

St. John's United Church of Christ

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WELCOME VISITORS! Thank you for coming! Please sign a pew card to place in the offering plate.

WORSHIP: When reading this bulletin Leader Speaks Plain Font, Everyone Speak Bold Font

Announcements

Nursery: Children are welcome in all aspects of worship. The nursery provides an alternative space so kids and parents can both get what they need from worship. Children are encouraged to check in with their adult before going downstairs with the nursery attendant.

The Belvidere Group (AA) meets at everyday at 7pm.



Delicious Fundraiser



Amazon List



T-Shirts

Announcements

- ✚ Join us after worship today for Pizza and Sale set up. We will be accepting donations for the Rummage Sale until this Thursday. Baked goods and plants are welcome until Saturday am before sale. Please bring items pre priced. **Plant Swap and Rummage Sale Saturday, September 27th, 9am-2pm.**
- ✚ **Yoga** every other Saturday 10am Chair Yoga and 11:30 mat Yoga. Class is \$5. Let us know if you would like child care. Next classes November 4th & 18th.
- ✚ **Card Class** Tuesday, September 23rd, 6pm-8pm. Open to everyone 10 and up. Class is \$10. You will leave with 10 cards made. RSVP for Child Care.
- ✚ **Fellowship Circle** has changed their time! Still meeting the 2nd Thursday of the month but now starting earlier at 11:30am.
- ✚ **Blessing Box** non-perishable are welcome. Make sure any items in cardboard have an inner layer of protection to prevent creatures from contaminating the food.
- ✚ **Share Table** please place perishable items here.
- ✚ **Paper Angel Closet** needs toilet paper, paper towels, women's deodorant, bleach, shampoo, and dish soap.
- ✚ **Menards Ministry:** If you have unused Menards rebates, or even receipts. We use these rebates for projects around the church.
- ✚ **The Prairie Association 2025 Fall Meeting**
Theme: "Be the Church: Organizing the Body of Christ for our renewed Governance and Ministry"
Location: Zoom (Online Only)
Sunday, September 28th, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Hymn #278 "Creator God, Creating Still"**Benediction**

Go out into the world to love and serve the Holy
One
In word and in deed
In season and out of season
In trust and in stewardship
Go, faithful servant of God
Go in peace

An Accounting: Service Prayers for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

Prelude**Announcements****Choral Introit "Bless the Lord, O my Soul"****Chorus:**

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o – my soul;
Worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, o my soul;
I'll worship Your holy name.

Verse 1:

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Repeat Chorus:**Responsive Welcome Statement**

At St. John's United Church of Christ, we are Living
Outwardly & Valuing Everyone!

We live and work amid God's love!

In that spirit, we extend love to all who come into our
midst, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity,
race, nationality, skin color, culture, differing
abilities, age or political affiliations, to participate fully
in all aspects of church.

Our ministry is to bring the Good News of Christ's love to all.

We work in God's name to tear down walls and build
community,

to walk with each other through all of life's circumstances,

to provide for those in need,

to offer comfort to the hurting and the sick,
and to uplift the brokenhearted.

Where we fail, we ask for God's forgiveness.

May the Holy Spirit and our siblings continue to challenge us to do better.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Call to Worship *(Inspired by Psalm 113)*

Praise the Holy One! From the rising of the sun until its setting, the name of God deserves our praise!

Who is like our God...seated on high?

Praise the Most High, who observes all things and remembers the poor and those in need.

God our Righteousness raises the lowly and levels the exalted.

Praise the Righteous One, who is just and mighty, who repairs and redeems.

The Redeemer pours out love and justice, compassion and conviction, hope and salvation.

Praise the Holy One!

Invocation

Great God, who gathers us together in spirit and in truth, sanctify our time together. Grant us wisdom and discernment. Open our hearts to receive and to give. Be glorified in our worship and the transformation that moves us forward as your people. In your glorious and precious name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn #505 "Sweet Hour of Prayer"**Affirmation of Faith #886****Children's Time "Prayer Time"****Pastoral Prayer~ The Lord's Prayer****Hymn #20 "God of Abraham and Sarah"**
(Tune: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy)**Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

Redeemer, forgive us for defiling your holy ground. We have not cared for your creation, we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, and we have not been faithful with the gifts you have given to us. We ask you not to clean our slate but

to renew our hearts. Soften the hardness this world encourages us to wrap around our hearts, and replace it with compassion, empathy, and accountability to our neighbor, siblings, and creation. Awaken a new life within us. Amen.

Words of Grace-Leader

Beloved, a new life is possible. The Holy One has planted compassion within our hearts. We need only allow ourselves to come alive to the hope and joy that transformation promises us. Receive the grace of God to release fear of failure in order to try and fail and try again to be all that God will empower us to be.

Gloria Patri

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.

Scripture 1 Timothy 2:1-7**Sermon "How Shall We Pray"****Moment for Mission~ C.U.E. (Chicago, United, Eden)****Doxology**

Praise God, through whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.



General Giving

Prayer of Dedication

Abundant God, may the gifts we give along with your miraculous power be sufficient to the needs of the community and a blessing to the world that you love. Amen.