St. John's

United Church of Christ



& Totenfest

November 1st, 2026

St. John's United Church of Christ

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Pastor:	**Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn**	**815-544-2977**
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Pastoral Associate:	**Beth Carson**	**815-979-0473**
Minister of Music:	**Mary Albrecht**	**224-234-7749**
Choir Director:	**Jeanne Anderson**	**815-985-2652**
Nursery Attendant:	**Hanna Jarvis**	**815-914-4718**

Notes About Worship

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

WHAT DO I WEAR? PJs or prom dress, come as you are.

WHAT'S MY LINE? During worship, Leaders speak Plain Font**, YOU & everyone else speaks Bold Font**

WHEN DO I STAND/ WHAT IF I CAN'T STAND? Certain postures help our voices carry, for some that is standing. We welcome all bodies in whatever ability you have. When you see the congregation stand you are invited to check in with your body and decide what posture would allow you to best be in the moment. To know when you might want to change posture, look for the (*) beside the titles or listen for an invitation by the speaker.

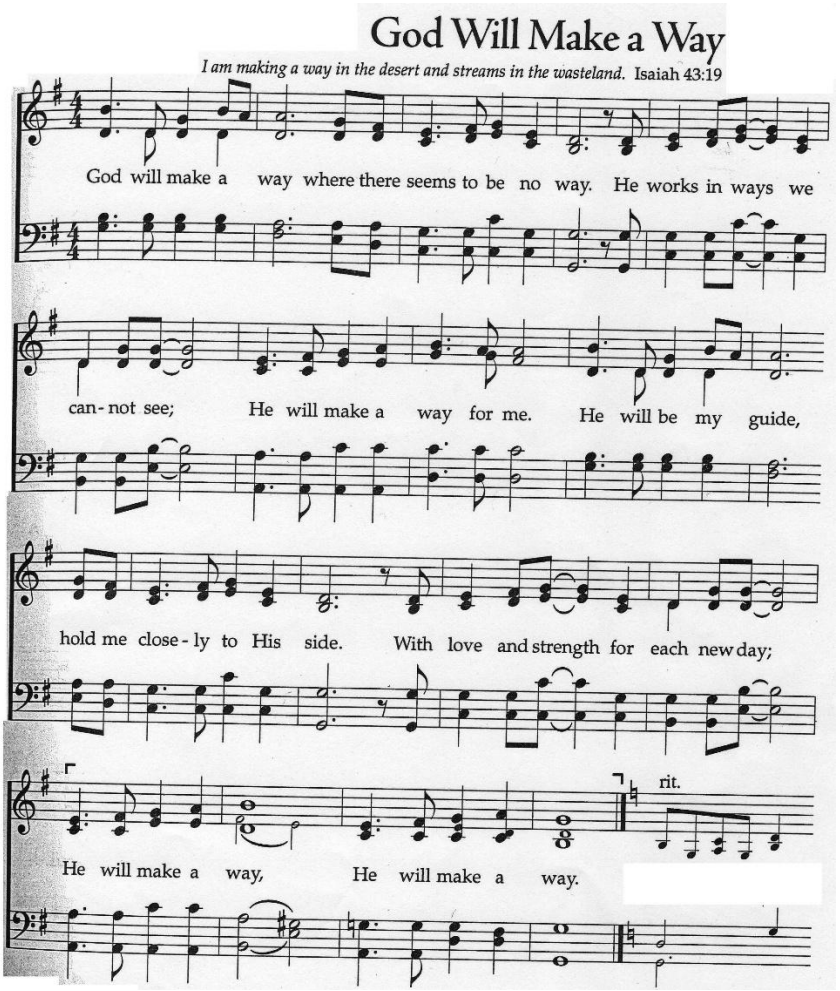
WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS? Children are welcome in all aspects of worship. There are **activity bags** in the Narthex as you come into the sanctuary and **soft toys** in the back of the sanctuary for anyone needing to calm busy bodies. The **nursery** provides an alternative space so kids and parents can both get what they need from worship. Children are encouraged to check in with their adult before going downstairs with the nursery attendant.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Fellowship Circle** All ladies are invited to join in fellowship and a treat on Thursday, November 12th at 11:30 in the Conference room.
- **The Belvidere Group (AA)** meets every day at 7:00 pm
- **NA Not Alone Group** Everyday at 5:30pm.

