**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

**Reformation and All Saints Sunday**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| November 13, 2022 | 23rd 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 Micah 6:6-8

Walk humbly with your God

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Prelude on ‘Dix*  arr. Lani Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER

The sovereign God of all nations summons us;

All of us are offspring of the God most high.

***As children of the Eternal One***

***We seek realities that are yet unseen.***

For many, the foundations are shaken

And there is no justice or hope to be seen.

***We come to hear from the divine council,***

***That we might rise up on the healing wings of God,***

Let us pray together:

***God of right and justice, speak to us in ways we cannot ignore, lest we be led astray by other voices. Enlist us in meaningful work among the least of your children, and strengthen our ties that we may grow in understanding. Amen.***

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\*HYMN ***“My Lord! What a Morning”*** #537

\*RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING Psalm 46

God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst

Of the gods he holds judgment;

***How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?***

Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

***Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from***

***The hand of the wicked.***

They have neither knowledge or understanding, they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

***I say that you are gods, children of the most high, all of you never the less you will die like mortals, and fall like princes***

Rise up, O God, judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you!

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 pg. 195

ORGAN INTERLUDE

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 21:5-19 pg.80

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”*** #589

**THE COVENANT OF MEMBERSHIP (pages 9 & 10)**

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

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OFFERTORY *O Jesus, I Have Promised* arr. David H. Hegarty

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“Give Thanks”***  #359

***Give thanks with a grateful heart,***

***give thanks to the Holy One,***

***give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son.***

***Give thanks with a grateful heart,***

***give thanks to the Holy One,***

***give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son.***

***And now let the weak say “I am strong,”***

***let the poor say “I am rich,”***

***because of what the Lord has done for us.***

***And now let the weak say “I am strong,”***

***let the poor say “I am rich,”***

***because of what the Lord has done for us, Give thanks!***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Most high God, *we bring our offerings with mixed feelings Then we remember your goodness to us when we are undeserving, and the blessings of being needed and able to help. We would not be weary in well-doing, for you have not wearied in your provision for us. Thank you God for your generosity. Amen***

\*HYMN ***“Soon and Very Soon”***  #523

\*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  *Sortie on ‘National Hymn’* arr. Lani Smith

Friends, I welcome you to worship this autumn day. Let us bless the Lord and open our hearts to his guidance and grace. Amen.

The **bulletin** is given in memory of Myrna Bischoff by Herb & Jeanie Bischoff.

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If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Donna Brandes** at (618) 802-1072. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at (618) 877-6060.

Thank you to **Linda Mizell** for serving as liturgist, to **Allison Reynolds** for serving as acolyte, to **Dorothy Kinney** for greeting, and to **Chris McMillan** for serving as guest organist today.

A picture containing logo

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**THIS WEEK**

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

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

New Members Covenant

Fellowship Hour by ESOS

Annual Meeting Booklets Distributed

Confirmation, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

**Deadline for Cardinals Calendar Orders**

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

Brotherhood, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m.

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

GCC Band Rehearsal, 6:15-9:45 p.m.

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

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

Fellowship Hour by Youth

**Totenfest**

**Harvest Home**

**Annual Meeting**

Quilt Raffle Drawing

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our November Mission of the Month is dedicated to the USO. This organization strengthens America’s military service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country, throughout their service to the nation.

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**NUT AND CANDY ORDERS**

If you have not picked up your nut and candy orders, they are in the church office and can be picked up during regular office hours or on Sunday mornings.

**HERALD DEADLINE**

As a reminder, the deadline for the combined December/January Herald is **Monday, November 21**. Because of the close proximity to the Thanksgiving holiday and the slower nature of our current mail system, no late articles will be accepted. This will ensure that the Heralds are printed and sent in a timely fashion.

