**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| July 10, 2022 |  5th Sunday after Pentecost (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 Luke 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And [Jesus] said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”…….(The Good Samaritan story)……Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

 *Hymn to Joy* Broughton, Arr.

CALL TO WORSHIP1 AND PRAYER

God calls us to go and bear fruit,

***Calls us to go and do!***

God calls us to live a life that is worthy of the Lord,

 ***Through loving our neighbor,***

Through doing justice,

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 ***Through speaking out,***

Through giving mercy,

***And through defending those who are weak and oppressed.***

Let us unite in prayer:

***Eternal God of all, we give thanks that you call us to faithful living. Fill us with your Spirit as we worship, so we may grow in the knowledge of your will and be strengthened to love our neighbors. Whether popular or not, may we stand for your righteousness and for the good news of the Gospel of Christ, for all of time. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“Now It Is Evening”*** #627

\*RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From the Preamble

 to the Design for the Christian Church Disciples of Christ

We confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God,

***And proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world.***

In Christ’s name and by his grace

***We accept our mission of witness and service to all people.***

We rejoice in God, maker of heaven and earth,

***And in the covenant of love which binds us to God and one another.***

Through baptism into Christ, we enter into newness of life

***And are made one with the whole people of God.***

In the communion of the Holy Spirit

***We are joined together in discipleship and in obedience to Christ.***

At the table of the Lord

***We celebrate with thanksgiving the saving acts and presence of Christ.***

Within the universal church

 ***We receive the gift of ministry and the light of scripture.***

In the bonds of Christian faith

***We yield ourselves to God that we may serve the one whose kingdom has no end.***

Blessing, glory, and honor be to God forever.

 ***Amen.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

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HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Amos 7:7-17 pg. 806

SPECIAL MUSIC *Fairest Lord Jesus* Alexander

EPISTLE LESSON Colossians 1:1-14 pg. 188

SERMON

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Rise Up, O Saints of God!”*** #590

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 *Take Time to be Holy* Steblins

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“For the Life That You Have Given”*** #684

***For the life that you have given,***

***for the love in Christ made known,***

***with these fruits of time and labor,***

***with these gifts that are your own:***

***here we offer, Lord, our praises;***

***heart and mind and strength we bring;***

***give us grace to love and serve you,***

***living what we pray and sing.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 ***Holy One, we give these offerings in response to your mercy on us and our neighbors. We give with gratitude and with love for you and our neighbors. May our gifts and our lives “bear fruit in every good work”, in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”***  #457

\*BENEDICTION

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\*SUNG RESPONSE Traditional ***“Praise God”*** #34

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise him, all creatures here below;***

***Praise him above, ye heavenly host:***

***Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

\*POSTLUDE  *Psalm 19* Marcello

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In Paul’s words to believers of long ago: “To God’s holy people ... Grace and peace to you from God our Father” (Collossians 1:2, NIV). Welcome.

The **bulletin** is given in loving memory of Harriet Bunselmeyer by the Bunselmeyer family.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Veronica Douglas** at (618) 806-4899. 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 August 14.

Thank you to **Jessie Curran** for serving as liturgist, to **Ritch Alexander** for providing special music, and to **Bev Partney** for greeting today.

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

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

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

 Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

 Hilltoppers, 12:30 p.m.

 CE / Worship / Fellowship, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

Thursday: Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

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

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

 Fellowship Hour by Bible Study

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our July Mission of the Month is collecting school supplies for the Granite City School District.

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A rose has been placed on the altar for **Raiden Dale Mokriakow** born June 30, 2022. He is the son of Matthew and Kirstin Mokriakow, grandson of Dale & Jeanne Schaefer, and great-grandson of Leroy & Diana Schaefer.

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

Church Women United is holding a fundraiser through the Edwardsville Texas Roadhouse on Thursday, July 21st, from 4:00-10:00 p.m. Ten percent of your total food purchases will go to the Southwest Quad City, Church Women United benefiting women and children. Flyers for the event are available on the table in the Narthex. You must present a flyer for the donations to be counted for CWU.

**SECOND ANNUAL FALL MUM SALE**

We are selling mums again! Order forms were available in the July edition of the Herald and are available for download on the church website. Forms are due Sunday, July 31st and should be given to Mike Seibold. The mums are perennials, thus will grow the following year. Of course, how they are planted or left in the original container can determine if they come back the following year. Weather conditions are also a factor in growth. Mums will be delivered in mid-September; a specific date will be given at a later time. Profits from this sale will be used for evangelism projects, remodeling the Sunday School classrooms, and general fund expenses. We sold 475 mums last year, so let’s see if we can meet or beat that number this year.

