**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| November 21, 2021 |  Reign of Christ/Totenfest Sunday |
| 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 REQUIRED for all.**

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 Joel 2:21-27

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. (Joel 2:26)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Prelude on “Netherlands”* Fisk

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYERFreely Adapted from Hymn #14

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given.

 ***Now thank we all our God***

 ***with heart and hands and voices.***

All praise and thanks to God, and to the Son,

and to the Spirit who reigns in highest heaven.

 ***Now thank we all our God***

 ***with heart and hands and voices.***

All praise and thanks to one eternal God

whom earth and heaven adore;

 ***Now thank we all our God***

 ***with heart and hands and voices.***

All praise and thanks to one eternal God

for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

 ***Now thank we all our God***

 ***with heart and hands and voices.***

-2-

Let us pray together.

 ***O wonderful God, giver of countless gifts of love, with joyful hearts we come to worship you. We ask that you guide and protect us all our days, and bless us for serving in Jesus’ name. We ask also that your Spirit fill us with peace, as we draw near to the saints of heaven, and join them in eternal alleluias. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”*** #724

\*RESPONSIVE READING From *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.

 ***All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.***

God, our maker, does provide for our wants to be supplied;

 ***Come to God’s own temple, come,***

 ***raise the song of harvest home.***

All the world is God’s own field, fruit unto his praise to yield,

 ***Wheat and tares together sown,***

 ***unto joy or sorrows grown.***

First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear,

 ***Lord of harvest, grant that we,***

 ***wholesome grain and pure may be.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Timothy 2:1-7 pg. 196

SPECIAL MUSIC  *Grace Greater Than Our Sin* Amenz

GOSPEL LESSON John 18:33-37 pg. 106

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*** #317

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE (see insert)

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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***

-3-

***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  *Happy Rhythm*  Amenz

\*RESPONSE ***“We Praise You, O God”*** Vss. 1 & 3 #726

***We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;***

***in grateful devotion our tribute we bring;***

***we lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;***

***we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.***

***With voices united our praises we offer,***

***our songs of thanksgiving to you we now raise;***

***your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,***

***to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***We offer our prayers and gifts to you, O God, grateful for your blessings, and thankful for your love and mercy. Receive our offerings as signs of our commitment to serve your kingdom. United with all the saints on earth and in heaven, we pledge our faithfulness forever. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“America, the Beautiful”***  #727

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *Now Thank We All* Karg-Elert

Today we celebrate Christ the King, whose kingdom is grace and who rules by love. Welcome to worship.

The bulletin is given in memory of Cotton Johannigmeier by Linda & Dennis Sturman.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Patty Bade** at 618-610-0350. The next available date to order flowers is November 28. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available date to sponsor bulletins is December 26.

-4-

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

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

 Totenfest

 Harvest Home

 Annual Meeting

 Fellowship Hour Sponsored by Youth

 **Herald Deadline (For Combined December 2021/January 2022 Herald)**

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

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

 Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

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

Thursday: **OFFICE CLOSED - Thanksgiving**

Friday: **OFFICE CLOSED**

Saturday: Altar Guild Decorating for Christmas

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

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

 First Sunday of Advent

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

**SCRIP (GIFT CARDS)**

Purchasing gift cards through the scrip program is so easy. (1) Give your order form or a note to Betty Meszaros or send it to the church office. Please include your check payable to St. John UCC. (2) Pick up your gift cards after worship or arrange a delivery with Betty. Orders will be submitted today, November 21st, December 5th and 12th. Taking a break in January so consider stocking up. Revised “favorites” order forms are on the table in the narthex. There is also an updated list of ALL vendors for you review. Take an order form home with you and do your Christmas shopping from the comfort of your living room. No driving around from store to store and no lines. Not attending worship in person? No problem as you can still order cards. Just send a note with your payment to the church office. Cost is face amount of gift card. No tax or activation fee. Rebate is automatically sent to the church. Please contact Melissa Lane 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros 618-451-1968 with questions Betty’s cell is 618-670-5267 and email blmesz@yahoo.com.

**ADVENT BEGINS**

On Sunday, November 28 we will begin the new liturgical year with the first Sunday in Advent. Therefore, Saturday, November 27, will be the

-5-

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. Bring a mask and come and work off the extra Thanksgiving turkey and pie from November 25, and help to quickly change the seasons from Thanksgiving to Advent.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

The November Mission of the Month has been designated for Granite City’s Community Care Center. As the cold weather sets in and with the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, this organization can use all the help and support that our church can offer. We have been blessed as a church and as individuals, so let’s do what we can to pass on these blessings.

