**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| March 12, 2023  |  Third Sunday in Lent (A) |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor |  Dan Comer, Music Technician |
| 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

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

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY PRESENTATIONS

Girl Scout Promise

**On my honor, I will try:
    To serve God and my country,
    To help people at all times,
    And to live by the Girl Scout Law.**

RECORDED GIRL SCOUT SONGS PLAYED

*MAKE NEW FRIENDS*

 *Make new friends but keep the old,*

 *One is silver and the other gold.*

 *A circle's round, it has no end,*

 *That's how long I want to be your friend.*

 *I have a hand and you have another,*

 *Put them together and we have each other*

*THE MORE WE GET TOGETHER*

 *The more we get together*

 *Together, together*

 *The more we get together*

 *The happier we'll be*

 *For your friends are my friends*

 *And my friends are your friends.*

 *The more we get together*

 *The happier we'll be.*

-2-

PRAYER FOR ALL GIRL SCOUTS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

 ***Dear Father in Heaven, we know we are your children, we want to serve you faithfully, and we want to keep our Girl Scout Promise. Help us to listen to your voice; help us to be willing and quick to do your work; help us to be friendly and loving; and help us to thank you every day for all your gifts to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 Recording of *Come, Just as You Are* Crystal Lewis

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER1

Worship the Lord and sing God’s praises.

 ***We come into the Lord’s presence***

 ***with songs of thanksgiving.***

Make a joyful noise for the rock of our salvation.

 ***We rejoice in our time together.***

Drink of Christ’s living water.

***We thirst for God’s love!***

Let us pray together:

***Holy One, we yearn to draw near as we arrive in this time of worship. We come to calm our hearts, soothe our fears, and deepen our faith. As the Samaritan woman before us, help us draw cool water from the well of your love, and help us leave with the living water of belief, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*** #501

\*RESPONSIVE READING OF OUR MEMORY PLAQUE

On March 8, 1871 there was a tremendous storm

 ***Which destroyed St. Johns’ Church***

 ***and also the Organ.***

In Memory of the loss, St. Johns’ Congregation

ordered a Prayerday and a Fast.

 ***From this date and every year until eternity.***

[Text referenced: Isaiah 54:7-10.]

For a brief moment I abandoned you,

but with great compassion I will gather you.

 ***In overflowing wrath for a moment,***

 ***I hid my face from you,***

-3-

But with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,

says the Lord, your Redeemer.

 ***This is like the days of Noah to me:***

Just as I swore that the waters of Noah

would never again go over the earth,

 ***So I have sworn that I will not be angry with you***

 ***and will not rebuke you.***

For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed,

but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,

 ***And my covenant of peace shall not be removed,***

Says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 17:1-7 pg. 61

SPECIAL MUSIC Recording of *“The Well”* Casting Crowns

GOSPEL LESSON John 4:5-42 pg. 89

 Summarizing and Reading Verses 7-15, 23-24, 28-30, 39-41

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Rock of Ages”*** #384

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 *“Adore” Instrumental* Chris Tomlin

\*RESPONSE ***“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”***

Traditional Doxology pg.#34

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

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

-4-

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

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

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION1

 ***Protector God, we hear your voice beckoning us to be your hands and your feet in the world. Show us a way through the wilderness of life, with knapsacks filled with blessings and vessels of living water for a hurting world. Receive these offerings, that they may be for others the blessings we have received from your hand. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”***  #93

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *Just as You Are*  Instrumental

1From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023. Copyright © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

We gather at the well of worship, where Jesus, our Living Water, quenches our thirst for love, life, hope, peace. Welcome.

The **bulletin** and **altar vases** are given in honor of Girl Scout Sunday by Karen Orr, Connie Ahlers, Marcia Buenger, Christie Roth, Karen Luddeke, Ruth Hubbard, Trish Stromlund, Sandy Dawson, Linda Mizell, Donna Brandes, Rachel Reynolds, and Jessie Curran.

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 the **church office** at (618) 877-6060. The next available dates to sponsor the bulletin are April 16th, 30th, and May 7th.

Thank you to **Karen Gaines** for serving as liturgist, to **Baylee Fischer** for serving as acolyte, to **George & Kiki Cochran** for greeting, and to **Dan Comer** for serving as music technician.

**THIS WEEK**

Today: **Daylight Saving Time Begins**

Remembering March 8, 1871

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

-5-

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

 Girl Scout Sunday

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

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

 Brotherhood St. Patrick’s Day Party, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

 Hilltoppers, 12:30 p.m.

 CE/W/F Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

 Lenten Service here at St. John, 12:00 p.m.

 Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m.

 Chancel Choir, 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

 Dedicate One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

 Fellowship Hour by Sunday School Families

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

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our March Mission of the Month is dedicated to the Humane Society/Shelter. We are asking members to bring unwanted blankets, pillows, and pet beds to donate to the shelter.

**BROTHERHOOD**

The men’s Brotherhood is hosting a St. Patrick’s Day Dinner tomorrow, March 13th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. for all those who made reservations. Guest speaker, Barb Kay, will be giving a presentation on The Unsinkable Molly Brown, who was the daughter of Irish Immigrants.

**BROTHERHOOD SPRING MEAT SALE**

The Brotherhood meat sale order forms will be due onTuesday, March 21st. Pickup for meat orders will be from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Friday March 31st & Saturday, April 1st. Order forms were included in the March edition of the Herald and are available in the weekly bulletins and on the website (stjohnuccgranitecity.com) under the events tab.