**SCRIP**

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 fee. Tuck a gift card inside a birthday, anniversary or get-well card. Even with insurance, a CVS or Walgreens card might come in handy. Cards can also be purchased to donate for Evangelism/Outreach helping hands surprise squad or the church’s Good Samaritan fund.

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Trivia Night is tentatively scheduled for August 27th.  Please consider ordering in July for silent auction “baskets”. You can participate in the scrip program even if you are not attending in-person worship. Contact Betty Meszaros 618-670-5267 or Melissa Lane 314-575-7627 for additional information.



**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**



**FOOD BOX DONATIONS**

Thanks to everyone who has contributed food items to the September Food Box project. We have received enough to fulfill the required amount for certain items, specifically cereal, mac & cheese dinners, soup, and canned vegetables. We are still in need of the following items:

1. Applesauce (40 oz or near that size) – Ruler Foods has a price under $2.00
2. Canned Chili
3. Canned Stew

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1. Juice (Apple, Cranapple, Cranberry, Grape – 64 oz or similar) Walmart has juice for $2.00 or a little less
2. Canned Chicken
3. Rice (2 lb bag)

Thank you again for all your contributions so far. Your efforts make it possible to better assist our community.

**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 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.

**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, Bill McAmish, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, Marge Schmidt, and June Stille.

**Illinois South Conference**

Plum Hill St. John’s UCC, Rev. Don Jones. Red Bud St. Peter UCC, Pastor Cory (Geraldine) Hartz. Retired Pastor, Rev. Elmer and Linda Bowman Jr., Trenton, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Amos 7:7-17**

**7**This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. **8**And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will spare them no longer; **9**the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.” **10**Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying,

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“Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. **11**For thus Amos has said, ‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.’ ” **12**And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there, **13**but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.” **14**Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet nor a prophet’s son, but I am a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees, **15**and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ **16**“Now therefore hear the word of the Lord. You say, ‘Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac.’ **17**Therefore thus says the Lord: Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be parceled out by line; you yourself shall die in an unclean land, and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.”

**Colossians 1:1-14**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, **2**To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.**3**In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **4**for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, **5**because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel **6**that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. **7**This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, **8**and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. **9**For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, **10**so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. **11**May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully **12**giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. **13**He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, **14**in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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**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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***“Now It Is Evening”***

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***Now it is evening: lights of the city***

***Bid us remember Christ is our light.***

***Many are lonely, who will be neighbor?***

***Where there is caring, Christ is our light.***

***Now it is evening: little ones sleeping***

***Bid us remember Christ is our peace.***

***Some are neglected, who will be neighbor?***

***Where there is caring, Christ is our peace.***

***Now it is evening: food on the table***

***Bid us remember Christ is our life.***

***Many are hungry, who will be neighbor?***

***Where there is sharing, Christ is our life.***

***Now it is evening: here in our meeting***

***May we remember Christ is our friend.***

***Some may be strangers, who will be neighbor?***

***Where there’s a welcome, Christ is our friend.***

***“Rise Up, O Saints of God!”***

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***Rise up, O saints of God!***

***From vain ambitions turn;***

***Christ rose triumphant that your hearts***

***With nobler zeal might burn.***

***Speak out, O saints of God!***

***Despair engulfs earth’s frame;***

***As heirs of God’s baptismal grace,***

***His word of hope proclaim.***

***Rise up, O saints of God!***

***His kingdom’s task embrace;***

***Redress sin’s cruel consequence;***

***Give justice larger place.***

***Give heed, O saints of God!***

***Creation cries in pain;***

***Stretch forth your hand of healing now,***

***With love the weak sustain.***

***Commit your hearts to seek***

***The paths which Christ has trod;***

***And quickened by the Spirit’s power,***

***Rise up, O saints of God!***

***“Lord, I want to Be a Christian”***

***Lord, I want to be a Christian***

***In my heart, in my heart;***

***Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.***

***In my heart, in my heart, in my heart, in my heart,***

***Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.***

***Lord, I want to be more loving***

***In my heart, in my heart;***

***Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.***

***In my heart, in my heart, in my heart, in my heart,***

***Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.***

***Lord, I want to be more holy***

***In my heart, in my heart;***

***Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.***

***In my heart, in my heart, in my heart, in my heart,***

***Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.***

***Lord, I want to be like Jesus***

***In my heart, in my heart;***

***Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.***

***In my heart, in my heart, in my heart, in my heart,***

***Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.***