



# 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✚ **Meals on Wheels** delivery is October 15.
- ✚ **Community Meal** every third Wednesday of the month from 5p-6pm. Come at 4:30pm for a Community Listening Session with the Hunger Coalition on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Participants will receive a gift card. If you would like to volunteer to help host this special event please speak to Pastor Muriel or go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA4A929A2FBCE9-57399621-hunger>
- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **Candle Crest Order Forms** can be picked up today from church today. We will encourage people to sell from now until September 14th. We will put the official orders in together and have deliveries by beginning to mid October.



Delicious Fundraiser



Amazon List



T-Shirts

**Hymn #471 "What a Covenant"****Benediction**

On the sabbath,  
 Make God's Name known  
 Love our neighbors  
 Spread the good news  
 Do justice  
 Seek Righteousness  
 And live in hope  
 Postlude

*On the Sabbath: Service Prayers for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.*



General Giving

**Prelude****Announcements****Choral Introit "God will Make a Way"**

God will make a way  
 Where there seems to be no way  
 He works in ways we cannot see  
 He will make a way for me

He will be my guide  
 Hold me closely to His side  
 With love and strength for each new day  
 He will make a way, God will make a way

**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 71)**

Let us worship the Holy One, our refuge, hope and trust. Our praise is continually of our God!

**God will not put us to shame. God is our rock!**

Turn to the God who saves and delivers. Our praise is continually of our God!

**God's righteousness redeems. God is our shelter!**

Find rest and delight in the Holy One. Our praise is continually of our God!

**We lean upon the Holy One. God is our sure foundation!**

**Invocation**

God of the Sabbath, you make this day holy. As we gather in your name, redeem the days when our focus wandered and draw us back to you. Let your wisdom, justice, and compassion guide us. Slow our pace to attend to those things that matter. Open our understanding to the good that needs to be done. Sustain us for the challenges we face, Make your name known among us and through us. We glorify and honor you in spirit and in truth, in word and in deed, in season and out of season. Amen.

**Hymn #423 "Great is Your Faithfulness"**

**Affirmation of Faith #886**

**Children's Time**

**Pastoral Prayer~ The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn #448 "Take my Life, God, Let it Be"**

**Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

Holy God, we confess that we have trampled the sabbath. We claim your name and not your way. We cling to excuses to avoid discomfort or sacri-

fice in service of our neighbor. We turn from human suffering. We keep silent in the face of wickedness. Transform us, O God, that we might be saved from the vise of evil and the lure of inaction. Rebuild us with righteousness and hope and redeem us for your kindom. Amen.

**Words of Grace-Leader**

Beloved, in Isaiah 58:9, the Voice assures, "Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and God will say, "Here I am." God's abiding presence never leads us; God's transforming love will empower you to live the just and righteous life. Receive grace for participation and belonging in the kindom. God's mercies are renewed for us.

**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 Luke 13:10-17****Sermon "Hypocrite's Oath"****Moment for Mission~Northern IL Hospice****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.

**Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious and Generous God, receive these gifts in faith and trust. Help us to be good stewards of the resources you have given to us and bless our generosity for your glory. Amen.