**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| February 19, 2023  |  Transfiguration Sunday (A) |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | Tom Docter, Guest 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 Matthew 17:1-9

Then Jesus touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.”

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Voluntary in F Major* Lehenbauer

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER1

As God called to Moses from the mountain,

 ***We are called to be God’s people.***

As Jesus called the disciples to climb with him to the peak of another mountain,

 ***We are called to follow wherever he leads.***

As the disciples stood in awe at the sound of God’s voice,

***We are called to worship in wonder and praise.***

Let us pray together:

***Holy One, Light of light, God of all creation, long ago you showed yourself to the disciples in Jesus’ transfiguration—his face glowing like a field of daffodils on a bright, spring morning. Shine in us, around us, and through us, that the world may see your glory in the faces of your people—faces transfigured in the light of your love. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”*** #245

-2-

\*RESPONSIVE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

 Exodus 24:12-18

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there;

***And I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.”***

So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

***To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”***

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

***The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud.***

Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

***Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON 2 Peter 1:16-21 pg. 222

ANTHEM *Assurance*  Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 17:1-9 pg. 17

SERMON

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Fairest Lord Jesus”*** #123

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***

-3-

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

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God* Glockenspiel

\*RESPONSE ***“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”***

***Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!*** Vs. 4 #136

***All thy works shall praise thy name,***

***in earth, and sky, and sea;***

***Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!***

***God in three persons, blessed Trinity!***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***Holy God, we praise you with our offerings today. We give with generosity, just as you have given all to us. May the light of your abundant love shine through these gifts, and through the discipleship we embody as your church and people. Bless and multiply our ministries as your Spirit leads us into the world, in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

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

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *La Rejouissance* Handel

1From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2011. Copyright © 2010 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.”

Welcome to worship as we celebrate the Transfiguration and catch a glimpse of Jesus’ divine glory.

The **bulletin** is given in celebration of the life of Emily Anne Douglas by Mom & Dad.

The **altar centerpiece** is given to remember our beautiful Emily Anne on her February 22nd Birthday. Love, Mom, Dad, Josh, Acacia, Milo, Charlie, and Desmond.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Donna Streid** at (618) 877-7767. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call

-4-

the **church office** at (618) 877-6060. There next available date to sponsor the bulletin is February 26th. There are also two available dates in May to sponsor bulletins: May 7th, and May 21st. We are in need of a sponsor for the **March 2023 Herald**. If you would like to sponsor the March Herald, please call the church office.

Thank you to **Kiki Cochran** for serving as liturgist, to **Eleanor Reynolds** for serving as acolyte, to **Rae-Ellen Vogeler** for greeting, and to **Tom Docter** for serving as guest organist today.



**THIS WEEK**

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

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

 Confirmation, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

 Fellowship Hour by Glockenspiel

 Community & Church Alliance at Unity Baptist, 3:00

 p.m.

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

Tuesday:  **Herald Deadline**

Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

 **Ash Wednesday Worship, 7:00 p.m.**

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

 Cemetery Scatter Garden Committee, 5:00 p.m.

 Granite City Community Band Rehearsal, 6:15-

 9:45 p.m.

Saturday: Confirmands’ Presentation Work Day, 9:00 a.m.

 12:00 p.m.

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

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

 Confirmands’ Presentation Work Day (if needed),

 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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

-5-



We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of **Mary Lee Krohne** who died on Thursday, February 16, 2023.A funeral service will be held one day this week but arrangements were pending at the printing of this bulletin. May the peace and comfort that come from God sustain her loved ones during this time of grief.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our February Mission of the Month is dedicated to our Food Box Distribution Project. The next Food Box Distribution will be on Saturday, March 4, 2023 and benefits members of our community who are in need.

**FIRST QUARTER NOISY OFFERING**

Our first quarter Noisy Offering is designated for the Kielce Polish church helping Ukrainians.



**FOOD BOX PACKING**

We will need volunteers on Wednesday, March 1st to help pack food boxes at 9:00 a.m.



**FRÜHLING MARKET & VENDOR FAIR**

Mark your calendars for our First Annual Frühling Market & Vendor Fair! Stop by on Saturday, March 25th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. to buy all kinds of crafted items available from up to 30 area vendors. We’ll also have a variety of snacks available for

-6-

purchase while you shop! Know someone who might be interested in being a vendor? We still have 5 spots left! Have them send an email to stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com or call the church office at 618-877-6060.

**SCRIP**

The Scrip program is being resumed in February with plans to submit orders today, February 19th with delivery next Sunday. Master list of vendors and St. John “favorites” order forms will be on the table in the narthex. Give order form and check payable to

St. John UCC to Betty Meszaros at any time. Orders will be held until the third Sunday of each month and submitted then. Exception if total order does not cover shipping cost which is currently $10.50 per order. You can still participate in the program if not attending in-person worship. Just drop off or mail your check to the church with a note of cards you are ordering. Cost is face value of the card. Rebate is automatically sent to church. Cards are great as gifts but also easy to use personally. Contact Melissa Lane at 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros at 618-451-1968 if any questions.



