**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| May 1, 2022 |  Third 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 Revelation 5:11-14

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” (Rev. 5:13b)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* Zundel

CALL TO WORSHIP & CONFESSION Adapted from Psalm 30

 and from the United Church of Christ Book of Worship

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,

 ***And give thanks to his holy name.***

“Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!

 ***O Lord, be my helper!”***

You have turned my mourning into dancing;

 ***You have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.***

So that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

***O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.***

With all the signs of new life in Christ around us, we still cling to our old ways. Let us confess our sin to God and to one another.

***When we do not accept as our sisters and brothers in Christ those who are different from us, forgive us, O God. When we oppose you by opposing those who disrupt our routines and challenge our assumptions, forgive us, O***

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***God. When we willfully disobey you and lose faith in your future, forgive us, O God. God, in your mercy, restore us to newness of life. Bind together your church universal through the coming of your Holy Spirit. Empower us to witness with courage to the presence of Jesus Christ among us. Amen.***

Take heart; God’s Spirit empowers us to move from the ways of death to the ways of new life. Our sins are forgiven. Let us forgive one another and give ourselves to one another in the joyful community of the risen Christ. Amen.

\*HYMN  ***“The Summons”*** #350

\*UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles’ Creed, Adapted

In the unity of faith through the ages, let us recite the Apostles’ Creed.

***I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit; the one Holy Universal Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 9:1-20 pg. 119

ANTHEM *In This Very Room* Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON John 21:1-19 pg. 109

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“My Jesus, I Love Thee”*** #468

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PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE ***“The Lord’s Prayer”*** (One Amen) #740

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *A Communion Medley*  Sikes

\*RESPONSE ***“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”***

Vss. 2 & 4 #345

***Jesus calls us from the worship***

***of the vain world’s golden store,***

***from each idol that would keep us, saying,***

***“Christian, love me more.”***

***Jesus calls us—by thy mercies,***

***Savior, may we hear thy call,***

***give our hearts to thine obedience,***

***serve and love thee best of all.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***We give you honor and glory, O Lord, through these offerings. Bless them to celebrate new life wherever and however they are used. Bless us to care for one another, because we love you and choose to serve in your name. Amen.***

INVITATION AND COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING, POURING AND PARTAKING

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

 From the United Church of Christ Book of Worship

 ***Grant, O God, that the ears which have heard the voice of your song may be closed to the voice of clamor and dispute; that the eyes which have seen your great love may also behold your blessed hope; that the tongues which have sung your praise may speak the truth; that the feet which have walked your courts may walk in the region of light; and that the bodies which have tasted your living body may be restored in newness of life. Glory be to you, O God! Amen.***

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\*HYMN AND NOISY OFFERING

 ***“O Jesus, I Have Promised”*** #458

\*BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE ***“He Is Lord”*** #305

 ***He is Lord, he is Lord!***

 ***He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!***

 ***Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess***

 ***that Jesus Christ is Lord!***

\*POSTLUDE  *Depart in Joy* Alexander

To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” (Revelation 5:13, NRSV). Welcome to worship.

The **altar vases** are given in loving memory of George Roethemeyer by Delores Roethemeyer and family.

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 dates to sponsor bulletins are May 15 & 22.

Thank you to **Kara Wright** for serving as liturgist today. Thank you to **David & Veronica Douglas** for greeting today.

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

 Communion & Noisy Offering

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

 Evening Guild, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

 Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9-11 a.m.

 Bell Choir, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday:Cemetery Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

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

Friday: **Community Band Concert, 7:00 p.m.**

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Saturday: **Hanging Basket Sale & Pickup**

Next Sunday: **Mother’s Day**

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

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

 3 Baptisms, 9:30 a.m.

 Begin CWS Blankets & Tools offering

**EVENING GUILD**

Our next meeting is tomorrow, 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 May Mission of the Month is dedicated to the Wounded Warriors Project. The WWP mission is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors who incurred a physical or mental injury, illnesses, or wound, co-incident to military service on or after September 11, 2001.

We are also sending the thank you cards, collected after Palm Sunday worship, to Healthcare workers at Gateway Hospital to thank them for all they have done throughout the pandemic.

**FREE BAND CONCERT**

Come and enjoy an evening of music presented by the Granite City Adult Community Band. The concert is **Friday, May 6, 2022** at the Southwestern Illinois College Commons. The address is 4950 Maryville Rd, Granite City, IL 62040. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert begins at 7:00 p.m.

**160TH ANNIVERSARY**

This year, we celebrate our 160th anniversary with a weekend full of activities. **On Friday, June 24th**, we begin with our weekend kickoff event at Busch Stadium for a Cardinals vs. Cubs game!

Those who have purchased tickets will not only attend the game, but they’ll also see our church’s name and the names of our

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attendees flash on the big screen while they cheer and wave to fans watching at home. **On Saturday, June 25th**, we’ll be hosting an E-Recycle Drive & Paper Shredding event. We’ll be accepting anything with an electrical cord **except** televisions. We’ll have popcorn and hot dogs available for everyone who brings items to recycle. **On Sunday, June 26th**, our worship service will be at **10:00 a.m.** with an anniversary dinner beginning at **11:45 a.m.** While payment is not required to attend, we are requiring reservations. To make a reservation, please fill out the reservation form included in this bulletin (forms were also included in the May edition of the Herald). **Please submit your reservations no later than June 12, 2022**. We look forward to a wonderful weekend celebrating our church anniversary.