**SCRIP**

TODAY and December 11th will be the last times scrip orders will be submitted in 2022. Please note the change to the second Sunday due to holiday schedules. Order forms of “favorites” and the master list of vendors are located on the table in the narthex. Give your order form along with your check payable to St. John UCC to Betty Meszaros or mail it to the church office. If you do not have an order form, just include a note of what you want to purchase. You can also give Betty a call and she will email the complete vendor list to you. Gift cards make great Christmas presents. Cost is face value of card with no tax or service fee. Saves you shopping time and gas. Fun idea: Give gift cards to your family when together at Thanksgiving and have them do their own shopping. Ask them to bring their purchases to your gathering at Christmas so you can see what YOU gave them! Contact Melissa Lane (314-575-7627) or Betty Meszaros (618-451-1968) for additional information.

**CARDINAL CALENDARS**

Are you looking for Christmas gift that can be used every day in 2023 then become a lifetime collectible? We have a solution! The Cemetery is accepting orders for 2023 St. Louis Cardinal baseball calendars. They will include pictures of the historic 2022 season when some of the best players in the history of baseball made or broke records. Cost is $17.00 for the 15” x 22” calendar. Each calendar ordered entitles the purchaser to one entry in a drawing for two tickets to a 2023 Cardinal home game. Orders can be placed by mailing a check payable to ST. JOHN CEMETERY to the cemetery office at 2550 Maryville Rd. (Please note checks to the cemetery versus the church as separate accounting.) Betty Meszaros will also accept orders with payment of cash, check or credit card in Fellowship Hall after Sunday morning worship TODAY. Shipment anticipated beginning of December in time

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for Christmas gift giving. Call the cemetery office at 618-876-5811 or contact Betty at 618-451-1968 with questions.

**HARVEST HOME & TOTENFEST**

Harvest Home will be celebrated on Sunday, November 20, with decorations and special liturgy, scripture, and music. Totenfest, when we remember loved ones who died during the past liturgical year, will also be held on November 20, during our 9:30 a.m. worship service.

A group of colorful candles

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**ADVENT BEGINS**

On Sunday, November 27, we will begin the new liturgical year with the first Sunday in Advent. Therefore, Saturday, November 26, will be the day for preparations. Everyone is invited to come and help all the Altar Guild members decorate throughout our buildings and grounds beginning at 9:00 a.m. Come and work off the extra Thanksgiving turkey and pie from November 24 and help to quickly change the seasons from Thanksgiving to Advent.

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It's time to order Poinsettias. Plants will cost $12.00 and are available in **red only**. Fill out the included order form exactly as you wish it to appear in the bulletin; (i.e., Mr., or Mrs., or Miss, etc.) The deadline to order poinsettias is **Monday, November 28, 2022**. When filling out order forms, please print clearly.

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**HATFEILD-GAINES SCHOLARSHIP**

The deadline to submit an application for the Hatfield-Gaines Scholarship is **Thursday, December 1, 2022**. Applications are available in the church office. If you have any questions, call the office at 618-877-6060.

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**SHOP WITH A COP**

On **December 18th** we will be hosting a luncheon in Township Hall which will service over 100 people who participate in the shop with a cop program. We will need volunteers to serve the food! Please contact Mike Seibold (618-792-4301) or the church office to sign up.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

Earl Buenger, Marcia Buenger, Ruth Buer, Hilde Few, JoAnn King, Mary Lee Krohne, Karen Luddeke, and Leonard Schaefer.

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, Isabella Boyer, Carol Braundmeier, Marlene Brokaw, Myra Cook, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Melba Grady, Lou Hasse, Norman Hente, Chuck King, Cindy Meyer, Sandy Mueller, John Relleke, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, and Nancy Wilson.

**Illinois South Conference**

DuQuoin St. John’s UCC, Rev. Robert Morwell. East St. Louis Good Shepherd of Faith, Pastor Norma Patterson. Retired Pastor, Rev. Allen and Lynn Reiter, Hamel, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**2 Thessalonians 3:6-13**

**6**Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. **7**For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, **8**and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. **9**This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. **10**For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. **11**For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. **12**Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. **13**Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

**Luke 21:5-19**

**5**When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, **6**“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” **7**They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” **8**And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will

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come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them. **9**“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” **10**Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; **11**there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. **12**“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. **13**This will give you an opportunity to testify. **14**So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, **15**for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. **16**You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. **17**You will be hated by all because of my name. **18**But not a hair of your head will perish. **19**By your endurance you will gain your souls.

