**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

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| April 14, 2022 |  Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.  |
| 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.



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Of the Father’s Love Begotten* Graham

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 12:1-14 pg. 56

RESPONSE ***“An Upper Room with Evening Lamps”***  #274

CALL TO WORSHIP & PSALTER READING Psalm 51

 We come this night to lament of our sins,

 ***For we all fall short of the glory of God.***

 We come this night to lament the sins of the world,

 ***For nowhere on earth, or in history,***

***does righteousness and justice rule.***

 Yet we come this night to find hope in our lives,

 ***For God has not forgotten us***

***and again creates new life.***

We come this night to remember and renew the tradition passed from generation to generation,

 ***For the psalmist still speaks through our hearts.***

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Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

 ***Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,***

 ***and cleanse me from my sin.***

 ***For I know my transgressions,***

 ***and my sin is ever before me.***

 Against you, you alone, have I sinned,

 and done what is evil in your sight,

 so that you are justified in your sentence

 and blameless when you pass judgment.

 ***You desire truth in the inward being;***

 ***Therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart.***

 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

 wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

 ***Let me hear joy and gladness;***

 ***let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.***

 ***Hide your face from my sins,***

 ***and blot out all my iniquities.***

 Create in me a clean heart, O God,

 and put a new and right spirit within me.

 ***Do not cast me away from your presence,***

 ***and do not take your holy spirit from me.***

 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

 and sustain in me a willing spirit.

 ***Then I will teach transgressors your ways,***

 ***and sinners will return to you.***

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice;

if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

 ***The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;***

 ***a broken and contrite heart, O God,***

 ***you will not despise.***

ANTHEM *God So Loved the World* Chancel Choir

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* Bach

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RESPONSE ***“Were You There”*** #283

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***Merciful God, Judas agreed to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. If that was all it took for him, of what value is life or money? Our offerings reflect our answer tonight. May our generous gifts from the heart give life to the children of Kindercottage, and to each of us, as we dedicate ourselves to faithful discipleship. Amen.***

INVITATION AND COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING BREAD, POURING THE CUP AND PARTAKING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***JESUS’ LAST DAYS, UNTIL RESURRECTION***

**READINGS FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

READINGS FROM MATTHEW

GROAN AND MOMENT OF SILENCE IN NEAR DARKNESS

THE LIGHT OF HOPE RISES

\*LEAVING IN SILENCE



Please remain seated throughout the service. The congregation will not be standing for the singing tonight.

We thank the participants in the worship service tonight, including our directors/readers Donna Brandes and Ritch Alexander, and the readers: George Cochran, Greg Young, Connie Ahlers, Mike Seibold, Jim Watson, John Nitchman, Garret Garner, Jack Dawson, and the Chancel Choir.

In the spirit of Lenten reverence, please do not applaud music or readings. At the end, we leave in silence.

Our sanctuary will be open for personal prayer and reflection from 1:00-3:00 p.m. tomorrow, Good Friday.

The Lenten Coin Folders, Lenten Offering Envelopes and tonight’s Maundy Thursday offering will be given to Kindercottage.

Sunday’s special Easter envelope and regular offering envelope gifts have been designated for our General Fund and the support of our ministries.

As we leave in silence tonight, may we listen for the Spirit directing us to someone in need of special blessing. Please invite and bring them to worship with you so they may experience the new life of Easter morning.

9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion

Sunday School children gather in the Classroom

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour sponsored by Council

***“An Upper Room with Evening Lamps”***

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***An upper room with evening lamps ashine,***

***The twelve disciples, and the table spread;***

***Now in our turn Christ bids us pour the wine,***

***And in remembrance bless and break the bread.***

***We see by faith upon the cross displayed***

***His body broken and his blood outpoured;***

***In that dread robe of majesty arrayed***

***We gaze in worship on the dying Lord.***

***Dead for our sins, yet reigning now above,***

***Still to our hearts we find his presence given;***

***Take for ourselves the pledges of his love,***

***Foretaste and token of that feast in heaven.***

***So send us out, to love and serve and praise,***

***Filled with his Spirit, as the Master said:***

***Love, joy and peace the wine of all our days,***

***Christ and his life our true and living bread.***

***“Were You There”***

***Were you there when they crucified my Lord?***

***Were you there when they crucified my Lord?***

***Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.***

***Were you there when they crucified my Lord?***

***Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?***

***Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?***

***Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.***

***Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?***

***Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?***

***Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?***

***Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.***

***Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?***