**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

June 27, 2021 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor Ritch Alexander, Organist

9:30 a.m. Zoom & In-Person Worship 11:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for Children (618) 877-6060

2901 Nameoki Road Granite City, IL 62040

[E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com](mailto:E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com) Web-stjohnuccgranitecity.com

**Following current guidelines, face masks are optional for those vaccinated, and REQUIRED for those not vaccinated.**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN Psalm 130

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope…

(Psalm 130:5)

PRELUDE *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* Sikes

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER1

Hope in the God of life!

***Trust in the God of the ages.***

Believe in the Christ of love.

***Trust in the Christ of healing.***

Come, let your faith bring hope and wholeness!

Let us pray together:

***God of generous abundance, you give us so much of yourself. For Christ’ grace and love, for the Spirit’s constant presence, and for the gifts you have entrusted to us, we give you thanks and praise. As we worship this day, reveal your gifts in us. Remind us of your abundance. Strengthen our resolve to live as the community of faith you would have us be. Amen.***

HYMN  ***“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”*** #84

READING FROM “REFLECTIONS ON THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY”

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ANNIVERSARY LITANY Adapted from the

150th Anniversary of St. John UCC 1862-2012 Booklet The heritage of St. John began with our founders on June 28, 1862,

***Filled with determination and courage.***

Their wise leadership instigated our journey down a path,

***That we continue to walk yet today with the help of God.***

But “God is still speaking”

***And so our journey does not end.***

As our mission statement declares:

***“Empowered by the Holy Spirit,***

Living our faith in Jesus Christ,

***And celebrating the promises of God,***

We welcome all

***To unite in loving and serving God.”***

Let this be our legacy for future generations,

***To continue in our mission***

And celebrate many more anniversaries in the future.

***It is our fervent prayer***

That the members of St. John United Church of Christ,

***Will guide their lives for generations to come***

By the words of our motto,

***“In Christ we live, celebrate and serve.”***

EPISTLE LESSON 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 pg. 172

DUET *Rondeau*  Ritch Alexander & Karla Frost

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 5:21-43 pg. 37

REFLECTION

HYMN ***“They Did Not Build in Vain”*** #542

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD’S PRAYER & RESPONSE

***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.***

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STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus* Ritch Alexander, Arr.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION1

***Generous God, grant us life’s necessities, but not too many luxuries. Out of our abundance, help us share generously and freely. Out of our poverty, help us receive gracefully and freely. Like a mighty flame of power and hope, rush through our lives and through these gifts, that others may know the blessing of your healing and hope. Amen.***

HYMN ***“Christ, You Call Us All to Service”***  #571

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *March in F* Williams

1The Call to Worship & Prayer and the Unison Prayer of Dedication are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* 2012 Edition, Copyright © 2011 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Members and guests, we’re so glad you’re here, for your presence expands and enlivens our worship. Let us praise God together!

The **bulletin** is given in loving memory of my niece Stacy by Glenda Mitchell.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Sue Goedeke** at (618) 791-0137. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available date is July 18.

**Thank you** to Kiki Cochran for serving as liturgist today.

**Thank you** to Ritch Alexander and Karla Frost for providing special music.

The **Schnucks rebate program** will be discontinued June 30th.  Appreciation to all who have supported this fundraising opportunity for our church. We have been part of this program for a long time and have received monies for our general fund throughout the years.  Thank you to Donna Brandes who coordinated the program

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at its inception. Please note this is separate from the scrip (gift cards) project which will be continued. Now that Covid restrictions are being lifted and church activities are starting, the plan is to resume the scrip program in the fall. Orders will be taken following certain worship services.  Details will be announced.



Granite City will be having a fireworks show on **Sunday, July 4**, beginning when dark, or around 8:45 p.m. Viewing from our parking lot/field is a fun family option. Bring your lawn chairs and come and

enjoy them together!

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

Outdoor Service, 11:00 a.m.

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

Monday: **159th Anniversary of St. John UCC**

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

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Zoom Bible Study, 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Thursday: Cemetery Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

Next Sunday: **Independence Day**

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

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

Fireworks viewing, 8:45 p.m.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing and Assisted Living**

Ruth Buer, Loretta Cook, Hilde Few, JoAnn King, Mary Lee Krohne, and Karen Luddeke.

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, Rose Marie Bauer, Isabella Boyer, Marlene Brokaw, Myra Cook, Janet Cowley, Randy Fischer, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Norman Hente, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, David Oliver Jr., Karen Orr, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, and Don Young.

**Illinois South Conference**

Hecker Friedens UCC, Rev. Ivan (Vivian) Horn. Highland Evangelical UCC, Rev. Todd (Rev. Shana Johnson) Bean. Retired Pastor, Rev. Gustav and Suzanne Kuether, Belleville, IL.

