**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

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| --- | --- |
| April 24, 2022 |  Second Sunday of Easter(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 RECOMMENDED.**

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

 Prayer for Armenian Martyrs Day

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *I Bind unto Myself* Powell

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER From Revelation 1:4-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is, and who was, and who is to come,

***Grace to you and peace from Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.***

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins,

 ***To him be glory and dominion forever and ever.***

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God,

 ***Who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.***

Let us pray:

***We praise you, O God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; for your power over sin and your love that grants us life. We worship you with joy, and we pray for peace in our hearts and lives. Help us remain strong and faithful in these days, whether in the midst of turmoil, or in smooth waters. Bless and inspire us to be active disciples, in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

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\*HYMN  ***“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*** #71

\*RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING Psalm 150

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;

***Praise him in his mighty firmament!***

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

***Praise him according to his surpassing greatness!***

Praise him with trumpet sound;

***Praise him with lute and harp!***

Praise him with tambourine and dance;

 ***Praise him with strings and pipe!***

Praise him with clanging cymbals;

 ***Praise him with loud clashing cymbals!***

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

 ***Praise the Lord!***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Jonah 2 pg. 811

ANTHEM *Jonah and the Whale* Glockenspiel

GOSPEL LESSON John 20:19-31 pg. 108

MEDITATION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Alleluia No. 1”*** #291

PASTORAL PRAYER & UNISON 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 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

OFFERTORY *The Swan* Saint-Saens

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“Majesty”*** #43

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\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***Risen Lord, you send us to offer peace in your name. You send us to offer hope and life. We may not see where or how our offerings do this, but we believe they do, because you bless them. Thank you for filling us with the Spirit as we go out to serve the world with joy. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“He Lives”***  #302

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *The Strife Is O’er* Roberts

Welcome to worship this second Sunday of Easter. Faith is always a mix of belief and doubt, so with Thomas we proclaim: “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28).

The **bulletin** is given in celebration of the 20th birthday of my Granddaughter Amelia Gray by her Grandmother Glenda Mitchell.

The **altar vases** are given in memory of the April 30th birthday of Christy Dawson from Her Family. The **altar centerpiece** is given to celebrate 75 years from the family of Betty Meszaros.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar** and pick them up Monday, please call **Mary Jo Seibold** at (618) 792-0120. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available date to sponsor the bulletin is May 1.

Thank you to **Connie Ahlers** for serving as liturgist today. Thank you to **George Cochran** for greeting at the elevator entrance.

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

 Fellowship Hall Reserved 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

 Game Night, 6-8 p.m.

Monday: **Beginning of Kindness Week**

Beginning of Karla’s partial vacation week

 Al-Anon, 9:30-11 a.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

 Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9-11 a.m.

 Anniversary Committee Meeting, 11:00 a.m.

 Bell Choir, 6:00 p.m.

 Chancel Choir, 7:00 p.m.

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Thursday:Church Women United, 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Community Band Rehearsal, 6:15-9:30 p.m.

Saturday: **Church Barbecue, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. (or until sold out)**

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

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

 Communion & Noisy Offering

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to Jim Watson, Bob Jacobs and Rusty for both setting up the “big” cross when we first resumed worship in the sanctuary and taking it down this past week.

**EVENING GUILD**

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 2, 2022 and will feature Lisa Guillium from TWIGS. Lisa will be discussing the various programs and resources that TWIGS offers children in our community.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our April Mission of the Month is dedicated to St. John outreach funding. At a later date, this money will be used to purchase scrip cards for local grocery stores and gas stations. Then volunteers will surprise community members at the gas station or grocery store with a gift card to help them pay.

**KINDNESS WEEK**

From April 25th through April 29th, Grigsby Intermediate School is hosting a Kindness Week in honor of Christy Dawson. Council has voted to join Grigsby for that week and asks that everyone participate by doing acts of kindness. We feel this is a wonderful way to honor Christy’s memory. We can also honor the memory of David Oliver Jr. The last weekend of April was usually dedicated to Rebuilding Together. David Oliver Jr. was greatly involved in this organization.

**FIRST ANNUAL SPRING/SUMMER FLOWER**

**HANGING BASKET SALE**

The church is taking orders for flowering hanging baskets. These 10” hanging baskets are grown by N.G. Heimos Greenhouse in Millstadt, Illinois. There are nine different varieties of plants that can be ordered, ranging from 3-5 colors. All baskets, no matter what plant is ordered, will cost $16.00. Due to weather and other conditions, specific colors cannot be guaranteed, therefore, colors will be picked based on what is available at that time. Order forms were provided in the April edition of the “Herald”; they are also available on the informational table and on the church website. The order form indicates the available varieties as well as a picture of the basket. Payment in full is required when the

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order is placed. Checks should be made out to St. John UCC. All order forms and payments need to be given to Mike Seibold **today,** **Sunday, April 24th**. Delivery of the baskets to the church is tentatively set for Wednesday, May 11th and will be available for pickup then through the weekend. Extra baskets will be ordered to sell to the public. We would appreciate your participation in selling these baskets to your friends, family, neighbors, and acquaintances. Profits from this sale will be going to both the evangelism and stewardship fund to help support upcoming giving programs as well as the General Fund to help offset church expenses.

