**St. John United Church of Christ**

***“In Christ We Live, Celebrate, & Serve”***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| July 18, 2021 | 8th Sunday after Pentecost |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | Ritch Alexander, Organist |
| 9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship | 9:30 Sunday School for Children |
| 2901 Nameoki Road | Granite City, IL 62040 |
| E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com | (618) 877-6060 |

Web-stjohnuccgranitecity.com

**Following current guidelines, face masks are optional for those vaccinated, and REQUIRED for those not vaccinated.**

Large print bulletins are available from the Ushers.

***Bold italic denotes congregation reads or sings.***

\*Denotes all who are able, please stand.

**WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN 2 Samuel 7:1-14a pg. 268

He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. (2 Sam. 7:13)

PRELUDE *On Jordan’s Stormy Bank I Stand* Hustad

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER

 Adapted from the 7th Century Latin “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

Christ is made the sure foundation,

Christ the head and cornerstone;

 ***Chosen of the Lord and precious,***

 ***binding all the church in one;***

Holy Zion’s help forever, and her confidence alone.

 ***To this temple, where we call thee,***

 ***come, O Lord of Hosts, today!***

With thy faithful loving-kindness

 ***Hear thy people as they pray.***

Let us pray together:

***We unite in worship, O Lord, with prayers in our heart, and hopes for healing compassion in our lives. We***

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***gather to honor and glorify you. Together with all who seek your peace in every age and place, we come to***

***answer your call, and to continue building your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“We Are Called to Be God’s People”*** #580

\*LITANY1 *Come Rest Awhile* By Lavon Bayler

Come, rest awhile with Jesus;

Come, take the time to pray.

***We gather here to worship one***

***Whose word we would obey.***

God’s steadfast love and faithfulness

Upholds us day by day.

 ***We celebrate the covenant***

 ***That leads us in truth’s way.***

Come, build the church with Jesus

Who bids our conflicts cease.

 ***We work to end hostility***

 ***And form a world at peace.***

Christ came to reconcile us all

To God, and friends and foes.

 ***We are no longer stranger here***

 ***As hope within us grows.***

Come, join the saints in service

To all humanity.

 ***Go out to share good news of Christ***

 ***That makes for unity.***

Live out the reign of righteousness;

God’s goodness to unveil.

 ***God sends us forth to teach love’s way;***

 ***That justice may prevail.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON Ephesians 2:11-22 pg. 181

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Old Rugged Cross* Ritch Alexander

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 pg. 38

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SERMON

 **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“The Church’s One Foundation”*** Vss. 1, 2, 3 & 4 #544

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD’S PRAYER & RESPONSE

 ***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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION WITH STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH SPECIAL OFFERING DEDICATION

OFFERTORY  *Old Time Gospel Medley* Ritch Alexander

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“Shine, Jesus, Shine”*** Vs. 1 #319

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***Lord, the light of your love is shining,***

***in the midst of the darkness shining;***

***Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,***

***set us free by the truth you now bring us,***

***shine on me, shine on me.***

***Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory; blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.***

***Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***Thank you, God, for inspiring us for abundance thinking as we offer our gifts for the work of the Church. Bless and multiply our offerings to both physically and spiritually feed the hungry as we honor you. Strengthen us to be generous and grateful for the opportunities set before us, as we serve in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”***  #562

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\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *Rejoice!* Burkhardt

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Jesus urged his disciples, “Come away ... and rest a while” (Mark 6:31). He calls us also to leave our busyness for a time of Sabbath. Welcome to worship and rest.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Mary Seibold** at (618) 792-0120. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available dates are August 1 & 15.

**Thank you** to Karen Gaines for serving as liturgist today.

**Thank you** to Ritch Alexander for providing special music.

**THIS WEEK**

Today: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.

 Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m.

 Dedicate Strengthen the Church Offering

Monday: Al-Anon: 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

 Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

 **Herald Deadline**

Thursday: Church Women United, 9:30 a.m.

Next Sunday: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.

 Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m.

 Benevolent Fund Recognitions

 Game Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**RUMMAGE SALE**

This year’s Rummage Sale will take place September 23 & 24. Items for the sale may be dropped off starting September 5, 2021. Setup will take place September 21 & 22. We will need volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 877-6060.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Once again, our July mission is to collect school supplies for the coming school year that begins in August. The students will need notebooks, paper, pencils, markers, crayons, and backpacks. And anything else you

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can come across that you know the students use. Just bring your donations to the sanctuary during the week or on Sunday. We will see that they get distributed to the requested location. Thanks to everyone for helping with this project.