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**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**2 Corinthians 8:7-15**

**7**Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. **8**I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. **9**For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. **10**And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something— **11**now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. **12**For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. **13**I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between **14**your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. **15**As it is written,

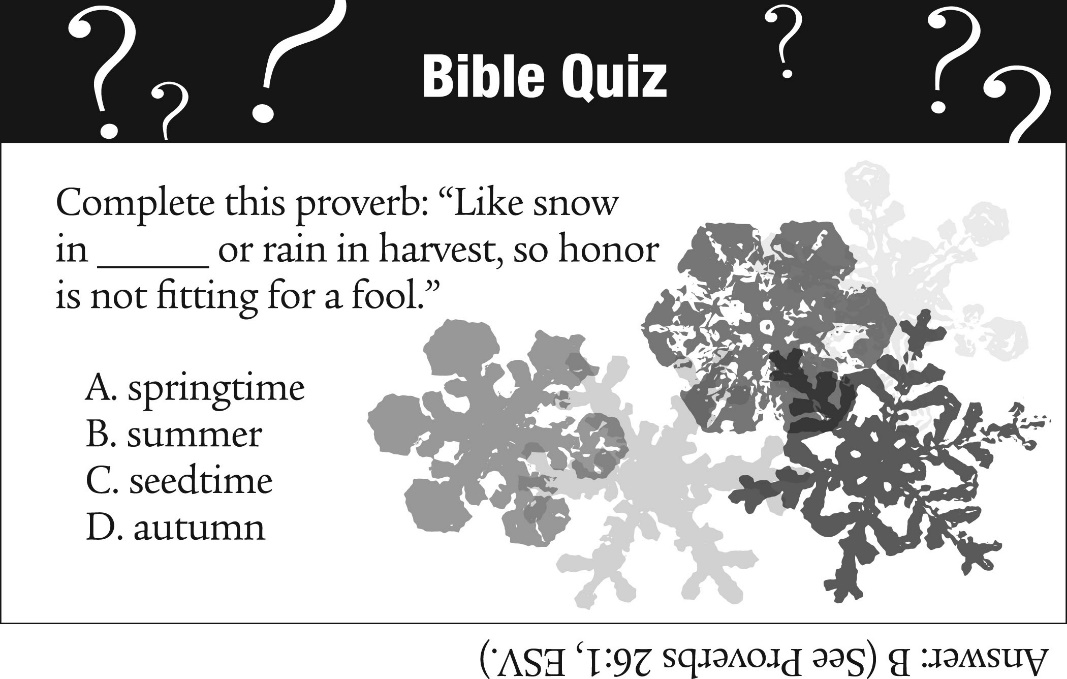
“The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little.”

**Mark 5:21-43**

**21**When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. **22**Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet **23**and begged him repeatedly, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.” **24**So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. **25**Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. **26**She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. **27**She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, **28**for she said, “If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.” **29**Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. **30**Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my clothes?” **31**And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, ‘Who touched me?’” **32**He looked all around to see who had done it. **33**But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. **34**He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of

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your disease.” **35**While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?” **36**But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” **37**He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. **38**When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. **39**When he had entered, he said to them, “Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.” **40**And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. **41**He took her by the hand and said to her, “Talitha cum,” which means, “Little girl, get up!” **42**And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. **43**He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.



***“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”***

***O God, our help in ages past,***

***Our hope for years to come***

***Our shelter from the stormy blast,***

***And our eternal home.***

***Under the shadow of your throne***

***Your saints have dwelt secure***

***Sufficient is your arm alone,***

***And our defense is sure.***

***Before the hills in order stood***

***Or earth received her frame,***

***From everlasting you are God,***

***To endless years the same.***

***A thousand ages in your sight***

***Are like an evening gone,***

***Short as the watch that ends the night***

***Before the rising sun.***

***Time, like an ever rolling stream,***

***Bears all of us away;***

***We fly, forgotten, as a dream***

***Dies at the opening day.***

***O God, our help in ages past,***

***Our hope for years to come,***

***Be now our guide while life shall last,***

***And our eternal home.***

***“They Did Not Build in Vain”***

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***They did not build in vain***

***Who founded here a church***

***As witness to God’s love***

***Amid a world of pain,***

***For those who wish to see,***

***This place proclaims God’s mystery.***

***They built upon the rock***

***That is the risen Lord,***

***The one foundation laid***

***Which stands each earthly shock;***

***That Spirit filled, we here might raise,***

***As living temples, prayer and praise.***

***Those who have loved this place,***

***A cloud of witnesses,***

***Surround and urge us on***

***As we now run our race,***

***And so we lay aside each sin***

***In our desire to strive and win.***

***Though the horizon’s bend***

***Conceals the way ahead,***

***The foot-prints on the road***

***Show Christ waits at the end;***

***In him alone our faith shall stand***

***Who waits for us at God’s right hand.***

***Here is our meeting place***

***Where doubt finds grounds of faith,***

***Where hurt finds healing love***

***Our penitence your grace;***

***Where bridging time to eternity***

***Is God the holy Trinity.***

***“Christ, You Call Us All to Service”***

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***Christ, you call us all to service,***

***Call us all who follow you;***

***Plant in us a deep commitment***

***All your work and will to do.***

***Fire a passion for your justice,***

***In us kindle love of peace;***

***Help us heal the broken hearted,***

***To the captive bring release.***

***Teach us how to work together,***

***Brothers, sisters, side by side,***

***Equal partners in the struggle,***

***In the cause of truth allied.***

***To each one some gift is given,***

***Man or woman, young or old;***

***Help us use each skill and talent***

***Your great purpose to unfold.***

***Let us be a servant people,***

***Reconciling, ending strife,***

***Seeking ways more just of sharing***

***And of ordering human life.***

***Fill us with a glowing vision***

***Of this world as it should be;***

***Send us forth to change that vision***

***Into blest reality.***