

How to use a QR code:

(You only need a the camara on your phone.)

Open the camara on your cellphone. Pretend you are going to take a picture of one of the 4 boxes on this page.

The camara will focus on the box. Words will appear on the bottom of the screen. Tap on the words.

Congratulations! You are at the website!

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!



General Giving



Amazon List

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.

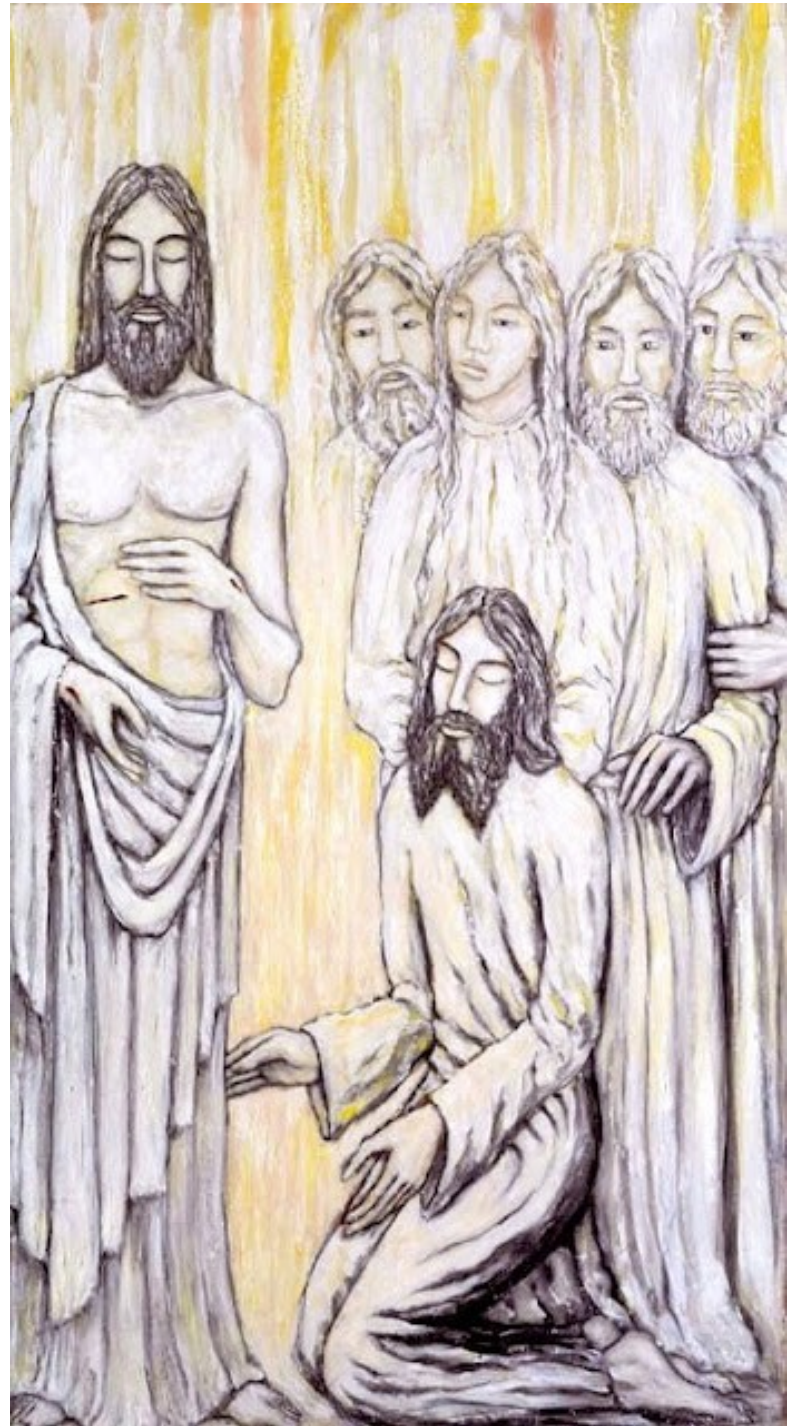


Tea & Coffee

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



T-Shirts



St. John's United Church of Christ

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Staff

Pastor: Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn 815-544-2977
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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

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.

