**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| May 29, 2022 | Seventh Sunday of 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

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN Ascension Sunday

[Jesus] said to them…”And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. From Luke 24:44-53

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*“March of the Patriots”* Kirkland

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER1 Based on Psalm 47 & Acts 1

Gather to experience the power of God

to lift us up beyond the bonds of earth.

***Clap your hands, all peoples!***

***Sing to God with loud songs of joy!***

Wait for the promises of God and give thanks!

Open yourselves to the baptism of God’s Spirit.

***Sing praises to God, sing praises!***

***Sing praises to our Ruler, sing praises!***

Receive power to become God’s witnesses

in this place and to the ends of the earth.

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***Jesus Christ is alive and forgives our sin.***

***Jesus Christ lives and appoints us to share good news.***

Let us pray:

***We respond to your promises, O God, anticipating the power of the Holy Spirit. Help us to hear the witness of your faithful followers over all the ages. Our thirst for truth is not for ourselves alone, but that the world may believe. Inspire us to work for unity and peace, proclaiming the good news with power and joy. Amen.***

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

\*RESPONSIVE READING *Christ High-Ascended* From Hymn #324

Christ high-ascended, now in glory seated, throned and exalted, victory completed, death’s dread dominion finally defeated,

***We are his witnesses.***

Christ from the Father every power possessing, who on his chosen lifted hands in blessing, sends forth his servants, still in faith confessing,

***We are his witnesses.***

Christ, who in dying won for us salvation, lives now the firstborn of the new creation; to win disciples out of every nation,

***We are his witnesses.***

Christ in his splendor, all dominion gaining, Christ with his people evermore remaining, Christ to all ages gloriously reigning,

***We are his witnesses.***

As at his parting, joy shall banish grieving, faith in his presence strengthen our believing; filled with his Spirit, love and power receiving,

***We are his witnesses.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 1:1-11 pg. 110

ANTHEM *God Bless America* Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON John 16:12-15, 17:1-2, 20-26 pg. 104

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

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\*HYMN ***“The Bond of Love & Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”***

#’s 395 & 396

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 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 *“My Country ‘Tis of Thee”* Broughton

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“America, the Beautiful”*** Vs. 3 #727

***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!***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***Our offerings of gold in various forms come from our hearts, O Lord, and support our hopes for the present and years to come, as we unite in showing the world your truth and light. In the spirit of Katharine Bates, we pray that you shine your grace on all, and crown our good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea! Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“For All the Saints”***  First 5 Verses of #529

\*BENEDICTION

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“For All the Saints”*** Verse 6 #529

***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!***

\*POSTLUDE  *His Truth Is Marching On* Ward

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The Spirit invites all: “Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life” (Revelation 22:17, NLT). Welcome.

The **bulletin** is given in loving memory of the birthday of John Bischoff on May 29th by Herb and Jeanie Bischoff, Jennifer Britt, Alex and Nick Robertson.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Patty Bade** at (618) 610-0350. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at (618) 877-6060. The next available date to sponsor the bulletin is July 17.

Thank you to **Kara Wright** for serving as liturgist today. Thank you to **George & Kiki Cochran** for greeting today.

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

Game Night, 6-8 p.m.

5th Sunday Cash Plate for Hoyleton

Monday: **Memorial Day, OFFICE CLOSED**

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9-11 a.m.

Cemetery Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

Bell Choir, 6:00 p.m.

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

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

Communion & Noisy Offering

New Members Covenant

Fellowship Hour by ESOS Committee

**T-Shirt Orders Due**

**EVENING GUILD**

Our next meeting is Monday, June 6th, at 6:00 p.m. It will be a potluck and meat will be provided.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our May Mission of the Month is dedicated to the Wounded Warriors Project. The WWP mission is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors who incurred a physical or mental injury, illnesses, or wound, co-incident to military service on or after September 11, 2001.

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**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

**BLANKETS AND TOOLS OFFERING**

Once again are supporting the ministry of Church World Service through financial gifts to the Blankets and Tools Offering gathered from Mother’s Day through Father’s Day. Please clearly mark any donations so our counters can properly designate them for Church World Service.

Our gifts do make a difference throughout the world.

\*$250 provides lightweight blankets for five families left homeless by a tornado.

\*$500 provides warm blankets for a small women’s shelter.

\*$750 provides 75 blankets for a homeless street ministry.

\*$1200 provides blankets for an organization doing neighborhood outreach.

\*$2000 provides blankets for beds in a temporary shelter following a hurricane.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

Pentecost Sunday is next Sunday, June 5, since it is always 50 days after Easter. Plan to wear red that day and come to be filled with the Spirit of astounding discipleship.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

VBS is back! (We hope...assuming all goes well in the next three weeks...). This year’s VBS theme is Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King’s Armor. Throughout the week, we will be armoring up with truth, justice, peace, faith and salvation by learning about the strength of Jesus, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, David, Mary, Paul and Silas. Registration forms for VBS participants and volunteers are on the table in the Narthex. Volunteers are always welcome and greatly appreciated. This year we will need additional volunteers for games. Please save Pringles cans of all sizes for crafts. If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact Jessie Curran, Carol Relleke, or Kathy Morris.

