**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| July 17, 2022 |  6th Sunday after Pentecost (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 Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so, she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.” But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Andante, 5th Symphony* Tchaikovsky

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER1

In Jesus Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

***Through him God was reconciled to all things***

Both in heaven and on earth, and even to us,

 ***That we might be holy and blameless before God.***

In awe and gratitude, with humble and trusting hearts,

 ***Let us worship the Lord our God.***

Let us unite in prayer:

***Grant us this day, O God, not to be overtaken by anxious thoughts that can make us feel that you are not near. Give us the chance to sit at your feet, to enjoy every***

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***spiritual word, that we may feel your real presence, and in turn, live out that presence within our families, our communities, our jobs, and our schools. Prepare us as we journey as your people, to worship and to obey. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, the image of the invisible God, and the firstborn over all creation. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*** #48

\*RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From Colossians 1:15-20

 as adapted in the UCC Book of Worship

Christ is the image of the invisible God,

the firstborn of all creation;

***For in Christ all things were created,***

***in heaven and on earth,***

 ***visible and invisible,***

Whether thrones or dominions

or principalities or authorities—

***All things were created through Christ and for Christ.***

Christ is before all things,

and in Christ all things hold together.

***Christ is the head of the body, the church;***

Christ is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,

***That in everything Christ might be preeminent.***

For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

***And through Christ all things are reconciled to God,***

 ***whether on earth or in heaven,***

making peace by the blood of Christ’s cross.

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Amos 8:1-12 pg. 807

SPECIAL MUSIC *Trumpet Voluntary* Clarke

EPISTLE LESSON Colossians 1:15-28 pg. 188

SERMON

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Near the Cross”*** #479

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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 *Chancel Radiance* Kern

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“For the Life That You Have Given”*** #684

***For the life that you have given,***

***for the love in Christ made known,***

***with these fruits of time and labor,***

***with these gifts that are your own:***

***here we offer, Lord, our praises;***

***heart and mind and strength we bring;***

***give us grace to love and serve you,***

***living what we pray and sing.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***As the body of Christ, your church, O God, we dedicate these offerings for the ministries you give us to do together. May the work we do as individuals and as the church bear good fruit to share, as Jesus leads us forward. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”***  #505

\*BENEDICTION

\*SUNG RESPONSE Traditional ***“Praise God”*** #34

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise him, all creatures here below;***

***Praise him above, ye heavenly host:***

***Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

\*POSTLUDE  *Song of Triumph* Rogers

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Welcome to worship! Here may you find rest for your souls, challenge and comfort alike, and inspiration to share Christ’s love as you go forth in faith.

The **bulletin** is given in celebration of Tom & Sue Goedeke’s 40th anniversary.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Veronica Douglas** at (618) 806-4899. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at (618) 877-6060. The next available date to sponsor the bulletin is July 31.

Thank you to **Jessie Curran** for serving as liturgist today

Thank you to the **Sunday School Children** for greeting today.

Thank you to **Rev. Karla Frost** for providing special music today.



**THIS WEEK**

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

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

 Fellowship Hour by Bible Study

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 a.m.

Thursday: **Herald Deadline**

Dine to Donate at Texas Roadhouse for CWU,

 4:00-10:00 p.m.

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

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

 Benevolent Endowment Fund Gifts

 Dedicate Strengthen the Church Offering

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**REMINDER**

The coffee pots are on before and after church every Sunday, not just on Fellowship Hour Sundays.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our July Mission of the Month is collecting school supplies for the Granite City School District. The greatest need now for schools is Walmart gift cards to buy emergency supplies for children, so clearly marked money gifts for Walmart gift cards or cards from scrip are suggested.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

Church Women United is holding a fundraiser through the Edwardsville Texas Roadhouse on Thursday, July 21st, from 4:00-10:00 p.m. Ten percent of your total food purchases will go to the Southwest Quad City, Church Women United benefiting women and children. Flyers for the event are available on the table in the Narthex. You must present a flyer for the donations to be counted for CWU.

**SECOND ANNUAL FALL MUM SALE**

We are selling mums again! Order forms were available in the July edition of the Herald and are available for download on the church website. Forms are due Sunday, July 31st and should be given to Mike Seibold. The mums are perennials, thus will grow the following year. Of course, how they are planted or left in the original container can determine if they come back the following year. Weather conditions are also a factor in growth. Mums will be delivered in mid-September; a specific date will be given at a later time. Profits from this sale will be used for evangelism projects, remodeling the Sunday School classrooms, and general fund expenses. We sold 475 mums last year, so let’s see if we can meet or beat that number this year.