-6-



**FRÜHLING MARKET & VENDOR FAIR**

The Frühling Market & Vendor Fair is BACK ON!!! So, if you hadn’t already, mark your calendars for Saturday March 25th! Do you enjoy baking? Then we need YOU. There will be a table of baked goods for sale plus desserts sold as well as sandwiches. The fair will be open from 9 AM to 3 PM. Make your choice of muffins, bread, cookies, brownies, candy, cake or pies (nothing that needs to be refrigerated please).  The ESOS committee has already volunteered and more goodies will be appreciated. Set-up for vendors starts at 7:30 Saturday morning. You can bring baked goods that early or later in the morning or on Friday.  If you can participate, please talk to Betty Meszaros or text her at 618-670-5267.

**SCRIP**

If giving Easter “baskets” is part of your tradition, please consider purchasing gift cards through the scrip program. Even the big kids enjoy receiving a special treat. Many vendors (such as Starbucks) offer $10 and $25 denominations. Shop at the Fruhling Market then include a gift card!  Master list of vendors and St. John “favorites” order forms are 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. Contact Melissa Lane at 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros at 618-451-1968 if any questions.

-7-



**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

Mark your March/April calendars for these services and activities.

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

**March 26**, Confirmands’ Presentation Sunday

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

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

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

**LENTEN, MAUNDY THURSDAY, AND EASTER**

 **SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

This year the Council has designated our Lenten special envelope, coin folder, and Maundy Thursday offerings to Kindercottage to help with necessary playground and groundskeeping updates. Kindercottage has a wonderful ministry with families of young children to help them be safe, healthy, and successful as they grow and to know they are beloved children of God. If you have computer access, check out their website at <https://www.unipreskindercottage.org/>.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

On the Fourth Sunday of Lent, which is March 19 this year, the United Church of Christ and our Ecumenical Partners join together for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. “When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world, and in our own communities. When man-made or natural disasters strike, love responds. Not just for the immediate future, but for the long haul. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you are working alongside families to restore not only structures but hope. Your giving ensures that no matter how difficult the situation, ***Love remains***.”

Again, be sure to clearly label offerings so the counters can properly credit them. Offering envelopes were included in the March edition of the Herald.

-8-

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing, Assisted, & Independent Living**

Earl Buenger, Marcia Buenger, Ruth Buer, Hilde Few, JoAnn King, Karen Luddeke, Leonard Schaefer, and Jerry Shonk.

**At Home**

Karen Anders, Chloe Affolter, Isabella Boyer, Carol Braundmeier, Christopher Clark, Myra Cook, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Melba Grady, Lou Hasse, Norman Hente, Chuck King, Mina McBrian, Cindy Meyer, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, and Nancy Wilson.

**Illinois South Conference**

New Athens St. John UCC, Rev. Dr. Robert (Cathy) Koch. ISC Conference Minister, Rev. Shana (Rev. Todd Bean) Johnson, O’Fallon, IL. Retired Pastor, Revs. Janis Dashner & Robert Goddard, O’Fallon, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Exodus 17:1-7**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. **2**The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” **3**But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” **4**So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” **5**The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. **6**I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. **7**He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

**John 4:5-42**

**5**So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. **6**Jacob’s well

-9-

was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. **7**A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” **8**(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) **9**The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) **10**Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” **11**The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? **12**Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” **13**Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, **14**but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” **15**The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” **16**Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” **17**The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ **18**for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” **19**The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. **20**Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” **21**Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. **22**You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. **23**But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. **24**God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” **25**The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” **26**Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.” **27**Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” **28**Then the woman left her water jar and

-10-

went back to the city. She said to the people, **29**“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” **30**They left the city and were on their way to him. **31**Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” **32**But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” **33**So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” **34**Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. **35**Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. **36**The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. **37**For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ **38**I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” **39**Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” **40**So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. **41**And many more believed because of his word. **42**They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

**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!**

**Brotherhood**

**Semi-Annual**

**Meat Sale**

**March 21, 2023 is**

**last day to Pre-order**

**March 31/April 1 Pickup**

**9:00am to 12:00pm**

**Pre-orders Mandatory**

**We will be accepting pre-orders for pick-up on Friday and Saturday morning**

**March 31/April 1 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Due to Illinois state regulations no meat**

**can be returned to Meat market thus pre-orders are now mandatory. Please have**

**all preorders back to Brotherhood by March 21. Please make checks payable to**

**St. John United Church of Christ Brotherhood.**

**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Cash\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Check\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **QUANTITY** | **PRICE** | **TOTAL** |
| **Pork sausage link 1#** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **$6.00** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Pork sausage bulk 1#** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **$6,00** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Bacon** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **$9.00** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Bratwurst 1#** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **$6.00** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Metwurst Ring** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **$6.00** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Pork ring (liver sausage)** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **$6.00** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Blood Sausage** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** | **$6.00** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

**HEAD CHEESE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $6.00 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Sliced Summer Sausage \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $15.00 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Hot Sticks \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $26.00 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**The following items are to be priced at time of pick-up.**

**FULL HAM\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, HALF HAM\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, PORK LOIN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**

**PORK RIBS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, SUMMER SAUSAGE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, BACK BONES\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**

**½ SUMMER SAUSAGE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, TENDERLOIN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**

 **SMOKED PORK CHOPS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, PORK STEAKS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**



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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

OR

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

OR

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

BY

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

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

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

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

TOTAL ENCLOSED

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