And our Thanksgiving offering has been designated to Got Your Six Support Dogs. Located in Maryville, this organization trains dogs to be support animals for veterans and first-responders. Please give as much as you are able. Let’s make St. John UCC proud of what we are able to contribute.

**CEMETERY CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

The cemetery needs help on Monday, November 29, 2021 around 10:00 a.m. (time is subject to change) to begin decorating for Christmas. If you are able to help, it is greatly appreciated.



**POINSETTIA ORDERS**

It’s time to place orders for poinsettias! Plants 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 **next Monday, November 29, 2021**. When filling out order forms, please print clearly.

**EVENING GUILD**

Want to join the TOW Club? Not another roadside assistance plan, but Together On Wheels for members or guests wanting to attend an Evening Guild meeting the first Monday of a month at 6:30 PM. If you are no longer comfortable driving at night or if you would be willing to give someone else a ride, please contact Evening Guild member Betty Meszaros @ 618-670-5267. Matchups will be arranged if possible. The

December 6th meeting is a potluck Christmas party. Great food and a fun evening! No meeting in January.

-6-

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

Ruth Buer, Hilde Few, Carol Hildebrand, JoAnn King, Mary Lee Krohne, and Karen Luddeke.

**In Hospital**

Lour Hasse: Barnes Hospital, Loretta Cook: Christian Hospital

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, Isabella Boyer, Marlene Brokaw, Myra Cook, Randy Fischer, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Norman Hente, Gayle Lindsay, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, David Oliver Jr., Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, Trish Stromlund, Janice Weeks, and Don Young.

**Illinois South Conference**

Addieville Zion UCC, Rev. William Groennert. Alhambra Salem UCC, Rev. Jeremy Wood, Sr. Pastor. Alhambra Salem UCC, Pastor John (Marilee) Mindrup, Associate Pastor. Retired Pastor, Rev. Fred and Shirley Wehrenberg, Columbia, IL

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Timothy 2:1-7**

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, **2**for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. **3**This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, **4**who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. **5**For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,
**6**who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. **7**For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

**John 18:33-37**

**33**Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” **34**Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” **35**Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” **36**Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” **37**Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

St. John United Church of Christ



TOTENFEST REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, November 21, 2021

9:30 a.m.

**LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE**

As baptized believers in Christ, we are also baptized into Christ’s death. In doing so, we are united with Christ through his resurrection, so that we might share in eternal life with him. Let us now remember those brothers and sisters who have been called home this past year, and who are now sharing in the power of that eternal life…..(Naming and Tolling)

***St. John U.C.C. Memorial List***

***(December 2020 – November 2021)***

*Deborah K. Reeves*

*(October 17, 1953 - April 7, 2020)*

*Richard “Dick” Oliver*

*(November 18, 1929 - November 6, 2020)*

*Cheryll Prough*

*(April 19, 1936 - November 16, 2020)*

*Norma Jean Parks*

*(October 16, 1932 - November 25, 2020)*

*Richard W. Buer*

*(March 8, 1933 - December 24, 2020)*

*Olen P. Hermes*

*(February 7, 1927 - December 30, 2020)*

*Dolores Ann Zeugin*

*(March 7, 1937 - January 22, 2021)*

*Shirley Ann Thompson*

*(January 16, 1928 - January 26, 2021)*

*Mildred L. Cochran*

*(February 6, 1927 - February 1, 2021)*

*Earl L. Luehmann Jr.*

*(June 17, 1954 - March 4, 2021)*

*Nadine Jewel Ryan*

*(November 4, 1935 - March 29, 2021)*

*Christine “Christy” Diane Dawson*

*(April 30, 1970 - March 31, 2021)*

*Billie Marie Meyer*

*(April 16, 1938 - May 11, 2021)*

*Italine “Ikey” Ruth Lipscomb*

*(April 14, 1933 - May 25, 2021)*

*Valara Ann Schorfheide*

*(May 24, 1932 - June 14, 2021)*

*Mildred Hediger*

*(December 22, 1927 - June 20, 2021)*

*Norman Paul Richter Sr.*

*(June 18 1946 - July 24, 2021)*

*Jacqueline “Jackie” “Queenie” Moore*

*(April 5, 1960 - July 28, 2021)*

*Robert D. Kratz*

*(March 8, 1955 - August 28, 2021)*

*Donald “Don” L. Luddeke*

*(January 16, 1936 - October 3, 2021)*

Let us now have a moment of silence to remember our loved ones who have been called home, not only this past year, but also in the years past…..

