**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

**An All-Saints Day Remembrance with Communion**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| November 5, 2023 |  23rd Sunday after Pentecost (A)  |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | Dave Ekstrand, Dir. Of Music |
| 9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship | 9:30 Sunday School for Children |
| 2901 Nameoki Road | Granite City, IL 62040 |
| E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.comWeb-stjohnuccgranitecity.com |  (618) 877-6060Instagram: @stjohnucc2901gc |

YouTube: gcstjohnucc Facebook: Search St. John UCC Granite City

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 AND BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH A WAVE

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“Majesty”*** #43

***Majesty, worship his majesty;***

***unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.***

***Majesty, kingdom authority***

***flow from his throne unto his own, his anthem raise.***

***So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus;***

***magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.***

***Majesty, worship his majesty;***

***Jesus, who died, now glorified, King of all kings.***

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN I John 3:1-3

Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed…(Vs. 2a)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Runyan

CENTERING THOUGHT1

*Blessing, honor, and glory to the Lord, our God. Praise the ancient of days.*

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CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER1 Psalm 34, 1 John 3, Matthew 5

Bless the Lord at all times.

 ***Praise God’s holy name.***

Magnify the Lord with hearts full of devotion.

 ***Sing of God’s glory with tongues full of song.***

Seek the Lord of love.

 ***We will worship the living God.***

Let us pray:

***God of mercy and grace, shower us with your loving kindness. Fashion us into the saints you call us to be. Love us abundantly, that others may see your kindness and joy reflected in our lives. Bless us with your abiding presence, that we may shine as saints of your holy love. Amen.***

\*HYMN AND NOISY OFFERING FOR CEMENT STEPS

  ***“Tell Out, My Soul”*** #41

Melody played once, and then all sing all four verses.

\*LITANY OF YEARNING Matthew 5

We yearn to be counted among the saints of old,

***But the journey is long and difficult.***

We long to love others as we should,

***Even when they revile and hate us.***

We seek to forgive those who wrong us,

***Even when it means swallowing our pride.***

We strive for the openness of spirit to pray for those who persecute us,

***Even when we want to hold onto our wounds.***

God of Eternity, guide us on this journey of discipleship,

***that we may grow as your children and live as saints of your love. Amen.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON I John 3:1-3, 18-24 pg. 225

ANTHEM *Autumn Carol* Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:1-12 pg. 4

REFLECTION *My Voice Is a Trumpet*2

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**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“I Love to Tell the Story”*** #560

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* Gladden

\*SUNG RESPONSE3 ***“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 DEDICATION1 Matthew 5, Revelation 7

 ***Gracious One, you offer us the bread of life and the living water of Christ. We come before you to offer our hearts and the riches we have received from your hand. Bless these gifts, that they may bring the Spirit’s comfort to those whose eyes are wet with tears. In Christ’s holy name we pray. Amen.***

INVITATION1 Matthew 5, Revelation 7

All who hunger for love, come to the bread of life.

***Here, all are fed.***

All who thirst for the cup of blessing, come to the table of grace.

 ***Here, all are made whole.***

All who need mercy and grace, come to the Lamb of God.

 ***Here, all find a home.***

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COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING, POURING AND PARTAKING

All confessing Christians are welcome to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please hold each element when served in the pews so all may partake together. The inner circle of cups contains white grape juice. The outer circles have wine.

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING4

***We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior.***

\*HYMN ***“For All the Saints”*** Vss. 1, 2, 5 & 6#529

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *Rock of Ages* Toplady

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2**My Voice Is a Trumpet** written by country music artist Jimmie Allen, Copyright © 2021 by Aadyn’s Dad Touring Inc., First published in the USA by Flamingo Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2021

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“Let [us] give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds” (Psalm 107:8, NIV). Welcome to worship.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Rosalie Watson** (618-741-2979). Flower Emporium offers $25 (small), $30 (medium), or $35 (large) arrangements. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at (618) 877-6060.

Thank you to **Kiki Cochran** for serving as liturgist, and to Rae-Ellen Vogeler for serving as Greeter.

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**ANNUAL MEETING**

Our Annual Meeting will be held after worship and fellowship hour on Sunday, November 19, 2023. Please plan to attend.