**SCRIP**

Please give orders to Betty Meszaros TODAY for gift cards along with check payable to St. John UCC or cash. Please consider purchasing cards for the trivia night basket auction. Although the

actual night of trivia will not be held again this year, the tradition of the basket auction will continue. The committee  will include your gift cards to create “baskets”.  Please see Betty in

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Fellowship Hall after worship today to place your order or for more information.



**RUMMAGE SALE**

If sorting & cleaning is in your plans, this will be the perfect time to hold aside items to donate to the all-church rummage sale. The event will be held September 22nd & 23rd this year and items can be brought to the stage in Fellowship Hall between September 6th

and September 21st. No large electronics or heavy items please. General rule of thumb: If you would have to pay for it to be recycled, item cannot be accepted. This sale is sponsored by the Evening Guild with assistance appreciated from family and friends. All proceeds are given to church projects or local charitable organizations. Please mark the following important dates on your calendar:

 Tuesday, September 20th – 9:00 a.m. Set up

 Wednesday, September 21st – 9:00 a.m. Pricing

**Thursday, September 22nd – 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Open for Shoppers**

**Friday, September 23rd – 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Open for Shoppers**



**FOOD BOX DONATIONS**

Thanks to everyone who has contributed food items to the September Food Box project. We have received enough to fulfill the required amount for certain items, specifically cereal, mac & cheese dinners, soup, and canned vegetables. We are still in need of the following items:

1. Applesauce (40 oz or near that size) – Ruler Foods has a price under $2.00
2. Canned Chili

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1. Canned Stew
2. Juice (Apple, Cranapple, Cranberry, Grape – 64 oz or similar) Walmart has juice for $2.00 or a little less
3. Canned Chicken
4. Rice (2 lb bag)

Thank you again for all your contributions so far. Your efforts make it possible to better assist our community.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NURSERY CLEAN UP!!**

Since the sanctuary has been repainted and our upstairs bathrooms updated, we need to make sure the rest of the church is looking just as beautiful!! The Christian Ed / Worship / Fellowship committee is looking for people willing to clean the nursery. The remodel generated some dust that needs to be cleaned, toys need to be sanitized, amongst other things to so that it can be inviting for anyone that might need to use the nursery. We always want to welcome new little ones into our church family. If you would be willing, please get in touch with Shara Young at 618-304-5797 or email shara-young@sbcglobal.net. A specific date/time has not been chosen because those who volunteer might be able to meet during the day.



**CHRISTIAN CONCERT**

On Sunday, July 24 at 6:00 p.m., there will be a concert featuring the Christian band *The Sound*. The concert will take place at Civic Park in downtown Granite City (1301 Niedringhaus Ave.). A flyer has been posted on our bulletin board in the elevator entrance and additional flyers are available on the table in the Narthex. You can also find a flyer on the church website under the events page.

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**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, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, and June Stille.

**Illinois South Conference**

Smithton St. John’s UCC, Rev. Andy (Kristin) Wilson. St. Jacob UCC, Rev. Philip (Kate) Barbier. Retired Pastor, Rev. Wesley and Doris Bornemann, Fenton, MO.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Amos 8:1-12**

This is what the Lord God showed me: a basket of summer fruit. **2**He said, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A basket of summer fruit.” Then the Lord said to me, “The end has come upon my people Israel; I will spare them no longer. **3**The songs of the temple shall become wailings on that day,” says the Lord God; “the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!” **4**Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, **5**saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances,
**6**buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” **7**The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. **8**Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? **9**On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight. **10**I will turn your feasts into mourning and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son and the end of it like a bitter day. **11**The time is surely coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread or a thirst for

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water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. **12**They shall wander from sea to sea and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it.