Please, plan to stay after worship for our Fellowship Meal and a conversation on our Community Garden.

Rummage Sale - April 24-25

April 24-25. The rummage sale will be here in less than three weeks!

Bring in all your donations any time! The workroom next to the kitchen is the place for everything but furniture. Furniture will go in the garage for now.

Please sign up to let us know when you can help during set-up, the sale days, or clean-up on Saturday afternoon.

Thanks again, Betsy and Nancy

Announcements

- ✚ **Prairie Association Meeting** May 2nd, 8:30am– Noon at Federated Church in Sycamore, IL. A day of fellowship, refreshments and workshops. Registration is \$20 and coming soon. Carpooling is available.
- ✚ **Rummage Sale** April 24th, 9am-4pm and 25th, 9am-1pm. Donations are being accepted now.
- ✚ **Day of Caring** April 29th on property 10am-3pm in collaboration with United Way, St. John's will be hosting a group of volunteers. We need lots of hosts and volunteers. Please talk to Pastor Muriel if you want to be a part of the event.
- ✚ **Bible School** Mark your Calendars for June 22-26, 5-7pm
- ✚ **Bible School Planning** May 3rd at 9am. We need volunteers of all sorts to come help us prepare.
- ✚ **The Belvidere Group (AA)** meets at everyday at 7pm.
- ✚ **Chair and Mat Yoga** with Katherine Ray is going weekly! Chair yoga at 10 AM and mat yoga at 11:30 AM. No RSVP required and classes are \$5.
- ✚ **Sunday School for Adults and Kids** Sundays at 9am. Check out the upcoming curriculum options for more studies.
- ✚ **Community Meal** 3rd Wednesday of each month.
- ✚ **The Belvidere Group (AA)** meets at everyday at 7pm.

MOMENT FOR MISSION~ Habitat for Humanity**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 FOR THE OFFERING

Generous One, may these gifts be a blessing to those in need, a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve, encouragement for those who doubt, a balm for those in pain. May our generosity reflect our gratitude and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.

HYMN #253 "Thine is the Glory"**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

So I Send You: Service Prayers for Easter 2A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**CHORAL INTROIT "Bless the Lord, O my Soul"**

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.

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.

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.

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 16)

Let us say to the Holy One: You are our God, we have no good apart from you!

Holy One, you are our God, we have no good apart from you!

The Holy One is our chosen portion and our cup; God holds our lot.

Holy One, you are our God, we have no good apart from you!

The Holy One provides us protection and refuge, keeps us in pleasant places, and gives a good heritage.

Holy One, you are our God, we have no good apart from you!

HYMN #243 "Alleluia, Hearts to Heaven" verses 1,3 & 4
(Tune: "Joyful, Joyful")

INVOCATION

Gracious and Eternal God, you are the one who calls us together and the one who sends us out in the world. Remind us, as we gather, how good it is to dwell with you and one another. Stir our hearts to love boldly, freely, and joyfully. Let us praise you with our whole lives and magnify your name by our works. We bless and honor you, O Faithful One, from generation to generation and from community to community. Speak to our spirits and receive our worship. Amen.

YOUNG & YOUNG AT HEART TIME**PASTORAL PRAYER~ THE LORD'S PRAYER**

HYMN #256 "We Live by Faith and Not by Sight"
(Tune: "Amazing Grace")

CALL & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Eternal God, you never abandon us

the way that we sometimes abandon you. We doubt your power and your compassion. We call upon your name, but too often without expectation that you will answer. We blame you for the things we have collectively caused or that life demands. Yet, we give ourselves credit for the good that comes our way. We offer empty apology devoid of real repentance. We want to be absolved without engaging in repair. Help us to cherish grace as a gift and mercy as a miracle. Have mercy on us, Holy One. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Beloved, the Redeemer of our souls meets us in our doubts, uncertainty, and questions. When we call, God responds. When we do not call, God remains present with us. Receive the grace of God to trust the Holy One with our struggles, pain, and brokenness. Have life in the name of the One who came to us, comes to us, and will come to us again and again.

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 John 20:19-31**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

May today's scripture move your spirit within us. Open us to your grace and lead us to a deeper understanding of your call.

SERMON "So I Send You"**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**