**THIS WEEK**

Today: Daylight Savings Time ends

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

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

 Communion and Noisy Offering

 Budgets Informational Meeting after Worship

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

 Evening Guild White Elephant Auction, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

 Head Start in Nursery, 10:00 a.m.

 Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

 Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m.

 Chancel Choir, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

 GCC Band rehearsal, 6:15-9:45 p.m. **Canceled**

Friday: GCC Band concert at Grace Baptist, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: Altar Guild decorating, 9:00 a.m.

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

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

 Annual Reports Booklets distributed

**NOVEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH**

The November Mission of the Month is our literacy program working with the downtown Head Start. Volunteers will be needed for future activities as well as funds. In November for Mission of the Month, please clearly mark extra financial gifts and share time, talent and treasure with this important community organization.

**CELEBRATE THE CARDINALS**

No World Series for the 2023 Saint Louis Cardinals but what a year! Adam Wainwright’s historic 200th game winner, Jordan Walker’s rookie year in the big leagues, unbelievable defensive plays –– all captured in beautiful photographs. Many of these memories will be included in the Cardinals official 2024 calendar. The calendar measures 17” by 15” and

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includes the 2024 game schedule. Orders will be taken until November 12th with delivery in time for Christmas gift-giving. Cost of the calendar

will be the same $17 as last year. Each order also entitles the purchaser to one entry for the “Celebrate the Cardinals” gift basket. Basket includes two $20 gift certificates to Ravanelli‘s Steakhouse,

book on history of Sportsman’s Park, Yadi Molina photo on wooden plaque and replica jersey plus so much more! Additional chances may be purchased $1 each or six for $5. Chances may also be purchased if no calendar order. Proceeds to benefit St. John Cemetery projects. Betty Meszaros will be in Fellowship Hall after worship services with order forms and raffle tickets or call the cemetery office at 618-876-5811 if questions.

**EVENING GUILD**

The Evening Guild will meet tomorrow, Monday, Nov. 6th at 6:30 p.m. Please bring gently used treasures for the annual white elephant auction.

**BROTHERHOOD SPONSORED CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The annual Brotherhood Christmas dinner/party will be on Monday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend. Reservations are due by Tuesday, December 5. Cost is $15 per person payable to St. John UCC Brotherhood.

**TOTENFEST**

Totenfest, when we remember loved ones who died during the past liturgical year, will be held on November 26, during our 9:30 a.m. worship service. Letters will be sent to a family member if we have an address inviting them to attend this special service. Please invite those you know and offer a ride to anyone who may need transportation.



**OUR PRAYERS**

**Hospital**

Bob Braundmeier is in Anderson Hospital.

**Nursing, Assisted, & Independent Living**

Marcia Buenger, Ruth Buer, Myra Cook, Hilde Few, Bonnie Fornaszewski, JoAnn King, Karen Luddeke, and Marjorie Schmidt.

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**At Home**

Chloe Affolter, Karen Anders, Isabella Boyer, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Melba Grady, Chuck Hasse, Lou Hasse, Barbara Houston, Chuck King, Mina McBrian, Cindy Meyer, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Delores Roethemeyer (at Nancy Jacobs’ home), June Stille, Jim Watson, Janice Weeks, and Nancy Wilson.

**Illinois South Conference**

Johannisburg St. John’s UCC, Rev. William Groennert. Lebanon St. Paul UCC, Rev. Todd (Rev. Shana Johnson) Bean, Interim Pastor. Retired Pastor Rev. Carol and David Shanks, Waterloo, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**I John 3:1-3, 18-24**

**1**See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **2**Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. **3**And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

**18**Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. **19**And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him **20**whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. **21**Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, **22**and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

**23**And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. **24**All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

**Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesussaw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2**And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

**3**“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**4**“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**5**“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**6**“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

**7**“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

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**8**“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

**9**“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**10**“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**11**“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12**Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**NOVEMBER HERALD**

Due to new computer issues and the changes in secretarial staff, the November Herald has finally been printed and will hopefully be mailed Tuesday. We will probably send the December/January combined issue a bit late in December so there will be time between issues.