**ASH WEDNESDAY – EASTER SUNDAY**

This year Ash Wednesday is on February 22, and we will host a combined service with First United Presbyterian Church at 7:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary, and also on Zoom. The Imposition of Ashes for those present in-person, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion, will be celebrated. Please plan to attend and begin the Lenten season with spiritual guidance.

And please mark your March/April calendars for these services and activities.

**March 12**, Daylight Savings Time, Girl Scout Sunday

**March 19**, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

**March 26**, Confirmands’ Presentation Sunday

**April 2**, Palm/Passion Sunday, Communion, Rite of Confirmation, Fellowship Hour

-7-

**April 6**, Maundy Thursday, Confirmands’ & Family, Baptism Sponsors, Prayer Partners commune at the Table

**April 9**, Easter Sunday, Communion, Fellowship Hour

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing, Assisted, & Independent Living**

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

 JoAnn King, #113,

**Eden Village**, 200 S. Station Rd., Glen Carbon, IL 62034

 Earl & Marcia Buenger, Apt 9219

**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

 Jerry Shonk

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

Leonard Schaefer, #475

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

 Hilde Few, #208

**At Home**

Karen Anders, 5153 Buena St., G.C., IL 62040

Chloe Affolter, 577 Newhart Dr., G.C., IL 62040

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

Carol Braundmeier, 2228 Nevada, G.C., IL 62040

Christopher Clark, 2223 Lincoln Ave., G.C., IL 62040

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

Cindy Meyer, 2206 Lynch Ave., 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

-8-

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

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

Nancy Wilson, 4062 Sarah St. Apt 81, G.C., IL 62040

**Illinois South Conference**

Marissa Friedens UCC, Rev. Brett (Caroline) Palmer. Mascoutah St. John UCC, Rev. Robert (Rev. Janis Dashner) Goddard, Interim Pastor. Retired Pastor, Rev. Frances and Jane Feagans-King, Springfield, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**2 Peter 1:16-21**

**16**For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. **17**For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” **18**We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. **19**So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. **20**First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation,

**21**because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

**Matthew 17:1-9**

**17**Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. **2**And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. **3**Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. **4**Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” **5**While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” **6**When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. **7**But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be

-9-

afraid.” **8**And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

**9**As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**Try 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. **Open 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!**

-10-

**CALL FOR INFORMATION**

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

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

Chancel Choir – Talk to John Nitchman, President, 618-288-5297

Council – Talk to Kiki Cochran, President, 618-797-2511 or Donna Brandes, Vice President, 618-802-1072

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, 314-420-1548

 

***2023 Ecumenical Lent Services***

***Wednesdays at Noon***

***Light Lunch to Follow***

**March 1 The Rooted Community Church**

**2101 Cleveland Blvd.**

**March 8 Trinity United Methodist Church**

**2542 E. 25th St.**

**March 15 St. John United Church of Christ**

**2901Nameoki Rd.**

**March 22 First United Presbyterian Church**

**2160 Delmar Ave.**

**March 29 Unity Church**

**2500 St. Clair Ave.**

**April 5 Nameoki United Methodist Church**

**1900 Pontoon Rd.**



Please order a lily for me. Plants will cost **$12.00** each. Fill in the lines below exactly as you wish it to appear in the bulletin; (i.e., Mr., or Mrs., or

Miss, etc.) **DEADLINE** to order a lily is March 26, 2023.

(Please attach payments to this form and place either in the offering plate or bring it to the church office.) PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY !!!!

IN LOVING MEMORY OF\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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IN HONOR OF\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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IN GRATITUDE FOR\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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BY

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# OF LILIES ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED

(Make checks payable to: St. John United Church of Christ)

***“We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”***

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. Music: Leavitt’s *The Christian Lyre,* 1830; arr. Jack Schrader. Words © 1988 Hope Publishing Company. Music Arr. © 2001 Hope Publishing Company.

***We have come at Christ’s own bidding***

***To this high and holy place,***

***Where we wait with hope and longing***

***For some token of God’s grace.***

***Here we pray for new assurance***

***That our faith is not in vain,***

***Searching like those first disciples***

***For a sign both clear and plain.***

***Light breaks through our clouds and shadows,***

***Splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,***

***Moses and Elijah marvel***

***As the heavenly voice is heard.***

***Eyes and hearts behold with wonder***

***How the Law and Prophets meet:***

***Christ with garments drenched in brightness,***

***Stands transfigured and complete.***

***Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,***

***Fearful lest our faith decline,***

***We, like Peter, find it tempting***

***To remain and build a shrine.***

***But true worship gives us courage***

***To proclaim what we profess,***

***That our daily lives may prove us***

***People of the God we bless.***

***“Fairest Lord Jesus”***

***Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,***

***O thou of God and man the Son,***

***Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,***

***Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown!***

***Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,***

***Robed in the blooming garb of spring:***

***Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,***

***Who makes the woeful heart to sing!***

***Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,***

***And all the twinkling, starry host:***

***Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,***

***Than all the angels heaven can boast.***

***Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!***

***Son of God and Son of man!***

***Glory and honor, praise, adoration,***

***Now and forevermore be thine!***

***“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.***

***Un-resting, 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.***