**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| May 28, 2023 | | Pentecost Sunday (A) |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | | Chris McMillan, Guest 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 | | Instagram: @stjohnucc2901gc |
| YouTube: gcstjohnucc | Facebook: Search St. John UCC Granite City | |

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 Acts 2:1-21

“[God declares I] will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,…” (Acts 2:17a)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Eternal Father, Strong to Save* Thomas Chesterton

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Adapted from the UCC Worship Ways

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place.

***Today, followers of the Way gather in many places,***From Jerusalem to Galilee, from Samoa to Aruba,

***From Rome to Arabia, from Las Vegas to Cleveland.***God’s Spirit still blows like a mighty wind,

***Breathing new life into the sails of our canoes.***

God’s Spirit still burns liketongues of flame,

***Dancing over the heads of our brave ones.***God’s Spirit still flows like currents of living water, ***Connecting hearts and lands of all believers.***Let us pray and praise God, from whom all life’s blessings flow!

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***O Holy Spirit, come and blow through this gathering space as Mighty Wind as you did with the apostles at the beginning of the Church. Pour your Spirit upon us all, both prepared and surprised of all ages, all genders, to speak your words, see your vision, dream your dreams toward your great and glorious day when everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. Flow like rivers of living water from the hearts of believers through the songs of praise, words of worship, and prayers of devotion. Amen!***

\*HYMN ***“On Pentecost They Gathered”*** #334

\*LITANY OF CONFESSION AND PARDON1

Created by one God,

blessed and sustained by one Spirit,

called by one Savior,

we seek life-giving grace.

***Refreshing wind of God,***

***whisper the truth of your love to us.***

***Where we are breathless with sin and regret,***

***breathe new life into us through your mercy and grace.***

***Where we stand firm in our divisions,***

***re-mold us with your mighty power,***

***that we might rise in unity and love.***

***Renewing wind of the Spirit,***

***help us recognize our gifts,***

***that we may use them for your glory.***

***For we yearn to proclaim your presence***

***in all that we say and in all that we do.***

***In your holy presence, we pray. Amen.***

All who call upon the name of God are saved.

By calling on God and confessing our sins,

the Holy Spirit re-creates us anew

and saves us by Christ’s grace.

***Thanks be to God!***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 pg. 163

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ANTHEM *America* Glockenspiel

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 2:1-21 pg. 111

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”*** #326

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *O Jesus, I Have Promised* David H. Hegarty, Arr.

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“Spirit of the Living God”***  Vs. 2#492

***Spirit of the living God, move among us all;***

***make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love: humble, caring, selfless, sharing.***

***Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION1

***Creative Spirit, create miracles through the gifts we return to you now. Create miracles through us, as we give our lives back to you. Create miracles through our gifts as we share them with one another. Truly, the whole of the gifts you have given us is greater than the sum of the parts, thanks to your powerful presence in our lives and in the church. Amen.***

INVITATION Adapted from John 7:27-38

On the last day of the Festival of Tabernacles, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out,

***“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,***

***and let the one who believes in me drink.***

As the scripture has said,

‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water’.”

***And so, as believers here and everywhere do,***

***we come to the table.***

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Baptized into one body, united by the Spirit,

we eat and drink together,

***And are refreshed and renewed for discipleship.***

COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING, POURING AND PARTAKING

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***Thank you, O God, for by your Spirit you make us one with Christ at this table, one with the saints in glory, one with each other, and one in mission to all the world. As we walk in the light of Christ, may your Spirit breathe life into our testimony of truth and acts of compassion and kindness, justice and mercy. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“For All the Saints”*** Vss. 1, 2, & 6 #529

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *Sortie on ‘National Hymn’* Lani Smith

1From *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*. Copyright © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Today, Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the Holy Spirit’s establishment of the church — the body of Christ that still embraces and empowers all. Welcome!

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

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Pam Sullivan** (618-540-0098). 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 July 16th & 30th.

Thank you to **Rachel Reynolds** for serving as liturgist, to **...** for greeting and to **Chris McMillan** for serving as guest organist.

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**THIS WEEK**

Today: **Pentecost Sunday**

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

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

Communion

Game Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Monday: **OFFICE CLOSED**

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: Cemetery Meeting, 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



**Madison Marie Streid** was born on May 22, 2023. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Streid and the granddaughter of Donna & Tim Streid.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our May & June Mission of the Month is dedicated to the Church World Service Blankets and Tools offering. Envelopes were included in the May edition of the Herald. Additional envelopes can be found on the table in the Narthex.

**EVENING GUILD**

The next meeting of the Evening Guild will be on Monday, June 5th. We’ll be having a potluck starting at 6:30 p.m. This will be the last meeting until September since there are no meetings in July or August.

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**SCRIP**

Thank you to all who continue to support the scrip program. Next order will be submitted third Sunday in June. Master list of vendors and St. John “favorites” order forms are on the table in the narthex. Give order form and check payable to St John UCC to Betty Meszaros at any time. You can also participate if worshipping on zoom—just mail check and note of cards you want to purchase to church. Cash is also happily accepted but only if giving order to Betty in person. Cost is face value of the card with no tax or service fee. Rebate is automatically sent to church. Contact Melissa Lane at 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros at 618-451-1968 if any questions.