What: VBS Knights of North Castle

Dates: **Sunday, June 19 – Thursday, June 23**

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Youth Side of the basement

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NURSERY CLEAN UP!!**

Since the sanctuary has been repainted and our upstairs bathrooms updated, we need to make sure the rest of the church is looking just as beautiful!! The Christian Ed / Worship / Fellowship committee is looking for people willing to clean the nursery. The remodel generated some

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dust that needs to be cleaned, toys need to be sanitized, amongst other things to so that it can be inviting for anyone that might need to use the nursery. We always want to welcome new little ones into our church family. If you would be willing, please get in touch with Shara Young at 618-304-5797 or email shara-young@sbcglobal.net. A specific date/time has not been chosen because those who volunteer might be able to meet during the day.



**160TH ANNIVERSARY**

This year, we celebrate our 160th anniversary with a weekend full of activities. **On Friday, June 24th**, we begin with our weekend kickoff event at Busch Stadium for a Cardinals vs. Cubs game! Those who have purchased tickets will not only attend the game, but they’ll also see our church’s name and the names of our attendees flash on the big screen while they cheer and wave to fans watching at home. Didn’t buy a ticket? Well, we still have **FOUR** available! Please talk to Mike Seibold about purchasing a ticket. **On Saturday, June 25th**, we’ll be hosting an E-Recycle Drive & Paper Shredding event (maximum 2 boxes per vehicle). We’ll be accepting anything with an electrical cord **except** televisions. We’ll have popcorn and hot dogs available for everyone who brings items to recycle. **On Sunday, June 26th**, our worship service will be at **10:00 a.m.** with an anniversary dinner beginning at **11:45 a.m.** While payment is not required to attend, we are requiring reservations. To make a reservation, please fill out the reservation form that is included in this bulletin. **Please submit your reservations no later than June 12, 2022**. We look forward to a wonderful weekend celebrating our church anniversary.

**ANNIVERSARY SHIRTS**

Would you like to order a shirt commemorating our church’s 160th anniversary? Here are the options you can choose from!

T-shirt with logo (logo will have St. John United Church of Christ)

T-shirt with logo & 160th anniversary (Logo will have St. John UCC & 160th anniversary both)

Golf shirt with logo (logo same as t-shirt)

Golf shirt with logo & 160th anniversary (logo same as t-shirt)

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All shirts will be embroidered. Most shirts are 50% cotton/50% polyester and plus sizes are available. We have a variety of colors to choose from. If you would like to order a shirt, please see Christie Roth **today, Sunday, May 29th** or **Sunday, June 5th** to place your order. Orders can also be placed online! An email was sent with a link to purchase shirts. If you didn’t receive an email, the link is also available on the church website. Click on the events tab and you’ll find the link in the “160th Anniversary Events” section. Payment is due at the time of ordering. We are ordering the shirts from Shirts Galore on Pontoon Rd. in Pontoon Beach. **The deadline to order shirts is Sunday, June 5th.** To receive your order, you may either pick up directly from Shirts Galore, have it sent to your home (there will be a shipping fee) or pick it up at church. Shirts will be at the church for pick up the week of June 20th. If you have any questions, please call Christie Roth at 618-931-6194.

**RUMMAGE SALE**

If sorting & cleaning is in your plans, this will be the perfect time to hold aside items to donate to the all-church rummage sale. The event will be held September 22nd & 23rd this year and items can be brought to the stage in Fellowship Hall between September 6th and September 21st. No large electronics or heavy items please. General rule of thumb: If you would have to pay for it to be recycled, item cannot be accepted. This sale is sponsored by the Evening Guild with assistance appreciated from family and friends. All proceeds are given to church projects or local charitable organizations. Please mark the following important dates on your calendar:

Tuesday, September 20th – 9:00 a.m. Set up

Wednesday, September 21st – 9:00 a.m. Pricing

**Thursday, September 22nd – 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Open for Shoppers**

**Friday, September 23rd – 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Open for Shoppers**

**SCRIP (GIFT CARD) PROGRAM**

Ordering gift cards through the scrip program is easy. (1) Just complete the “favorites“ order form or give a note to Betty Meszaros. (2) Return the form with your check payable to St. John UCC to Betty or to the church. (3) Plans are to submit orders the third Sunday of each month with delivery the following week.  NOTE:  Order forms and master list of additional vendors are on the table in the narthex. Vendors offer various

denominations $10, $25, $50 and rebate different percentages to the church.  Your cost is the face amount of the card – – no tax or service

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fee. Contact Betty Meszaros 618-670-5267 or Melissa Lane 314-575-7627 for additional information.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

