**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

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| August 21, 2022 | 11th 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

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Paen Exultant* Smith

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

“Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’; for you shall go to all to whom I send you…” (Jeremiah 1:6-7a)

BLESSING OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

Scripture tells us to teach and learn for life. From Proverbs 22:6 "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray."

***From Mark 10:14-15 "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.”***

From Matthew 28:19-20 “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

***From Psalm 119 “When I think of your ordinances from of old, I take comfort, O Lord. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.***

-2-

Let us pray:

***God of all wisdom and truth, God of all joy and encouragement, God of all questions and discussions, bless our continuing faith formation. May we all learn and grow, trusting that your Spirit guides our journey of life in your ways. Amen.***

SONG ***“Jesus Loves Me”*** Vss. 1 & 3 #437

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER

In the beauty of this sanctuary, and the sounds of praise,

***We have come to worship the God of all creation.***

What we see or hear or feel this Sabbath Day

***Touches our hearts with awe-filled peace.***

If we bring troubles and worries with us,

***We place them in God’s hands.***

If we bring anger and frustration with us,

***We release them through God’s forgiveness.***

If we bring dreams and desires with us,

***We lift them to God with hope.***

Therefore, let us unite in prayer:

***Holy God, you call us to worship and to serve, and we respond. Fill us with your Spirit and free us from whatever might hold us back. May we stand tall and strong in faithfulness, no matter what challenges we face. Teach us to trust your steadfast love and righteousness. May we tell the world all the wonderful things that you are doing and praise you forever. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”*** #405

\*RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING Psalm 71:1-6, 17-18

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

***In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;***

Incline your ear to me and save me.

***Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.***

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,

from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

***For you, O Lord, are my hope,***

***my trust, O Lord, from my youth.***

-3-

Upon you I have leaned from my birth;

it was you who took me from my mother’s womb.

***My praise is continually of you.***

O God, from my youth you have taught me,

and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

***So even to old age and gray hairs, O God,***

***do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might***

***to all the generations to come.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 1:4-10 pg. 656

SPECIAL MUSIC *I Go to the Rock* Amenz

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 13:10-17 pg. 71

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Open My Eyes, That I May See”*** #480

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 *I Was There When the Spirit Came* Amenz

\*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.***

-4-

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***On this Sabbath Day we bring our offerings to you, O God, inspired by your call for each of us to serve through our time, talents, and treasure. We rejoice at the wonderful things we do together as faithful disciples every day. No matter how young or old we are, we offer our best to you. Bless our shared ministries, in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“I Love to Tell the Story”***  #560

\*BENEDICTION

\*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  *Be Strong in the Lord* Parry

“You have not come to something that can be touched ... [but] to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant” (Hebrews 12:18, 24, NRSV). Welcome to worship.

The **bulletin** is given in celebration of Karla & Charles’ anniversary, from Caslyn & Donna Brandes.

The **altar flowers** are given in loving memory of my parents Charles & Wilma Parmley’s wedding anniversary and in loving memory of my grandmother Ethel Lambert’s birthday from Bev Partney.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Beth Ravanelli** at (618) 530-7780. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at (618) 877-6060. The next available dates to sponsor the bulletin are October 2 & 30.

Thank you to **George Cochran** for serving as greeter and liturgist today. Thank you to **Amenz** – George Cochran, Jack Dawson, and John Nitchman – for offering special music.

-5-

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

**Herald Deadline**

Fellowship Hour by CE/W/F

**Rally Day**

Trivia Basket Drawing

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

Confirmation Parents Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

Thursday: Church Women United, 9:30 a.m.

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

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

Baptisms, 9:30 a.m.

**Catch-Up Sunday**

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of **Bill McAmish** who passed from this life on Friday, August 5, 2022. A funeral service was held on Saturday, August 20, 2022. May the peace and comfort that come from God sustain his loved ones during this time of grief.

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of **Betty Hermes** who passed from this life on Thursday, August 18, 2022. May the peace and comfort that come from God sustain her loved ones during this time of grief.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our August Mission of the Month is designated for the General Fund to assist with costs for Rally Day on August 21st.

**SCRIP**

The scrip order for August will be submitted TODAY. A “favorites” order form is on the table in the Narthex or just give Betty Meszaros a note along with your check payable to St. John UCC or cash. IDEAS: Use gift cards to purchase supplies if planning Labor Day weekend gatherings. Cards can still be donated to the Evangelism/Outreach committee which is going to conduct its own version of the surprise squad. Fast food cards are available in $10 denominations and could be a back-to-school treat for your favorite student. Contact Betty at 618-451-1968 with questions.