O God, this hour revives in us memories of loved ones who are no longer with us. What happiness we shared when they walked among us! What joy, when, loving and loved, we lived our lives together!

 ***Their memory is a blessing forever.***

Months or years may have passed, yet we feel near to them. Our hearts yearn for them. Though the bitter grief may have softened, a duller pain abides, for the place where once they stood is empty now forever. The links of life are broken, but the links of love and longing cannot break.

 ***Their souls are bound up in ours forever.***

We see them now with the eyes of memory, their faults forgiven, their virtues grown larger. Thus does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight. We remember them with gratitude and bless their names.

 ***Their memory is a blessing forever.***

And we remember, as well, the men and women who but yesterday were part of our congregation and community. To all who cared for us and labored for the well-being of our people and of humanity, we pay tribute. May we prove worthy of carrying on the tradition of our people and our faith, for now the task is ours.

 ***Their souls are bound up in ours forever.***

Merciful God, let the memory never fade of the faithful and upright who have given their lives to hallow your name. Even in death they continue to speak to us of faith and courage. Their deeds endure, and their sacrifices will not be forgotten. Their souls are bound up in the bonds of eternal life. No evil shall touch them; they are at peace.

 ***We will remember, and never forget them.***

In gratitude for all the blessings our loved ones have brought to us, we dedicate ourselves anew to the sacred faith for which they lived and died, and to the tasks they have bequeathed to us. Let them be remembered as a blessing, Eternal God, together with the righteous of all peoples, and let us say: Amen.

 ***Amen.***

***“Sing to the Lord of Harvest”***

***Sing to the Lord of harvest,***

***Sing songs of love and praise;***

***With joyful hearts and voices***

***Your alleluias raise.***

***By him the rolling seasons***

***In fruitful order move;***

***Sing to the Lord of harvest***

***A joyous song of love.***

***God makes the clouds rain goodness,***

***The deserts bloom and spring,***

***The hills leap up in gladness,***

***The valleys laugh and sing.***

***God fills them with his fullness,***

***All things with large increase;***

***He crowns the year with blessing,***

***With plenty and with peace.***

***Bring to this sacred altar***

***The gifts his goodness gave,***

***The golden sheaves of harvest,***

***The souls Christ died to save.***

***Your hearts lay down before him***

***When at his feet you fall,***

***And with your lives adore him***

***Who gave his life for all.***

***“Crown Him with Many Crowns”***

***Crown him with many crowns,***

***The Lamb upon his throne.***

***Hark! How the heavenly anthem***

***Drowns all music but its own.***

***Awake, my soul, and sing***

***Of him who died for thee,***

***And hail him as thy matchless king***

***Through all eternity.***

***Crown him the Lord of life,***

***Who triumphed o’er the grave,***

***And rose victorious in the strife***

***For those he came to save;***

***His glories now we sing***

***Who died and rose on high,***

***Who died eternal life to bring,***

***And lives that death may die.***

***Crown him the Lord of love;***

***Behold his hands and side,***

***Rich wounds, yet visible above,***

***In beauty glorified;***

***No angels in the sky***

***Can fully bear that sight,***

***But down-ward bend their burning eyes***

***At mysteries so bright.***

***Crown him the Lord of years,***

***The potentate of time,***

***Creator of the rolling spheres,***

***Ineffably sublime.***

***All hail, Redeemer, hail!***

***For thou hast died for me;***

***Thy praise shall never, never fail***

***Throughout eternity.***

***“For All the Saints”***

***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!***

***“America, the Beautiful”***

 ***O beautiful for spacious skies,***

***For amber waves of grain,***

***For purple mountain majesties***

***Above the fruited plain!***

***America! America!***

***God shed his grace on thee,***

***And crown thy good with brotherhood***

***From sea to shining sea!***

***O beautiful for pilgrim feet,***

***Whose stern, impassioned stress***

***A thorough-fare for freedom beat***

***Across the wilderness!***

***America! America!***

***God mend thine every flaw,***

***Confirm thy soul in self-control,***

***Thy liberty in law!***

***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!***

POINSETTIA

###  ORDER FORM

Plants will cost **$12.00** each and are **available in RED ONLY.**  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 poinsettias is **November 29, 2021** (Please attach payments to this form and either place in the offering plate or bring/mail 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 POINSETTIAS ORDERED

TOTAL ENCLOSED

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

POINSETTIA

###  ORDER FORM

Plants will cost **$12.00** each and are **available in RED ONLY.**  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 poinsettias is **November 29, 2021** (Please attach payments to this form and either place in the offering plate or bring/mail 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 POINSETTIAS ORDERED

TOTAL ENCLOSED

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