**FIRST ANNUAL FALL MUM SALE**

Reminder that mum order forms are due no later than August 1, 2021. A completed order form consists of the buyer’s name, phone number, number and color of mums, and full payment at the time of the order. Forms were included in the July edition of the Herald, but printed copies are available in the church office if you find yourself in need of another. It is also available for download on the church website under the “Events” tab. Forms and payment can be submitted after each Sunday church service or to the church office during the week. All members are encouraged to sell these mums to those they know. Proceeds from this fundraiser are earmarked for multiple areas in the sanctuary where the plaster needs to be repaired, the balcony outer wall being one of them. Since the outside of the church has been cleaned and sealed, it is time to repair the water damage that occurred on the inside of the church. Bev Meyer will be in the Narthex to take orders, distribute order forms, or answer questions.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

Ruth Buer, Loretta Cook, Hilde Few, JoAnn King, Mary Lee Krohne, and Karen Luddeke.

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, Rose Marie Bauer, Isabella Boyer, Nancy Boyer, Marlene Brokaw, Myra Cook, Janet Cowley, Randy Fischer, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Norman Hente, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, David Oliver Jr., Karen Orr, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, Linda Sturman, and Don Young.

**Illinois South Conference**

Jerseyville Peace UCC, Rev. Debbie Lawson. Johannisburg St. John’s UCC, Rev. William Groennert. Retired Pastor, Rev. Ken and Jean Knobloch, Maeystown, IL.

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**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Ephesians 2:11-22**

**11**So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— **12**remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. **13**But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **14**For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. **15**He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, **16**and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. **17**So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; **18**for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. **19**So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, **20**built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. **21**In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; **22**in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

**Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

**30**The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. **31**He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. **32**And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. **33**Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. **34**As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

**53**When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. **54**When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, **55**and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. **56**And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

***“We Are Called to Be God’s People”***

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***We are called to be God’s people,***

***Showing by our lives his grace,***

***One in heart and one in spirit,***

***Sign of hope for all the race.***

***Let us show how he has changed us,***

***And remade us as his own,***

***Let us share our life together***

***As we shall around his throne.***

***We are called to be God’s servants,***

***Working in his world today;***

***Taking his own task upon us,***

***All his sacred words obey.***

***Let us rise, then, to his summons,***

***Dedicate to him our all,***

***That we may be faithful servants,***

***Quick to answer now his call.***

***We are called to be God’s prophets,***

***Speaking for the truth and right,***

***Standing firm for godly justice,***

***Bringing evil things to light.***

***Let us seek the courage needed,***

***Our high calling to fulfill,***

***That the world may know the blessing***

***Of the doing of God’s will.***

***“The Church’s One Foundation”***

***The Church’s one foundation***

***Is Jesus Christ her Lord;***

***She is his new creation,***

***By water and the word:***

***From heaven he came and sought her***

***To be his holy bride;***

***With his own blood he bought her,***

***And for her life he died.***

***Elect from every nation,***

***Yet one o’er all the earth,***

***Her charter of salvation:***

***One Lord, one faith, one birth;***

***One holy name she blesses,***

***Partakes one holy food,***

***And to one hope she presses***

***With every grace endued.***

***Though with a scornful wonder***

***We see her sore oppressed,***

***By schisms rent asunder,***

***By heresies distressed:***

***Yet saints their watch are keeping,***

***Their cry goes up, “How long?”***

***And soon the night of weeping***

***Shall be the morn of song.***

***‘Mid toil and tribulation,***

***And tumult of her war,***

***She waits the consummation***

***Of peace forevermore,***

***Till with the vision glorious***

***Her longing eyes are blest,***

***And the great Church victorious***

***Shall be the Church at rest.***

***“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”***

***We’ve a story to tell to the nations,***

***That shall turn their hearts to the right,***

***A story of truth and mercy,***

***A story of peace and light,***

***A story of peace and light.***

***For the darkness shall turn to dawning,***

***And the dawning to noonday bright;***

***And Christ’s great kingdom shall come on earth,***

***The kingdom of love and light.***

***We’ve a song to be sung to the nations,***

***That shall lift their hearts to the Lord,***

***A song that shall conquer evil***

***And shatter the spear and sword,***

***And shatter the spear and sword.***

***For the darkness shall turn to dawning,***

***And the dawning to noonday bright;***

***And Christ’s great kingdom shall come on earth,***

***The kingdom of love and light.***

***We’ve a message to give to the nations,***

***That the Lord who reigns high above***

***Has sent us his Son to save us,***

***And show us that God is love,***

***And show us that God is love.***

***For the darkness shall turn to dawning,***

***And the dawning to noonday bright;***

***And Christ’s great kingdom shall come on earth,***

***The kingdom of love and light.***

***We’ve a Savior to show to the nations,***

***Who the path of sorrow has trod,***

***That all of the world’s great peoples***

***Might come to the truth of God,***

***Might come to the truth of God.***

***For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright;***

***And Christ’s great kingdom shall come on earth,***

***The kingdom of love and light.***