Hope.

You have nurtured within us the saplings of Faith.

You have harvested the fruits of your Creation and spread before us the feast of all Possibility.

Words cannot express the gratitude with which we come before you.

May we embody our thanks with extravagant generosity.

May we offer our lives to you in acts of compassion for one another.

May we walk gently upon the earth, ever mindful of your gifts of Breath, of Love, of Life itself. Amen.

Time of Silent Prayer

In thanksgiving we lift up the prayer Jesus taught us to pray:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.