**Try out our QR code! This little square will take you directly to our secure MyVanco website where you can contribute to any of our various funds. Just follow three simple steps:**

1. **Qr code

   Description automatically generatedOpen your smart phone’s camera app**
2. **Aim the camera at the black and white square below and a link will appear on your screen.**
3. **Click the link and you’ll be directed to our donations website. From there, you can select a fund to which you’d like to make a contribution.**

**Thank you!**

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**THE COVENANT OF MEMBERSHIP**

INVITATION AND QUESTIONS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The U.C.C. Doxology of Faith)

Let us unite with the church in all times and places

in confessing our faith in the triune God.

***We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,***

***God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,***

***and to your deeds we testify:***

***You call the worlds into being,***

***create persons in your own image,***

***and set before each one the ways of life and death.***

***You seek in holy love to save all people***

***from aimlessness and sin.***

***You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.***

***In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth,***

***our crucified and risen Savior,***

***you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death***

***and reconciling the world to yourself.***

***You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,***

***creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,***

***binding in covenant faithful people***

***of all ages, tongues, and races.***

***You call us into your church***

***to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,***

***to be your servants in the service of others,***

***to proclaim the gospel to all the world***

***and resist the powers of evil,***

***to share in Christ’s baptism and eat at his table,***

***to join him in his passion and victory.***

***You promise to all who trust you***

***forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,***

***courage in the struggle for justice and peace,***

***your presence in trial and rejoicing,***

***and eternal life in your realm which has no end.***

***Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.***

***Amen.***

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QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION AND WELCOME

Let us, the members of St. John United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

***We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.***

PRAYER AND PRESENTATIONS

RESPONSE ***“The Bond of Love”*** #395

MC900343897[1]

Donna Sutton

4 Watertown Circle

Granite City, IL 62040

931-627-2324

***“My Lord! What a Morning”***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***O, my Lord! What a morning,***

***When the stars begin to fall.***

***You’ll hear the trumpet sound***

***To wake the nations underground,***

***Looking to my God’s right hand***

***When the stars begin to fall.***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***O, my Lord! What a morning,***

***When the stars begin to fall.***

***You’ll hear the sinner cry***

***To wake the nations underground,***

***Looking to my God’s right hand***

***When the stars begin to fall.***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***O, my Lord! What a morning,***

***When the stars begin to fall.***

***You’ll hear the Christian shout***

***To wake the nations underground,***

***Looking to my God’s right hand***

***When the stars begin to fall.***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***My Lord! What a morning;***

***O, my Lord! What a morning,***

***When the stars begin to fall.***

***“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”***

***O Master, let me walk with thee***

***In lowly paths of service free;***

***Tell me thy secret: help me bear***

***The strain of toil, the fret of care.***

***Help me the slow of heart to move***

***By some clear, winning word of love;***

***Teach me the way-ward feet to stay,***

***And guide them in the home-ward way.***

***Teach me thy patience – still with thee***

***In closer, dearer, company,***

***In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,***

***In trust that triumphs over wrong;***

***In hope that sends a shining ray***

***Far down the future’s broadening way,***

***In peace that only thou canst give,***

***With thee, O Master, let me live.***

***“Soon and Very Soon”***

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***Soon and very soon,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***Soon and very soon,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***Soon and very soon,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

***We’re going to see the King.***

***No more crying there,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***No more crying there,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***No more crying there,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

***We’re going to see the King.***

***No more dying there,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***No more dying there,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***No more dying there,***

***We are going to see the King;***

***Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

***We’re going to see the King.***

***“The Bond of Love”***

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***We are one in the bond of love;***

***We are one in the bond of love.***

***We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God;***

***We are one in the bond of love.***

***Let us sing now, everyone;***

***Let us feel God’s love begin.***

***Let us join our hands that the world will know***

***We are one in the bond of love.***