**TRINITY SUNDAY**

We will celebrate Trinity Sunday on June 4 this year because it is always the Sunday after Pentecost in the liturgical year. Come to worship to sing the traditional Trinity hymn “Holy, Holy, Holy” and partake in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The Chancel Choir will sing the anthem “Jesus, Be Present Now”, and there will be a special Prelude. This will be a wonderful time to unite and invite others to worship together as we celebrate the One Triune God.

**SAVE OUR PLANT**

At the last Granite City Council meeting, Mayor Mike Parkinson announced a petition drive to save jobs at the US Steel Granite City plant. The goal is to gather 20,000 signatures from the region that is being impacted by the potential downsizing of the plant. The hope is to deliver these petitions to US Steel offices in Pittsburgh mid-June. Only names and addresses are requested on the petitions and no telephone numbers. Anyone over 18 can sign but only one petition please. Not limited to registered voters or Madison County residents. If you are willing to sign, please see Betty Meszaros in the narthex after worship today. Thank you to all who signed last week. Contact Betty at 618 451-1968 if questions. Thank you for supporting our community.

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Remember that the 4th of July fireworks are fairly visible from our church parking lot, so come and join us if you don’t want to be in the midst of the bigger crowds. Donations of non-chocolate individually wrapped candy are needed. These treats will be available after 8:30 p.m., to offer our hospitality to visitors. We need more volunteers to help distribute them this year, so please volunteer to Karen Gaines or Pastor Karla.



**3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATIONS**

Any of our children entering 3rd grade next August may receive a special Bible on Sunday, September 17, during 9:30 a.m. worship. Please call the church office at 618-877-6060 to give name and address for letters to be sent inviting them to participate.



**GRADUATES**

If you or someone you know is graduating from high school or college, we’d like to celebrate their accomplishment in the upcoming July Herald. Please send the name of the graduate, their school, degrees (if applicable), any special honors, and their plans for the future.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing, Assisted, & Independent Living**

Earl Buenger, Marcia Buenger, Ruth Buer, Hilde Few, JoAnn King, Karen Luddeke, Marjorie Schmidt, and Jerry Shonk.

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**At Home**

Chloe Affolter, Isabella Boyer, Carol Braundmeier, Christopher Clark, Myra Cook, Bonnie Fornaszewski, Mary Franz, Luitgard Fries, Melba Grady, Lou Hasse, Chuck King, Mina McBrian, Cindy Meyer, Sandy Mueller, Cliff Robertson, Merle Rose, June Stille, and Nancy Wilson.

**Illinois South Conference**

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

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Corinthians 12:3b-13**

**3**Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. **4**Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, **5**and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, **6**and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. **7**To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. **8**To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, **9**to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, **10**to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. **11**All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. **12**For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. **13**For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

**Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. **2**And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3**Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. **4**All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the

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Spirit gave them ability. **5**Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. **6**And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. **7**Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? **8**And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? **9**Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10**Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, **11**Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” **12**All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” **13**But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” **14**But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. **15**Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. **16**No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: **17**‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. **18**Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. **19**And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. **20**The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. **21**Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

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2. **Aim the camera at the black and white square below and a link will appear on your screen.**
3. **Click the link and you’ll be directed to our donations website. From there, you can select a fund to which you’d like to make a contribution. Thank you!**

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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 John Nitchman, President, 618-288-5297

Council – Talk to Kiki Cochran, President, 618-797-2511 or Donna Brandes, Vice President, 618-802-1072

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, 314-420-1548

***“On Pentecost They Gathered”***

Words: Jane Parker Huber. Music: *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch,* harm. Felix Mendelssohn. Words © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (Admin. Westminster John Knox Press). Reprinted by permission, CCLI License #1334401.

***On Pentecost they gathered***

***Quite early in the day,***

***A band of Christ’s disciples,***

***To worship, sing, and pray.***

***A mighty wind came blowing,***

***Filled all the swirling air,***

***And tongues of fire a glowing***

***Inspired each person there.***

***The people all around them***

***Were startled and amazed***

***To understand their language,***

***As Christ the Lord they praised.***

***What universal message,***

***What great good news was here?***

***That Christ, once dead, is risen***

***To vanquish all our fear.***

***God pours the Holy Spirit***

***On all who would believe,***

***On women, men, and children***

***Who would God’s grace receive.***

***That Spirit knows no limit,***

***Bestowing life and power.***

***The church, formed and reforming,***

***Responds in every hour.***

***O Spirit, sent from heaven***

***On that day long ago,***

***Rekindle faith among us***

***In all life’s ebb and flow.***

***O give us ears to listen***

***And tongues aflame with praise,***

***So people of all nations***

***Glad songs of joy shall raise.***

***“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”***

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***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness***

***Calling and free;***

***Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,***

***Wind, wind on the sea.***

***You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,***

***Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;***

***And over the eons you called to each thing:***

***“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.”***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness***

***Calling and free;***

***Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,***

***Wind, wind on the sea.***

***You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand***

***And you goaded your people with a law and a land;***

***And when they were blinded with idols and lies,***

***Then you spoke through your prophets***

***To open their eyes.***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness***

***Calling and free;***

***Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,***

***Wind, wind on the sea.***

***You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,***

***Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;***

***And down in the city you called once again,***

***When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.***

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness***

***Calling and free;***

***Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,***

***Wind, wind on the sea.***

***You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes***

***From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;***

***Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.***

***With bold new decisions your people arise.***

***“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.***

***“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;***

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

***Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***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!***