-6-

**TRIVIA AUCTION RAFFLE BASKETS**

TODAY is the last opportunity to view the raffle “baskets”. In addition to the amazing variety of contents, six of the 12 baskets

include gift certificates ranging from $20-$50. Should you desire, chances can also be purchased. Donations are $1 each, six for $5, twelve for $10 or twenty-five for $20. Winning entries will be drawn this morning. Complete description of baskets are on the tables in the Narthex. Appreciation to those who have supported this project.

**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 these dates:

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

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

**Thursday, September 22nd – 8:30-3:00 Open for Shoppers**

**Friday, September 23rd – 8:30-12:00 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 many items. We are still in need of the following: flour (5lb bag), rice (2 lb bag), and peanut butter (small jar). Thank you again for all your contributions which make it possible to assist our community.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing, Assisted Living, & Rehabilitation**

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

**At Home**

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

**Illinois South Conference**

Waterloo Zion UCC St. Joe, Rev. Patrick (Kathy) Poole. Wood River St. John UCC, Pastor John Pawloski. Retired Pastor, Rev. Fred and Shirley Wehrenberg, Columbia, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Jeremiah 1:4-10**

**4**Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, **5**“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” **6**Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” **7**But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’ for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. **8**Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.” **9**Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. **10**See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

**Luke 13:10-17**

**10**Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. **11**And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. **12**When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” **13**When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. **14**But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” **15**But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? **16**And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” **17**When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

**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

***“Jesus Loves Me”***

***Jesus loves me, this I know,***

***For the Bible tells me so!***

***Little ones to him belong:***

***They are weak but he is strong.***

***Yes, Jesus loves me!***

***Yes, Jesus loves me!***

***Yes, Jesus loves me!***

***The Bible tells me so.***

***Jesus loves me! He will stay***

***Close beside me all the way;***

***He’s prepared a home for me,***

***And some day his face I’ll see.***

***Yes, Jesus loves me!***

***Yes, Jesus loves me!***

***Yes, Jesus loves me!***

***The Bible tells me so.***

***“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”***

***My hope is built on nothing less***

***Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;***

***I dare not trust the sweetest frame,***

***But wholly lean on Jesus’ name.***

***On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:***

***All other ground is sinking sand;***

***All other ground is sinking sand.***

***When darkness veils his lovely face,***

***I rest on his unchanging grace;***

***In every high and stormy gale,***

***My anchor holds within the veil.***

***On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:***

***All other ground is sinking sand;***

***All other ground is sinking sand.***

***His oath, his covenant, his blood,***

***Support me in the whelming flood;***

***When all around my soul gives way,***

***He then is all my hope and stay.***

***On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:***

***All other ground is sinking sand;***

***All other ground is sinking sand.***

***When he shall come with trumpet sound,***

***O may I then in him be found;***

***Dressed in his righteousness alone,***

***Faultless to stand before the throne.***

***On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:***

***All other ground is sinking sand;***

***All other ground is sinking sand.***

***“Open My Eyes, That I May See”***

***Open my eyes, that I may see***

***Glimpses of truth you have for me;***

***Place in my hands the wonderful key***

***That shall unlock and set me free.***

***Silently now, on bended knee,***

***Ready I wait your will to see;***

***Open my eyes, illumine me,***

***Spirit divine!***

***Open my ears, that I may hear***

***Voices of truth you send so clear;***

***And while the message sounds in my ear,***

***Everything false will disappear.***

***Silently now, on bended knee,***

***Ready I wait your will to see;***

***Open my ears, illumine me,***

***Spirit divine!***

***Open my mouth, and let me bear***

***Gladly the warm truth everywhere;***

***Open my heart, and let me prepare***

***Love with your children thus to share.***

***Silently now, on bended knee,***

***Ready I wait your will to see;***

***Open my heart, illumine me,***

***Spirit divine!***

***“I Love To Tell The Story”***

***I love to tell the story***

***Of unseen things above,***

***Of Jesus and his glory,***

***Of Jesus and his love.***

***I love to tell the story***

***Because I know ‘tis true;***

***It satisfies my longings***

***As nothing else can do.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘twill be my theme in glory,***

***To tell the old, old story***

***Of Jesus and his love.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘til pleasant to repeat***

***What seems, each time I tell it,***

***More wonderfully sweet.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***For some have never heard***

***The message of salvation***

***From God’s own Holy Word.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘twill be my theme in glory,***

***To tell the old, old story***

***Of Jesus and his love.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***For those who know it best***

***Seem hungering and thirsting***

***To hear it like the rest.***

***And when in scenes of glory***

***I sing the new, new song,***

***‘twill be the old, old story***

***That I have loved so long.***

***I love to tell the story,***

***‘twill be my theme in glory,***

***To tell the old, old story***

***Of Jesus and his love.***