**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

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| --- | --- |
| April 17, 2022 | Easter (C) |
| 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 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

GREETING1

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* Wehmeyer

CALL TO WORSHIP AND CONFESSION1

Rejoice and be glad:

***This is the day that the Lord has made!***

Rejoice and be glad:

***Heaven and earth will never be the same!***

Rejoice and be glad:

***Christ is risen! Alleluia!***

God shows no partiality,

***But welcomes and forgives all who repent and believe.***

Let us confess our sin.

***Gracious God, we have heard the good news:***

You were faithful to your promise;

***You have done wonderful things!***

Forgive us, Lord, when we disbelieve.

***Teach us to trust your promise.***

Bless us to believe the good news of salvation,

***And the power of your saving love for all.***

-2-

As you have raised Jesus from the dead,

***Give to us the gift of everlasting life.***

Open our eyes to see the new light of this day;

***Open our lips to tell of the empty tomb;***

Open our hearts to believe the good news;

***In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia!***

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN  ***“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”*** #288

\*RESPONSIVE READING From Psalm 118

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

***His steadfast love endures forever!***

The Lord is my strength and my might;

***He has become my salvation.***

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

***I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.***

This is the Lord’s doing;

***It is marvelous in our eyes.***

This is the day that the Lord has made;

***Let us rejoice and be glad in it.***

ANTHEM *Come with Rejoicing*Chancel Choir

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 10:34-43 pg. 121

ANTHEM *Alleluia! Christ Has Triumphed* Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON John 20:1-18 pg. 108

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“The Day of Resurrection!”*** #298

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

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STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *I Know that My Redeemer Liveth*  Handel

\*RESPONSE ***“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”*** Vss. 1 & 4 #289

***Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise:***

***sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;***

***he who on the cross a victim for the world’s salvation bled—***

***Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.***

***Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:***

***Alleluia to the Savior who has gained the victory;***

***Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity!***

***Alleluia, alleluia to the Triune Majesty!***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION1

***We praise you, O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy, such grace, and such hope, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let our lives be proof of that good news. Let all our words and actions, our love and service, bear witness to your resurrection power; through our living Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.***

INVITATION AND COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING, POURING AND PARTAKING

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING1

***Living God, by your Holy Spirit, you open our eyes to see the new light of this day; open our lips to tell of the empty tomb; open our hearts to believe the good news. We praise and thank you for the power of your saving love revealed in this Sacrament and the resurrection of our Lord. As you have raised Jesus from the dead, give to us the gift of everlasting life, that we may glorify you forever; through Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“Thine Is the Glory”*** #310

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *Hallelujah Chorus* Handel

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Christ is risen! Alleluia! Welcome, one and all, to this Resurrection Sunday worship celebration!

The **bulletin** is given in loving memory of our parents, Thelma & Rich Suess and Rose & Robert Douglas, by David & Veronica Douglas.

The **floral centerpiece** is given in honor of the 38th birthday on April 19th of Joshua David Douglas, with love from his parents, David and Veronica Douglas.

The **beautiful spring wreath** over the altar has been given in celebration of the life of their daughter, Emily Anne, by David & Veronica Douglas.

The rose on the altar is placed in celebration of the birth of **Cameron Daniel Comer**, born February 25, 2022. He is the son of Kelli Comer, grandson of Dan and Ruth Comer, and great-grandson of June Stille.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Mary Jo Seibold** at (618) 792-0120. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available date to sponsor bulletins is April 24.

Thank you to **Connie Ahlers** for serving as liturgist today.

Thank you to **Caslyn Brandes**, Council President, for greeting in the Narthex, and **Kiki Cochran,** Council Vice President, for greeting at the elevator entrance.

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

Fellowship Hour Sponsored by Council

Monday: **OFFICE CLOSED**

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9-11 a.m.

Thursday: **Herald Deadline**

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

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

Fellowship Hall Reserved, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Game Night, 6-8 p.m.

**THANK YOU**

On Wednesday, April 6, a crew of ladies washed down all the pews in the sanctuary with murphy’s oil soap and vacuumed all the seat cushions. A BIG thank you to Connie Ahlers, Joyce Valbert, Dorothy Kinney, Debbie Winkle, Linda Sturman, Nancy Jacobs, and Christie Roth for getting together so quickly to have the sanctuary cleaned in time for Palm Sunday and Easter. Another thank you to Rusty for his assistance.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family of **Mabel Kennerly,** who passed from this life on Tuesday, April 12, 2022. Visitation will be at Irwin Chapel on Monday, April 18, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Irwin Chapel. May the peace and comfort that come from God sustain her loved ones during this time of grief.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our April Mission of the Month is dedicated to St. John outreach funding. At a later date, this money will be used to purchase scrip cards for local grocery stores and gas stations. Then volunteers will surprise community members at the gas station or grocery store with a gift card to help them pay.

**KINDNESS WEEK**

From April 25th through April 29th, Grigsby Intermediate School is hosting a Kindness Week in honor of Christy Dawson. Council has voted to join Grigsby for that week and asks that everyone participate by doing acts of kindness. We feel this is a wonderful way to honor Christy’s memory. We can also honor the memory of David Oliver Jr. The last weekend of April was usually dedicated to Rebuilding Together. David Oliver Jr. was greatly involved in this organization.