**Colossians 1:15-28**

**15**He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, **16**for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. **17**He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. **18**He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. **19**For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, **20**and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or

in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. **21**And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, **22**he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, **23**provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel. **24**I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. **25**I became its minister according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, **26**the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. **27**To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. **28**It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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**CALL FOR INFORMATION**

Bell Choir – Talk to Kathy Morris, 618-210-6095

Cemetery - Talk to Kathy Montgomery, 618-876-5811

Chancel Choir – Talk to Ritch Alexander, 618-451-5092

Council – Talk to Caslyn Brandes, President, 618-802-1152

Kiki Cochran, Vice President, 618-797-2511

Evening Guild – Talk to Christie Roth, 618-931-6194

Financial Reports – Talk to Mike Seibold, Treasurer, 618-792-4301

Angela Potter, 618-877-6060 church office

Heavenly Stars – Talk to Betty Meszaros, 618-451-1968

Karen Gaines, 618-288-0845

Herald – Talk to Angela Potter 618-877-6060 church office

Hilltoppers – Talk to Dee Roethemeyer, 618-876-6860

Historian – Talk to Sandy Dawson, 618-931-3467

Men’s Brotherhood – Talk to Chuck Hasse, 618-876-0936,

Dave Douglas, 618-452-3336

Quilters – Talk to Sandy Dawson 618-931-3467

Doris Peterson 618-877-1606

Sausage Dinner – Talk to Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Nancy Jacobs, 618-931-0673

Scrip Orders – Talk to Melissa Lane, 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros 618-451-1968

Sunday School – Talk to Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Youth Fellowship – Talk to Sharon O’Toole, 618-797-1802

***“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”***

***Immortal, invisible,***

***God only wise,***

***In light inaccessible***

***Hid from our eyes,***

***Most blessed, most glorious,***

***The Ancient of Days,***

***Almighty, victorious,***

***Thy great name we praise.***

***Unresting, unhasting,***

***And silent as light,***

***Nor wanting, nor wasting,***

***Thou rulest in might;***

***Thy justice like mountains***

***High soaring above***

***Thy clouds, which are fountains***

***Of goodness and love.***

***To all life thou givest,***

***To both great and small;***

***In all life thou livest,***

***The true life of all;***

***We blossom and flourish***

***As leaves on the tree,***

***And wither and perish –***

***But naught changeth thee.***

***Great Father of glory,***

***Pure Father of light,***

***Thine angels adore thee,***

***All veiling their sight;***

***All praise we would render,***

***O help us to see***

***‘Tis only the splendor***

***Of light hideth thee.***

***“Near the Cross”***

***Jesus, keep me near the cross;***

***There a precious fountain,***

***Free to all, a healing stream,***

***Flows from Calvary’s mountain.***

***In the cross, in the cross,***

***Be my glory ever,***

***Till my raptured soul shall find***

***Rest beyond the river.***

***Near the cross, a trembling soul,***

***Love and mercy found me;***

***There the bright and morning star***

***Sheds its beams around me.***

***In the cross, in the cross,***

***Be my glory ever,***

***Till my raptured soul shall find***

***Rest beyond the river.***

***Near the cross! O Lamb of God,***

***Bring its scenes before me;***

***Help me walk from day to day***

***With its shadow o’er me.***

***In the cross, in the cross,***

***Be my glory ever,***

***Till my raptured soul shall find***

***Rest beyond the river.***

***Near the cross I’ll watch and wait,***

***Hoping, trusting ever,***

***Till I reach the golden strand***

***Just beyond the river.***

***In the cross, in the cross,***

***Be my glory ever,***

***Till my raptured soul shall find***

***Rest beyond the river.***

***“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”***

***All the way my Savior leads me;***

***What have I to ask beside?***

***Can I doubt his tender mercy,***

***Who through life has been my guide?***

***Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,***

***Here by faith in him to dwell,***

***For I know, whate’er befall me,***

***Jesus doeth all things well;***

***For I know, what e’er befall me,***

***Jesus doeth all things well.***

***All the way my Savior leads me,***

***Cheers each winding path I tread,***

***Gives me grace for every trial,***

***Feeds me with the living bread;***

***Though my weary steps may falter,***

***And my soul athirst may be,***

***Gushing from the rock before me,***

***Lo! A spring of joy I see;***

***Gushing from the rock before me,***

***Lo! A spring of joy I see.***

***All the way my Savior leads me;***

***O the fullness of his love!***

***Perfect rest to me is promised***

***In my Father’s house above;***

***When my spirit, clothed immortal,***

***Wings its flight to realms of day,***

***This my song through endless ages,***

***Jesus led me all the way;***

***This my song through endless ages,***

***Jesus led me all the way.***