**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

**Cedarhurst of Granite City**, 3450 Village Lane, Granite City, IL 62040

 Don Young, #411

**Cedarhurst of Granite City, Memory Care**, 3432 Village Lane, Granite City, IL 62040

 JoAnn King, #113,

**The Fountains of West County**, 15826 Clayton Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011

Ruth Buer, #215

**Granite Nursing & Rehab**, 3500 Century Dr, Granite City, IL 62040

 Karen Luddeke

**Meridian Village**, 27 Auerbach Pl., Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Mary Lee Krohne, #611 (Call Linda Nitchman for updates)

Leonard Schaefer, #516

**Villas of Holly Brook**, 121 S. Bluff Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234

 Hilde Few, #208

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, 2243 Cleveland, G.C., IL 62040

Isabella Boyer, 4722 S. Hazel, Edwardsville, IL 62025

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Marlene Brokaw, 112 Summit Rdg., Maryville, IL 62062

Myra Cook, 4034 Stearns Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Bonnie Fornaszewski, 200 Carlson Ave., Apt. 17D, Washington, IL 61571

Mary Franz, 3117 Willow Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Luitgard Fries, 4117 Old Alton Rd., G.C., IL 62040

Lou Hasse, 2689 Westmoreland Dr. Unit 2, G.C., IL 62040

Norman Hente, 3708 Joyce St., G.C., IL 62040

Chuck King, 3258 Kilarney Dr., G.C., IL 62040

Gayle Lindsay, 431 Arlington Dr., G.C., IL 62040

Bill McAmish, 3320 Colgate Pl., G.C., IL 62040

Sandy Mueller, 308 Warson Ln., G.C., IL 62040

Cliff Robertson, 2336 O’Hare Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Merle Rose, 2447 Waterman Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Marge Schmidt, 4857 Danielle Court, G.C., IL 62040

June Stille, 49 Riviera, G.C., IL 62040

**Illinois South Conference**

Marine UCC, Rev. Phil (Sandee) Kershner. Marion Zion UCC, Rev. John (Sara) Holst. Retired Pastor, Rev. Louis Fluck, Marion, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Acts 9:1-20**

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest **2**and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. **3**Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. **4**He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” **5**He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. **6**But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” **7**The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. **8**Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could

see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. **9**For three days he was without sight, and neither ate

nor drank. **10**Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He

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answered, “Here I am, Lord.” **11**The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, **12**and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” **13**But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; **14**and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” **15**But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; **16**I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” **17**So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” **18**And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, **19**and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, **20**and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

**John 21:1-19**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. **2**Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. **3**Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

**4**Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. **5**Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” **6**He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. **7**That disciple whom Jesus

loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and

jumped into the sea. **8**But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land,

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only about a hundred yards off. **9**When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. **10**Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” **11**So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. **12**Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. **13**Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. **14**This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. **15**When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” **16**A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” **17**He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. **18**Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” **19**(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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***“The Summons”***

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***Will you come and follow me***

***If I but call your name?***

***Will you go where you don’t know***

***And never be the same?***

***Will you let my love be shown,***

***Will you let my name be known,***

***Will you let my life be grown***

***In you and you in me?***

***Will you leave yourself behind***

***If I but call your name?***

***Will you care for cruel and kind***

***And never be the same?***

***Will you risk the hostile stare***

***Should your life attract or scare?***

***Will you let me answer prayer***

***In you and you in me?***

***Will you let the blinded see***

***If I but call your name?***

***Will you set the prisoners free***

***And never be the same?***

***Will you kiss the leper clean,***

***And do such as this unseen,***

***And admit to what I mean***

***In you and you in me?***

***Lord, your summons echoes true***

***When you but call my name.***

***Let me turn and follow you***

***And never be the same.***

***In your company I’ll go***

***Where your love and footsteps show.***

***Thus I’ll move and live and grow***

***In you and you in me.***

***“My Jesus, I Love Thee”***

***My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine,***

***For thee all the follies of sin I resign:***

***My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;***

***If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now.***

***I love thee because thou hast first loved me,***

***And purchased my pardon on Calvary’s tree;***

***I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;***

***If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now.***

***In mansions of glory and endless delight,***

***I’ll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;***

***I’ll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;***

***If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now***

***“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 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.***

***“O Jesus, I Have Promised”***

***O Jesus, I have promised***

***To serve you to the end;***

***Remain forever near me,***

***My Master and my Friend:***

***I shall not fear the battle***

***If you are by my side,***

***Nor wander from the pathway***

***If you will be my guide.***

***O let me hear you speaking***

***In accents clear and still,***

***Above the storms of passion,***

***The murmurs of self-will.***

***O speak to reassure me,***

***To hasten or control;***

***Now speak, and make me listen,***

***O guardian of my soul.***

***O Jesus, you have promised***

***To all who follow you***

***That where you are in glory,***

***Your servant shall be too;***

***And, Jesus, I have promised***

***To serve you to the end;***

***O give me grace to follow,***

***My Master and my Friend.***