**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

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| June 4, 2023 | Trinity Sunday (A) |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | Dave Ekstrand, Dir. Of Music |
| 9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship | 9:30 Sunday School for Children |
| 2901 Nameoki Road | Granite City, IL 62040 |
| [E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com](mailto:E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com)  Web-stjohnuccgranitecity.com | (618) 877-6060  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 AND BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER “Peace be with you!”

\*SUNG PRAISE RESPONSE ***“Glory Be to the Father”*** #734

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,***

***and to the Holy Ghost;***

***as it was*** ***in the beginning,***

***is now, and ever shall be,***

***world without end. Amen, Amen.***

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.” (Vs. 13)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Ave Maria* Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP AND CONFESSION1

Holy, holy, holy are you, Lord God Almighty.

***Heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Everywhere we turn we are reminded of your power,

***For you light the day with the sun,***

***and the night with the moon.***

You paint the seas and skies with curious and beautiful creatures.

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***You fill the fields with flowers and foods.***

You breathe life into your children’s bodies and spirits.

***You conquer death for us with your love.***

And yet, O Lord, we often focus on blaming others rather than sharing your love.

***We confess that we often blame others for their troubles.***

We take sides and blame those who either protect or destroy creation.

***We glorify selfish pride, and blame others for being beneath our dignity.***

We condemn as sinful those who don’t meet our standards of acceptability.

***Forgive us and re-focus us to see all that is bright and beautiful in your world.***

To see the laughter and smiles even where there is trouble;

***To see the hands that reach out in love with compassion;***

To see the grandeur of streams and trees, whales and bunnies;

***To see behind all that is hard and unkind in humanity, and rediscover your beautiful image in each person,***

To see beyond every dark, cold tomb, and see the eternal truth,

***That life is everlasting.***

And even the darkness of death cannot put out the light of life!

***Glory be to the Father who gives life, and to the Son who redeems it, and to the Spirit who sustains it. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“Holy, Holy, Holy”*** #136

\*RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING Psalm 8

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

***You have set your glory above the heavens.***

Out of the mouths of babes and infants

you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,

to silence the enemy and the avenger.

***When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,***

***the moon and the stars that you have established;***

***what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?***

Yet you have made them a little lower than God,

and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;

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***You have put all things under their feet,***

***All sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,***

***the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,***

***whatever passes along the paths of the seas.***

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:1-8, 26-27, 31, 2:1-3 pg. 1

ANTHEM *Jesus, Be Present Now* Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 28:16-20 pg. 32

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Worthy of Worship”*** #137

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *He Leadeth Me* Bradbury

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“Holy Is the Lord”*** #151

***Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.***

***Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.***

***Holy is the Father, holy is the Son,***

***holy is the Spirit: blessed Three-in-One.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***O Creator of all, we have heard Jesus’ command to go and make disciples of all nations. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, may these offerings go and do more than we’ll ever know. Bless them and us for discipleship that is good and gives life, now and forever. Amen.***

INVITATION

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COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING, POURING AND PARTAKING

All confessing Christians are welcome to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please hold each element when served in the pews so all may partake together.

The inner circle of cups contain juice and the outer circles are wine.

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***We thank you, O God, that through the power of your Holy Spirit upon us and this Sacrament, we know the love of Christ in our lives. As you make us in your image and claim us as your own, we are one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all creation, now and forever. Amen.***

\*HYMN & NOISY OFFERING FOR CONCRETE STEPS

***“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”*** #719

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *By Thou My Vision* Schrader, arr.

1Adapted from *Lighting the Flame* by Chuck Cammarata. Copyright © 1997 by CSS Publishing Company, Inc.. Used by permission.

Today is Holy Trinity Sunday, so, fittingly, I welcome you to worship in the name of God the Creator, Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Spirit, who sustains our faith and empowers us for discipleship. Amen.

The **bulletin** is given in loving memory of William “Henry” and Norma Robertson by Steve, Robin, & Sarah Totten, and Lydia, Geoffrey and Dhani Huff.

The **altar vases** are placed in loving memory of Wallace Roethemeyer by his family.

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 **Allison Reynolds** for serving as liturgist and to **Betty Meszaros** for greeting.

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**THIS WEEK**

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

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

Communion & Noisy Offering  
 Fellowship Hour by Personnel

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

Evening Guild Potluck, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

ESOS, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

Bell Choir, 5:30 p.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.