**CHURCH SPONSORED BARBECUE**

On **Saturday, April 30th**, we will hold a barbecue in the church parking lot. Pork steaks, bratwursts, and hot dog dinners (with two sides) will be sold to the public. Volunteers will be needed on that day to grill, prepare the baked beans, fill the Styrofoam containers with the sides, place the brats and hotdogs on the buns, collect payments, and so on. The sale is 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. or until sold out, but we will need volunteers well before the start time. Hamilos Brothers in Madison will be providing the meat and supplies for this event. Pricing will be as follows:

 Pork steak dinner with 2 sides: $12.00

 Brat dinner with 2 sides: $12.00

 Hotdog dinner with 1 side: $5.00

An early thank you to Carol and John Relleke for securing the grill for us. Refer questions to Mike Seibold (618-792-4301) or Kiki Cochran, (618-503-3608). Get tickets from Mike Seibold or the church office for yourself AND to sell to your family and friends. Proceeds from this sale will help fund the church’s Community Free Food Box Give-Away Program and help fund other church projects.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

Ruth Buer, Hilde Few, JoAnn King, Mary Lee Krohne, Karen Luddeke, Leonard Schaefer, and Don Young.

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, Isabella Boyer, Marlene Brokaw, Myra Cook, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Lou Hasse, Norman Hente, Chuck King, Gayle Lindsay, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, and Trish Stromlund.

**Illinois South Conference**

Lenzburg St. Peter’s UCC, Rev. Earl (Johanna) Crecelius, Jr. Maeystown St. John UCC, Rev. Patrick (Kathy) Poole. Retired Pastor, Rev. Dr. Robert E. and Jay Lee, Swansea, IL.

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**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Jonah 2**

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, **2**saying, “I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. **3**You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. **4**Then I said, ‘I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?’ **5**The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped around my head **6**at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O Lord my God. **7**As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. **8**Those who worship vain idols forsake their true loyalty. **9**But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Deliverance belongs to the Lord!” **10**Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land.

**John 20:19-31**

**19**When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” **20**After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. **21**Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” **22**When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. **23**If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” **24**But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **25**So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” **26**A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” **27**Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” **28**Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” **29**Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” **30**Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. **31**But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

***“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”***

***Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!***

***O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!***

***Come, all who hear; now to his temple draw near,***

***Join me in glad adoration***

***Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning;***

***Sheltering you under his wings, and so gently sustaining!***

***Have you not seen all that is needful has been***

***Sent by his gracious ordaining?***

***Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you:***

***Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.***

***Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,***

***If with his love he befriends you.***

***Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!***

***All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.***

***Let the Amen sound from his people again;***

***Gladly forever adore him.***

***“Alleluia No. 1”***

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***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give thanks to the risen Lord,***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give praise to his name!***

***Jesus is Lord of all the earth.***

***He is the King of creation.***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give thanks to the risen Lord,***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give praise to his name!***

***Spread the good news o’er all the earth;***

***Jesus has died and has risen.***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give thanks to the risen Lord,***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give praise to his name!***

***We have been crucified with Christ.***

***Now we shall live forever.***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give thanks to the risen Lord,***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give praise to his name!***

***Come, let us praise the living God,***

***Joyfully sing to our Savior.***

***“Majesty”***

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***Majesty, worship his majesty;***

***Unto Jesus be all glory, honor and praise.***

***Majesty, kingdom authority***

***Flow from his throne unto his own, his anthem raise.***

***So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus;***

***Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.***

***Majesty, worship his majesty;***

***Jesus, who died, now glorified, King of all kings.***

***“He Lives”***

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***I serve a risen Savior,***

***He’s in the world today;***

***I know that he is living***

***Whatever some may say;***

***I see his hand of mercy,***

***I hear his voice of cheer,***

***And just the time I need him***

***He’s always near.***

***He lives, (he lives), he lives, (he lives),***

***Christ Jesus lives today!***

***He walks with me and talks with me***

***Along life’s narrow way.***

***He lives, (he lives), he lives, (he lives),***

***Salvation to impart!***

***You ask me how I know he lives?***

***He lives within my heart.***

***In all the world around me***

***I see his loving care,***

***And though my heart grows weary,***

***I never will despair;***

***I know that he is leading***

***Through all the stormy blast,***

***The day of his appearing***

***Will come at last.***

***He lives, (he lives), he lives, (he lives),***

***Christ Jesus lives today!***

***He walks with me and talks with me***

***Along life’s narrow way.***

***He lives, (he lives), he lives, (he lives),***

***Salvation to impart!***

***You ask me how I know he lives?***

***He lives within my heart.***

***Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,***

***Lift up your voice and sing***

***Eternal hallelujahs***

***To Jesus Christ the King!***

***The hope of all who seek him,***

***The help of all who find,***

***None other is so loving,***

***So good and kind.***

***He lives, (he lives), he lives, (he lives),***

***Christ Jesus lives today!***

***He walks with me and talks with me***

***Along life’s narrow way.***

***He lives, (he lives), he lives, (he lives),***

***Salvation to impart!***

***You ask me how I know he lives?***

***He lives within my heart.***