**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!**

**CALL FOR INFORMATION**

Bell Choir – Kathy Morris, 618-210-6095

Cemetery -- Kathy Montgomery, 618-876-5811

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

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

Evening Guild – Christie Roth, 618-931-6194

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

 or 618-877-6060 church office

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Heavenly Stars – Betty Meszaros, 618-451-1968

Karen Gaines - 618-288-0845

Herald – 618-877-6060 church office

Hilltoppers – Dee Roethemeyer, 618-876-6860

Historian – Sandy Dawson, 618-791-8246

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

Dave Douglas, 618-452-3336

Quilters – Sandy Dawson 618-791-8246

Doris Peterson 618-877-1606

Sausage Dinner – Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Nancy Jacobs -- 618-931-0673

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

Sunday School – Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Youth Fellowship – Sharon O’Toole, 314-420-1548

**UPCOMING COMMUNITY & CHURCH EVENTS**

Granite City Community Band Concert, November 10, 7:00 p.m. at Grace Baptist Church in Granite City.

Music of the Spheres presents Don Stratton in concert on Saturday, November 11, 7:00 p.m. at First United Presbyterian Church in Granite City.

Master’s Voice Christmas Concert November 30 and December 1, 7:00, at First United Presbyterian Church.

Totenfest, November 26, 9:30 a.m., during Sunday Worship.

Parsonage Open House, Sunday, December 3, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Christmas Ensemble Concert, Sunday, December 10, 1:00 p.m. featuring pianist Sun Hye Chung here at St. John UCC.



2:00 a.m. Sunday, November 5

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November 11, 2023



America, the Beautiful

Vss. 3 & 4

*O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,*

*who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!*

*America! America! May God thy gold refine,*

*till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!*

*O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years*

*thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears! America! America! God shed his grace on thee,*

*and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!*

Katharine L. Bates

***“Tell Out, My Soul”***

**Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith. Words © 1962, Ren. 1990 Hope Publishing Company. Printed by permission, CCLI License #1334401**

**Tell out, my soul,**

**the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered**

**blessings give my spirit voice;**

**tender to me the promise of his Word; in God my**

**Savior shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul,**

**the greatness of his name!**

**Make known his might,**

**the deeds his arm has done;**

**his mercy sure,**

**from age to age the same;**

**his holy name,**

**the Lord, the mighty one.**

**Tell out, my soul,**

**the greatness of his might!**

**Powers and**

**dominions lay their glory by.**

**Proud hearts and stubborn**

**wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul,**

**the glories of his Word!**

**Firm is his**

**promise, and his mercy sure.**

**Tell out, my soul,**

**the greatness of the Lord**

**to children’s**

**children and forevermore!**

 ***“I Love to Tell the Story”***

***I love to tell the story***

***of unseen things above,***

***of Jesus and his glory,***

***of Jesus and his love.***

***I love to tell the story***

***because I know ‘tis true;***

***it satisfies my longings***

***as nothing else can do.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘twill be my theme in glory,***

***to tell the old, old story***

***of Jesus and his love.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘tis pleasant to repeat***

***what seems, each time I tell it,***

***more wonderfully sweet.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***for some have never heard***

***the message of salvation***

***from God’s own Holy Word.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘twill be my theme in glory,***

***to tell the old, old story***

***of Jesus and his love.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***for those who know it best***

***seem hungering and thirsting***

***to hear it like the rest.***

***And when in scenes of glory***

***I sing the new, new song,***

***‘twill be the old, old story***

***that I have loved so long.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘twill be my theme in glory,***

***to tell the old, old story***

***of Jesus and his love.***

***“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,***

***“For All the Saints” vss. 1, 2, 5 & 6***

***For all the saints***

***who from their labors rest,***

***who thee by faith***

***before the world confessed,***

***thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Thou wast their rock,***

***their fortress and their might;***

***thou, Lord, their***

***captain in the well-fought fight;***

***thou in the darkness***

***drear, their one true light.***

***Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***But lo! There breaks***

***a yet more glorious day:***

***the saints triumphant***

***rise in bright array; the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***From earth’s wide bounds***

***and ocean’s farthest coast,***

***through gates of pearl***

***streams in the countless host,***

***singing to Father,***

***Son, and Holy Ghost:***

***Alleluia! Alleluia!***