

**St. John United Church of Christ**  
**“In Christ We Live, Celebrate, & Serve”**

April 13, 2025

Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor

9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship

2901 Nameoki Road

E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com

Web-stjohnuccgranitecity.com

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.

Palm/Passion Sunday (C)

David R. Ekstrand, Dir. of Music

9:30 Sunday School for Children

Granite City, IL 62040

(618) 877-6060

Instagram: @stjohnucc2901gc

**WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Vss. 1, 3 & 5 #265

***“All Glory, Laud and Honor”***

\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH A HANDSHAKE OR WAVE

\*SUNG RESPONSE

Vs. 1 #252

***“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”***

***Lord, who through-out these forty days for us did fast and pray,  
Teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.***

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

Philippians 2:5-11

...at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Vss. 10-11

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!*

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER<sup>1</sup>

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hear all the tribes hosanna cry;

***O Savior meek, pursue your road***

***with palms and scattered garments strowed.***

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die.

***O Christ, your triumphs now begin***

***o’er captive death and conquered sin.***

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Your last and fiercest strife is nigh.

***The Father on his sapphire throne  
awaits his own anointed Son.***

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die,

***Bow your meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O Christ, your power and reign.***

Let us pray together:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, we join the crowds with our Hosannas  
and bow in prayer before your majesty. Yet we know what is to  
come. We know that not every knee will bend to you; not every  
voice will shout glory to you, then and now. But we do; we  
worship you; we praise you. Grant us your Spirit as we journey  
with you through this Holy Week and renew our commitment to  
follow you forever. Amen.***

\*HYMN

***“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”***

#267

\*LITANY OF CONFESSION

Based on Psalm 118, Romans 8,  
Luke 23 & 24

We bow before the Lord to offer our heartfelt confession. We know we have sinned, and we know the Lord receives our prayer. And so, we ask the Lord to open to us the gates of righteousness.

***Holy and loving God, we desire to join the righteous saints of  
every time and place and share your salvation. Yet at times  
we reject your commands. We ignore your prophets and  
faithful servants. We forget that you give us our days and ask  
us to make them good. We turn aside from your life-giving  
light and stumble in the shadows of unrighteousness. Yet  
your steadfast love draws us close again. Forgive us, we  
pray, and grant us your peace. Amen.***

The psalmist declared “O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.” The Apostle Paul wrote “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor thing to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Jesus promised a repentant one “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” And we, too, have the assurance that our sins are forgiven.

***Our hearts are open, our eyes and ears are open, for Jesus is  
with us saying “Peace be with you,” and “that repentance and  
forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all.”***

Let us open our lives to Jesus and bear witness to his love and mercy.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

FIRST GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 19:28-40	pg. 78
ANTHEM	<i>The Palms</i>	Chancel Choir
SECOND GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 22:14-23	pg. 81
MEDITATION		

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

*HYMN	<b><i>"Lead Me to Calvary"</i></b>	#253
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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.***

THIRD GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 22:39-54a	pg. 82
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STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY      *O How He Loves You and Me*

*RESPONSE	<b><i>"The Old Rugged Cross"</i></b>	Vs. 2 #260
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***O that old rugged cross,  
so despised by the world,  
has a wondrous attraction for me;  
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above  
to bear it to dark Calvary.  
So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
and exchange it some day for a crown.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***Holy One, the offerings we lay on the altar represent our commitment to keep you first in our lives. No matter what others may say or do, no matter what powers may attempt to pull us away, we bend our knee only to you. Bless and multiply***

***our offerings so that the whole earth knows of your steadfast love, and heaven rejoices. Amen.***

\*FOURTH GOSPEL LESSON      Luke 23:39-49      pg. 84

\*HYMN      ***“The Old Rugged Cross”***      Vss. 1 & 4 #260

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE      *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

<sup>1</sup>*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!*, words by Henry H. Milman (1791-1868)

We thank Karen Gaines for serving as liturgist and Justin Gibson for serving as greeter.

The **bulletins** are given **in loving memory of the birthday of Myrna Bischoff Rich** by Herb & Jeanie Bischoff, Jennifer, Britt, Alex & Nick Robertson.

The **bulletins** are also given **in celebration of Dale Oliver’s April 17 birthday and in memory of his Daddy, David Oliver Jr.’s March 25 birthday** by Gram Doris Oliver.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Pam Sullivan at (618) 540-0098**. Flower Emporium offers \$25 (small), \$30 (medium), or \$35 (large) arrangements. If you would like to **sponsor a bulletin**, please call the **Church Office at (618) 877-6060**. The following dates are currently available; May 4 & 11, 2025, July 13, 2025, August 31, 2025, October 19, 2025, & November 30, 2025.

### **APRIL MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Thank you to everyone who helped with Spring Spruce – Up! If there is a financial gift on your heart to a particular place or fund, please designate when given through the church so the counters can direct them correctly and add your envelope number if you have weekly envelopes.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Restructure Committee Presentation – Sunday, April 27 after worship  
Spring BBQ – Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **SPRING BBQ TICKETS AVAILABLE**

Tickets for the Spring BBQ are available now! They can be purchased from the office or the Seibolds. Please call the office at 618-877-6060 for more information.

