

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

September 28, 2025

16th Sunday after Pentecost (C)

Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor

David R. 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

(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 AND BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH A SMILE AND WAVE

*RESPONSE¹

“He Has Made Me Glad”

#657

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart;

I will enter his courts with praise.

I will say, “This is the day that the Lord has made!”

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad,

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad,

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

CELEBRATING THE EDUCATION BUILDING PROJECT

DEDICATED ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1955

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

“Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.”

PROJECT SUMMARY

REMEMBRANCE SENT BY SUE KELLER BUNSELMEYER

POEM FROM THE DEDICATION BOOKLET

The Church of My Dreams by John Milton Moore

*HYMN ***“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*** Vss. 1 & 2 #71

*PRAYER OF RE-DEDICATION

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

My Hope Is Built

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER²

God is our refuge and our fortress.

In God, we place our trust.

When we are weary,

God lifts us up on wings like eagles.

Come before the Lord with joy and longing.

God is our hope and our salvation.

Come! Lift prayer to God, whose promises are sure.

Loving God, you protect us from harm and shelter us in your loving arms. May we set our hearts on the things that are above, on righteousness, godliness, faith, love, and gentleness; and take hold of the life that really is life with you, forever. Amen.

*HYMN ***“On Eagle’s Wings”*** #438

RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,

Who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

Will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress;

My God, in whom I trust.”

For he will deliver you from the snare of the hunter

And from the deadly pestilence;

He will cover you with his pinions,

And under his wings you will find refuge;

His faithfulness is a shield and defense.

You will not fear the terror of the night

Or the arrow that flies by day

Or the pestilence that stalks in darkness

Or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Those who love me, I will deliver;

I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them;

I will be with them in trouble;

I will rescue them and honor them.

With long life I will satisfy them

And show them my salvation.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

EPISTLE LESSON	1 Timothy 6:6-19	pg. 198
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>The King and I</i>	AMENZ
GOSPEL LESSON	Luke 16:19-31	pg. 75
MEDITATION		

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN ***"Rejoice, the Lord Is King!"*** #342

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 *My Savior's Love*

*RESPONSE³ ***"As Saints of Old"*** Vs. 3 #570
***With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you,
not just to serve your cause,
but share your love with neighbors too.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.***

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION²

Generous Spirit, you call us to share our riches with the poor and disadvantaged, lest we follow self-interest to our ruin. You teach us to bestow your blessings on those in need. Set our hearts on the riches of good works. Bless these gifts and us as we take hold of the life that really is life with you. Amen.

*HYMN

“God Be with You”

#716

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Hope of the World

¹“He Has Made Me Glad”, Hymn #657, Words and Music by Leona Von Brethorst (1923-) © 1976 Maranatha Praise, Inc. (The Admin Company). Used by permission CCLI License #1334401

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³“As Saints of Old Their First-fruits Brought”, Hymn #570, Words by Frank Von Christierson (1900-1996) ©1961, Ren. 1989 The Hymn Society (Admin. Hope Publishing Company) Used by permission CCLI License #1334401

We thank Sharon O'Toole for serving as liturgist and Rae-Ellen Vogeler for serving as greeter.

The bulletins are given in loving memory of the late Rev. David L. Duffield on the anniversary of his passing on September 29, 2020, by his wife, Eileen Duffield.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Nancy Jacobs 314-712-6388**. 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; October 19, 2025, & November 30, 2025.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Today: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m.
70th Year Building Dedication

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

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.
Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir, **4:30 p.m.**

Thursday: GCC Band, 6:15 p.m.

Next Sunday: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m.
World Communion Sunday & Noisy Offering
DuBois Fall Festival
Begin Neighbors in Need Special Offering