**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 tomorrow, 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.

**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.

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**SAVE OUR PLANT**

TODAY is the last opportunity to sign the petition. If willing to sign, please see Betty Meszaros in the fellowship hall after worship. 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. Thank you to all who have signed and for supporting our community.



**CHAIRS FOR THE CEMETERY**

You may have seen the wish list in the Herald of chairs for the cemetery. You may also have wondered why patrons of the cemetery would need chairs! The chapel/office at the Maryville

Road site was dedicated in 1995 and has been undergoing a refresh. The chairs, similar to those in fellowship hall, are actually for use in the chapel. The chapel can be utilized for memorial services and chairs would allow additional seating to replace some of the pews which are broken and becoming unsafe. Cost is $57 each. Thank you to the Brotherhood which just donated ten chairs. Donations appreciated of any amounts – – portions or a chair or ten (like the Brotherhood) or balance of the 30 needed. Please contact the cemetery office at 618 876-5811 if questions.



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.

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**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**

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

JoAnn King, #113,

**Eden Village**, 200 S. Station Rd., Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Earl & Marcia Buenger, Apt 9219

**The Fountains of West County**, 15822 Clayton Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011

Ruth Buer

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

Karen Luddeke

Jerry Shonk

**Stillwater Senior Living**, 1111 University Dr., Edwardsville, IL 62025

Marjorie Schmidt, #101

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

Hilde Few, #208

**At Home**

Chloe Affolter, 577 Newhart Dr., G.C., IL 62040

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

Carol Braundmeier, 2228 Nevada, G.C., IL 62040

Christopher Clark, 2223 Lincoln Ave., G.C., IL 62040

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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

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

Cindy Meyer, 2206 Lynch Ave., 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

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

Nancy Wilson, 4062 Sarah St. Apt 81, G.C., IL 62040

**Illinois South Conference**

Addieville Zion UCC, Rev. William Groennert. Alhambra Salem UCC, Rev. Jeremy Wood, Pastor John Mindrup.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Genesis 1:1-8, 26-27, 31**

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, **2**the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. **3**Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. **4**And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. **5**God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. **6**And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” **7**So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. **8**God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

**26**Then God said, “Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over

the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” **27**So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

**31**God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

**Genesis 2:1-3**

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. **2**On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had

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done. **3**So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

**Matthew 28:16-20**

**16**Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. **17**When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. **18**And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19**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 **20**and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**Try our QR code! This little square will take you directly to our secure MyVanco website where you can contribute to any of our various funds. Just follow three simple steps:**

1. **Qr code

   Description automatically generatedOpen your smart phone’s camera app**
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

***“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”***

***Holy, holy, holy!***

***Lord God Almighty!***

***Early in the morning***

***Our song shall rise to thee.***

***Holy, holy, holy!***

***Merciful and mighty!***

***God in three persons,***

***Blessed Trinity!***

***Holy, holy, holy!***

***All the saints adore thee,***

***Casting down their golden crowns***

***Around the glassy sea;***

***Cherubim and seraphim***

***Falling down before thee,***

***Which wert and art,***

***And evermore shalt be.***

***Holy, holy, holy!***

***Though the darkness hide thee,***

***Though the eye made blind by sin***

***Thy glory may not see,***

***Only thou art holy;***

***There is none beside thee,***

***Perfect in power,***

***In love and purity.***

***Holy, holy, holy!***

***Lord God Almighty!***

***All thy works shall praise thy name,***

***In earth, and sky, and sea;***

***Holy, holy, holy!***

***Merciful and mighty!***

***God in three persons,***

***Blessed Trinity!***

***“Worthy of Worship”***

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***Worthy of worship, worthy of praise,***

***Worthy of honor and glory;***

***Worthy of all the glad songs we can sing,***

***Worthy of all of the offerings we bring.***

***You are worthy, Father, Creator.***

***You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.***

***You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;***

***Worthy of worship and praise.***

***Worthy of reverence, worthy of fear,***

***Worthy of love and devotion;***

***Worthy of bowing and bending of knees,***

***Worthy of all this and added to these -***

***You are worthy, Father, Creator.***

***You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.***

***You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;***

***Worthy of worship and praise.***

***Almighty Father, Master, and Lord,***

***King of all kings and Redeemer,***

***Wonderful Counselor, Comforter, Friend,***

***Savior, and source of our life without end.***

***You are worthy, Father, Creator.***

***You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.***

***You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;***

***Worthy of worship and praise.***

***“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.***

\*\*\**Go, My Children, with My Blessing* not printed due to copyright