*CHORAL INTROIT



***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 broken hearted.

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**

When it's hard to love our neighbor,

Like many before us, we gather to be your people.

We strip off our weakness and run the good race,

Like many before us, we gather to be your people.

We stand holding our joys and our sorrows,

Like many before us, we gather to be your people.

We open our eyes to the hurts of this world,

Like many before us, we gather to be your people.

We believe in the promises to come,

Like many before us, we gather to be your people.

When we are reminded we are part of something bigger than ourselves,

Like many before us, we gather to be your people.

When we ask others to join us at this table,

Like many before us, we gather to be your people.

***HYMN #400 "Christ is Made a Sure Foundation"**

YOUNG & YOUNG AT HEART

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

To the God who gathers us throughout time and space, we thank you. We know that you have called many saints throughout our history, who gave their lives for you, often to the point of death. We know many Sacrificed family, reputation, and wealth for the sake of your justice and love. They fed the poor, cared for the widow and orphan, spoke truth to power, and created beauty amid hatred.

We confess this has not always been our testimony. We confess that at times, instead of sacrificing for your justice, we protected our wealth and reputations to the harm of others. We confess we do not always feed the poor, care for the orphan and widow, or speak truth to power. We confess we have been perpetrators of hatred instead of beauty and love.

We ask for your mercy and forgiveness. Teach us the ways of justice. Remind us your greatest commandment is to love our God and our neighbor as ourselves. Help us walk with the great cloud of witnesses and live out that love each day. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

***MOMENT OF SILENCE**

***WORDS OF GRACE**

The Lord has heard your words and sees your heart. Go, walk with the great cloud of witnesses, and sin no more. You are forgiven.

***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.

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

We remember those who have died. We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve.

Nancy Anderson
Dawn Brinkmeyer
Greg and Julie Cooper
Mary Cordray
Mary Friday
Cindy Fruit
Jerry Hart
Stan Hilgendorf
Phyllis Kurzhal
Rebecca Lamb
Frank Manzullo
Bill Meinders
Lin Mollway
Tyler Mollway
Joe Douglas Moyer
Daniel Allen Neubert
Delmer Olsen
Rosmary Podilla
Amy Sell
Brian Siebrasse
*Cheryl Van Abbema (Member)

As the chime fades you are invited to lift names aloud of those you wish to remember today. And we remember all those who have gone before us. (bell tolls)

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN #295 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"**

SCRIPTURE 1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON *"Everyone Leaves"*

BLESSING AND SHARING THE ELEMENTS

All are invited to participate in this Holy symbol of Communion. You are invited to eat the as a sign of your own personal faith and hold the cup to drink together as a sign of our communion faith.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

MOMENT FOR MISSION – *Remedies Renewing Lives*

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

***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 AND THANKSGIVING**

Heavenly Parent, bless these gifts of time treasure and talent. May they amplify your goodness and love in this life and the next. Amen.

***HYMN #299 "For All the Saints"**
(Verses 1, 2, 4 and 5)

BENEDICTION

Prayers & leaf activity from by Illustrated Worship Planning Guide All Saint's Day © 2019 Illustrated Ministry, LLC. All Rights Reserved. illustratedministry.com

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How to use a QR code: open the camera on your cellphone. ***Pretend*** you are going to take a picture of one of the 4 boxes on this page. The camera will focus on the box. Words will appear on the bottom of the screen. Tap on the words.

Fee Free digital donations can now be made on our website stjohns401.org. Follow the QR code and check out all the possibilities! This means no more buying checks and added security! >>>>>>>

<<<<<<We use an Amazon List to let people know what St. John's needs for our office and different ministries like the Paper Angel Closet and Community Meals. It is always changing. Check it out.

St. John's also has two on-going fundraisers where you can order items and have them delivered right to your door with a portion of the proceeds supporting our ministries.



Remedies' 2026 Gala & Fundraiser

November 14, 2026
UMB Pavilion at Aldeen
1868 Reid Farm Rd.
Rockford, IL
$125 per ticket / $950 table of 8
Join Remedies Renewing Lives for an unforgettable evening of hope, healing, and community. **The Ripple Effect** celebrates the power of compassion and reminds us that one act of kindness can create waves of change that transform lives.
https://www.remediesrenewinglives.org/news/remedies-2026gala