**Cedarhurst of Granite City**, 3450 Village Lane, Granite City, IL 62040

Don Young, #411

**Cedarhurst of Granite City, Memory Care**, 3432 Village Lane, Granite City, IL 62040

JoAnn King, #113,

**The Fountains of West County**, 15826 Clayton Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011

Ruth Buer, #215

**Granite Nursing & Rehab**, 3500 Century Dr, Granite City, IL 62040

Karen Luddeke

**Meridian Village**, 27 Auerbach Pl., Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Mary Lee Krohne, #611 (Call Linda Nitchman for updates)

Leonard Schaefer, #516

**Villas of Holly Brook**, 121 S. Bluff Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234

Hilde Few, #208

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, 2243 Cleveland, G.C., IL 62040

Isabella Boyer, 4722 S. Hazel, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Marlene Brokaw, 112 Summit Rdg., Maryville, IL 62062

Myra Cook, 4034 Stearns Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Bonnie Fornaszewski, 200 Carlson Ave., Apt. 17D, Washington, IL 61571

Mary Franz, 3117 Willow Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Luitgard Fries, 4117 Old Alton Rd., G.C., IL 62040

Lou Hasse, 2689 Westmoreland Dr. Unit 2, G.C., IL 62040

Norman Hente, 3708 Joyce St., G.C., IL 62040

Chuck King, 3258 Kilarney Dr., G.C., IL 62040

Gayle Lindsay, 431 Arlington Dr., G.C., IL 62040

Bill McAmish, 3320 Colgate Pl., G.C., IL 62040

Sandy Mueller, 308 Warson Ln., G.C., IL 62040

Cliff Robertson, 2336 O’Hare Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Merle Rose, 2447 Waterman Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Marge Schmidt, 4857 Danielle Court, G.C., IL 62040

June Stille, 49 Riviera, G.C., IL 62040

**Illinois South Conference**

Murphysboro St. Peter’s UCC. Nashville St. Paul UCC, Rev. Beverly Kahle. Retired Pastor, Rev. Chris and Lena Edwards, Converse, TX.

**National Events**

All those affected by the tragedy in Uvalde, Texas.

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**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Acts 1:1-11**

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach **2**until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3**After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. **4**While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; **5**for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” **6**So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” **7**He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. **8**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” **9**When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10**While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. **11**They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

**John 16:12-15, 17:1-2, 20-26**

**12**“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. **13**When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. **14**He will glorify me because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. **15**All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, **2**since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

**20**“I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, **21**that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. **22**The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, **23**I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. **24**Father, I desire that those also,

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whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

**CALL FOR INFORMATION**

Bell Choir – Talk to Kathy Morris, 618-210-6095

Cemetery - Talk to Kathy Montgomery, 618-876-5811

Chancel Choir – Talk to Ritch Alexander, 618-451-5092

Council – Talk to Caslyn Brandes, President, 618-802-1152

Kiki Cochran, Vice President, 618-797-2511

Evening Guild – Talk to Christie Roth, 618-931-6194

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

Angela Potter, 618-877-6060 church office

Heavenly Stars – Talk to Betty Meszaros, 618-451-1968

Karen Gaines, 618-288-0845

Herald – Talk to Angela Potter 618-877-6060 church office

Hilltoppers – Talk to Dee Roethemeyer, 618-876-6860

Historian – Talk to Sandy Dawson, 618-931-3467

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

Dave Douglas, 618-452-3336

Quilters – Talk to Sandy Dawson 618-931-3467

Doris Peterson 618-877-1606

Sausage Dinner – Talk to Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Nancy Jacobs, 618-931-0673

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

Sunday School – Talk to Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Youth Fellowship – Talk to Sharon O’Toole, 618-797-1802

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**CELEBRATING 160 YEARS**

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

This is the reservation form for the anniversary dinner on **June 26, 2022**. The dinner will begin at 11:45 a.m. and is catered by Jerry’s Cafeteria in Granite City, IL. No payment is required to attend, but reservations are mandatory. Please fill out and return this reservation form to the church office no later than **June 12, 2022**. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 618-877-6060. We look forward to seeing you there!

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Attending: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Text

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Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Attending: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***“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 downward 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.***

***“The Bond of Love”***

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***We are one in the bond of love;***

***We are one in the bond of love.***

***We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God;***

***We are one in the bond of love.***

***Let us sing now, everyone;***

***Let us feel God’s love begun.***

***Let us join our hands that the world will know***

***We are one in the bond of love.***

***“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”***

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***Where the Spirit of the Lord is,***

***There is peace.***

***Where the Spirit of the Lord is,***

***There is love.***

***There is comfort in life’s darkest hour,***

***There is light and life,***

***There is help and power in the Spirit,***

***In the Spirit of the Lord.***

***“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;***

***Though in the darkness drear, their one true light.***

***Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***O blest communion, fellowship divine!***

***We feebly struggle; they in glory shine.***

***Yet all are one in thee for all are thine.***

***Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,***

***Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,***

***And hearts are brave again and arms are strong.***

***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!***