**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

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| January 23, 2022 |  3rd Sunday after Epiphany (C) |
| 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

**Currently face masks are REQUIRED for all.**

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 Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

[Ezra read from the book of the law] facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the Law. (Nehemiah 8:3)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Trust and Obey* Towner

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER  Adapted from Psalm 19

 “The heavens are telling the glory of God;

 ***and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.***

Day to day pours forth speech,

 ***and night to night declares knowledge.”***

All creation declares the glory of God,

 ***as the sun rises and sets over all the world.***

 And so, we come to worship this morning,

  ***to join creation in declaring the glory of God.***

 Let us pray together.

***Majestic and Mighty God, we pray with the Psalmist, asking that the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, our***

-2-

***rock and redeemer. Clear our faults away, and help us to be blameless and innocent of great transgression. Unite us with creation and one another as we offer our most valuable gifts to the world, to your glory. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”*** #31

\*RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING From Psalm 19

 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

 ***The decrees of the Lord are sure,***

 ***making wise the simple;***

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

 ***The commandment of the Lord is clear,***

 ***enlightening the eyes;***

 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;

 ***The ordinances of the Lord***

 ***are true and righteous altogether.***

 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

 ***Sweeter also than honey,***

 ***and drippings of the honey comb.***

 Moreover, by them is your servant warned;

 ***in keeping them there is great reward.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

SPECIAL MUSIC *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* Powell

 Mixed Ensemble

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 4:14-21

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”*** #96

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, 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***

-3-

***temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *The Old Rugged Cross* Bennard

 \*\*RESPONSE ***“Spirit of the Living God”*** Vs. 2 #492 ***Spirit of the living God, move among us all;***

***make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love; humble, caring, selfless, sharing.***

***Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

  ***May the power of your Spirit fill us, and our gifts, to bring you glory and to honor Jesus commands. Empower each of us to do whatever we can to care for your creation and children. And, unite our efforts for the greater good of all, as we serve in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“They’ll Know We Are Christians”***  #595

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *Stand Up for Jesus* Webb

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We gather for worship because, echoing Nehemiah, “the joy of the Lord is [our] strength” (8:10). Welcome!

The **bulletin** is given in celebration of the joint wedding anniversaries of Ruth & Larry Hubbard (66 years) and Justin & Samantha Hubbard (10 years).

The **altar vases** are given in loving memory of Bud, Emma, and Janet Relleke by the Relleke family.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Rosalie Watson** at (618) 741-2979. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available dates to sponsor bulletins are January 30 and February 6 & 27.

-4-

Thank you to **Greg Young** for serving as liturgist today.



**THIS WEEK**

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

 Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m. - **Canceled**

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.

 Bell Choir, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday: Church Women United - **Canceled**

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

 Fifth Sunday Cash Plate for Meals on Wheels

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

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our January Mission of the Month is designated for UCC Disaster Ministries. Donations will be used to provide housing, food and meals, and family needs for those who were affected by the storms that caused devastation in parts of the Midwest on December 10, 2021



**JANUARY FOOD BOXES**

Thank you to those who volunteered to pack and distribute the food boxes to our community. This was a new mission, endeavor, and challenge for giving by our church and its congregation, one that could not have been done without your help.

**EVENING GUILD**

The February 7th meeting has been canceled. Our meeting on March 7th will feature a guest speaker from the Granite City Senior Center. They will be discussing the various programs they offer to seniors.

-5-



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School will not meet until the Sanctuary painting is complete.



**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

Bobbie Braden (Anderson Rehab, 3401 Anderson Healthcare Dr., Edwardsville, IL 62025), Ruth Buer, Hilde Few, Carol Hildebrand, JoAnn King, Mary Lee Krohne, and Karen Luddeke.

**Hospital**

David Oliver Jr. is at Christian Hospital. John Miller is at St. Luke’s Hospital (Cards may be send to 730 Henry Ave., Ballwin, MO 63011). Charlie Sullivan is at VA Hospital

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, Isabella Boyer, Marlene Brokaw, Myra Cook, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Lou Hasse, Norman Hente, Louise Koester, Gayle Lindsay, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Merle

Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, Trish Stromlund, Janice Weeks, and Don Young.

**Illinois South Conference**

Dupo Christ UCC, Rev. Todd (Suzanne) Mushaney. Dupo First Congregational UCC, Pastor Julie Kies. Retired Pastor, Rev. Dave and Kathryn Riebeling, Fults, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

**12**For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. **13**For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

**14**Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. **15**If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **16**And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **17**If the whole body

-6-

were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? **18**But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. **19**If all were a single member, where would the body be? **20**As it is, there are many members, yet one body. **21**The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” **22**On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be

weaker are indispensable, **23**and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; **24**whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged

the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, **25**that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the

same care for one another. **26**If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

**27**Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. **28**And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of

assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. **29**Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? **30**Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? **31**But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

**Luke 4:14-21**

**14**Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. **15**He

began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. **16**When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, **17**and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: **18**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, **19**to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” **20**And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. **21**Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”



***“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”***

***I sing the almighty power of God***

***That made the mountains rise,***

***That spread the flowing seas abroad***

***And built the lofty skies.***

***I sing the wisdom that ordained***

***The sun to rule the day;***

***The moon shines full at his command***

***And all the stars obey.***

***I sing the goodness of the Lord***

***That filled the earth with food;***

***He formed the creatures with his word***

***And then pronounced them good.***

***Lord, how your wonders are displayed***

***Where’er I turn my eye,***

***If I survey the ground I tread***

***Or gaze upon the sky!***

***There’s not a plant or flower below***

***But makes your glories known;***

***And clouds arise and tempests blow***

***By order from your throne;***

***While all that borrows life from you***

***Is ever in your care,***

***And everywhere that I may be,***

***You, God, are present there.***

***“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”***

***O for a thousand tongues to sing***

***My great Redeemer’s praise,***

***The glories of my God and King,***

***The triumphs of his grace!***

***My gracious Master and my God,***

***Assist me to proclaim,***

***To spread thro’ all the earth abroad***

***The honors of your name.***

***Jesus! The name that charms our fears,***

***That bids our sorrows cease,***

***‘Tis music in the sinner’s ears,***

***‘Tis life and health and peace.***

***He breaks the power of cancelled sin,***

***He sets the prisoner free;***

***His blood can make the foulest clean,***

***His blood availed for me.***

***To God all glory, praise, and love***

***Be now and ever given***

***By saints below and saints above,***

***The Church in earth and heaven.***

***“They’ll Know We Are Christians”***

Words and Music: Peter Scholtes; para. John 13:35. Words and Music © 1966, 1967 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 Lorenz Publishing Company. Reprinted by permission, CCLI License #1334401.

***We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.***

***We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.***

***And we pray that all unity may one day be restored***

***And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.***

***Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.***

***We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand.***

***We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand.***

***And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land.***

***And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.***

***Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.***

***We will work with each other; we will work side by side.***

***We will work with each other; we will work side by side.***

***And we’ll guard each one’s dignity and save each one’s pride.***

***And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.***

***Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.***

***All praise to the Father, from whom all things come.***

***And all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son.***

***And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.***

***And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.***

***Yes they’ll know we are Christians by our love.***