**FIRST ANNUAL SPRING/SUMMER FLOWER**

**HANGING BASKET SALE**

The church is taking orders for flowering hanging baskets. These 10” hanging baskets are grown by N.G. Heimos Greenhouse in Millstadt, Illinois. There are nine different varieties of plants that can be ordered, ranging from 3-5 colors. All baskets, no matter what plant is ordered, will cost $16.00. Due to weather and other conditions, specific colors cannot be guaranteed, therefore, colors will be picked based on what is available at that time. Order forms were provided in the April edition of the “Herald”; they are also available on the informational table and on the church website. The order form indicates the available varieties as well as a picture of the basket. Payment in full is required when the order is placed. Checks should be made out to St. John UCC. All order forms and payments need to be given to Mike Seibold or to Angela Potter in the church office by **Sunday, April 24th**. Delivery of the baskets to the church is tentatively set for Wednesday, May 11th and will be available for pickup then through the weekend. Extra baskets will be ordered to sell to the public. We would appreciate your participation in selling these baskets to your friends, family, neighbors, and acquaintances. Profits from this sale will be going to both the evangelism and stewardship fund to help support upcoming giving programs as well as the General Fund to help offset church expenses.

**CHURCH SPONSORED BARBECUE**

On **Saturday, April 30th**, we will hold a barbecue in the church parking lot. Pork steaks, bratwursts, and hot dog dinners (with two sides) will be sold to the public. Volunteers will be needed on that day to grill, prepare the baked beans, fill the Styrofoam containers with the sides, place the brats and hotdogs on the buns, collect payments, and so on. The sale in 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. or until sold out, but we will need volunteers well before the start time. Hamilos Brothers in Madison will be providing the meat and supplies for this event. Pricing will be as follows:

Pork steak dinner with 2 sides: $12.00

Brat dinner with 2 sides: $12.00

Hotdog dinner with 1 side: $5.00

An early thank you to Carol and John Relleke for securing the grill for us. Refer questions to Mike Seibold (618-792-4301) or Kiki Cochran, (618-503-3608). Get tickets from Mike Seibold or the church office for yourself AND to sell to your family and friends. Proceeds from this sale will help fund the church’s Community Free Food Box Give-Away Program and help fund other church projects.

**SCRIP (GIFT CARD) PROGRAM**

Interested in purchasing gift cards through the scrip program? Plans are to submit orders the third Sunday of each month with gift cards distributed the following week. Exception if total order is not large enough to cover shipping cost. Please give your orders to Betty Meszaros TODAY along with your check payable to St. John UCC or cash. You can participate even if you are not attending in person worship service. Just send your order and payment to the church. Delivery of your gift cards will be arranged.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

Ruth Buer, Hilde Few, JoAnn King, Mary Lee Krohne, Karen Luddeke, Leonard Schaefer, and Don Young.

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, Isabella Boyer, Marlene Brokaw, Myra Cook, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Lou Hasse, Norman Hente, Chuck King, Gayle Lindsay, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, June Stille, and Trish Stromlund.

**Illinois South Conference**

Johannisburg St. John’s UCC, Rev. William Groennert. Lebanon St. Paul UCC, Rev. Dr. Don (Nancy) Wagner. Retired Pastor, Rev. Ken and Jean Knobloch, Maeystown, IL.

**Acts 10:34-43 (pg. 121)**

**34**Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, **35**but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. **36**You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. **37**That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: **38**how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. **39**We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; **40**but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, **41**not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. **42**He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. **43**All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

**John 20:1-18 (pg. 108)**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. **2**So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” **3**Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. **4**The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5**He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. **6**Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, **7**and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. **8**Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; **9**for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. **10**Then the disciples returned to their homes.

**11**But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; **12**and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. **13**They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” **14**When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. **15**Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” **16**Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). **17**Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” **18**Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

***“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”***

***Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!***

***All creation, join to say Alleluia!***

***Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!***

***Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply,******Alleluia!***

***Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!***

***Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!***

***Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!***

***Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!***

***Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!***

***Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!***

***Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!***

***Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!***

***Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!***

***Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!***

***Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!***

***Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!***

***“The Day of Resurrection!”***

***The day of resurrection!***

***Earth, tell it out abroad;***

***The Passover of gladness,***

***The Passover of God.***

***From death to life eternal,***

***From sin’s dominion free,***

***Our Christ has brought us over***

***With hymns of victory***

***Our hearts be pure from evil,***

***That we may see aright***

***The Lord in rays eternal***

***Of resurrection light;***

***And, listening to his accents,***

***May hear, so calm and plain,***

***His own “all hail” and, hearing,***

***May raise the victor strain.***

***Now let the heavens be joyful!***

***Let earth its song begin!***

***The world resound in triumph,***

***And all that is therein;***

***Let all things seen and unseen***

***Their notes of gladness blend;***

***For Christ the Lord has risen,***

***Our Joy that has no end.***

***“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,***

***And the glory, forever,***

***Amen.***

***“Thine Is The Glory”***

***Thine is the glory,***

***Risen, conquering Son;***

***Endless is the victory***

***Thou o’er death hast won.***

***Angels in bright raiment***

***Rolled the stone away,***

***Kept the folded grave-clothes***

***Where thy body lay.***

***Thine is the glory,***

***Risen, conquering Son;***

***Endless is the victory***

***Thou o’er death hast won.***

***Lo! Jesus meets us,***

***Risen from the tomb;***

***Lovingly he greets us,***

***Scatters fear and gloom.***

***Let his church with gladness***

***Hymns of triumph sing,***

***For her Lord now liveth:***

***Death hath lost its sting.***

***Thine is the glory,***

***Risen, conquering Son;***

***Endless is the victory***

***Thou o’er death hast won.***

***No more we doubt thee,***

***Glorious Prince of life!***

***Life is nought without thee:***

***Aid us in our strife.***

***Make us more than conquerors,***

***Through thy deathless love:***

***Bring us safe through Jordan***

***To thy home above.***

***Thine is the glory,***

***Risen, conquering Son;***

***Endless is the victory***

***Thou o’er death hast won.***