

St. General Giving John's United Church



401 N. Main St.

of **C**hrist

P. O. Box 794

Belvidere, IL 61008



February 18th, 2024

Amazon List

Christian Education



9:00 A.M.

Worship

T-Shirts

10:30 A.M.

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St. John's United Church of Christ

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

> Office Hours: Tues - Thurs, 9am-Noon stjohns401.org stjohnsucc401@gmail.com (815)544-3773

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

murielmorley@gmail.com

Beth Carson 815-544-6834 Pastoral Associate: Minister of Music: Mary Albrecht 815-547-7503 **Choir Director: Jeanne Anderson 815-985-2652**

Nursery: The nursery is open! Please check downstairs and meet with the nursery attendant before leaving your child.

You Are Not Alone

The following support groups meet regularly at St. John's

- AL-ANON Thursdays at 7pm. at church & on Zoom Meeting ID: 3983002123 Passcode: 102964
- Anxiety Support Group Tuesdays at church & on Zoom at 6pm. Meeting ID: 862 9227 0691 Passcode: 915601
- Open & Affirming Meet Up LGBTQIA+ & Allies welcome! Help plan the next meet up, speak to Pastor Muriel.
- The Belvidere Group (AA) meets at everyday at Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 1pm & everyday at 7pm. Women's Group meets Mondays 5:30pm
- T.O.P.S. Mondays 11am

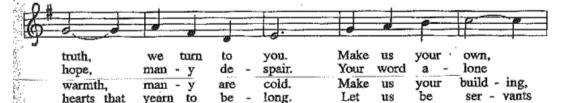
Community Ministries

Community Meal: Every 3rd Wednesday from 5p-6p!

Blessing Box: Outside by the Main Street entrance open to all who are hungry 24/7.

Paper Angel Closet: Provides supplies to households in need.

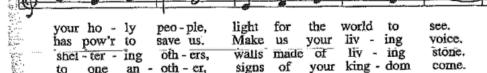
Christ, Be Our Light dark - ness. wait Long-ing for light, in is trou - bled. Long-ing our world for peace, for home-less. shel-ter. Long-ing for man - y are Long-ing



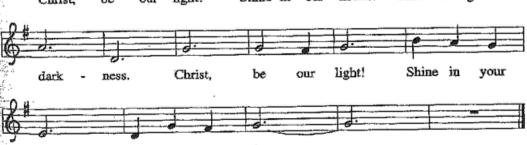
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day.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

Scripture Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15

Special Speaker (Online Sermon will be uploaded as a YouTube Video)

Moment for Mission Over Night Cafe

Invitation to Generosity

Our generosity is born out of our identity in a God whose love is unending and offered to all. In gratitude and joy, we are invited to share a portion of our treasure to ensure that all may come to know of this love of God that never ends.

Musical Offering

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.

Offertory Prayer

Abundant God, receive these gifts of love from your servants and use them for the breaking in of your Kindom of love and light. In the name of Jesus, whose way calls us forth in service, we pray. Amen.

Hymn "Christ, Be our Light" (Verses 1,2,4 and5)

Benediction

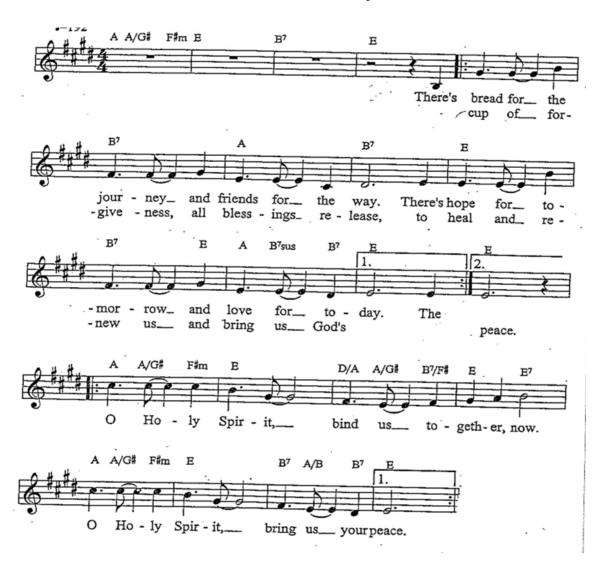
Postlude

Temptation: Service Prayers for the First Sunday in Lent Year B was written by The Rev. Dr. Chad Abbot, Conference Minister in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference.

Prelude

Announcements

Choral Introit "There's Bread for the Journey"



Responsive Welcome Statement (Leader Speaks Plain Font, All Speak Bold Font)

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

The voice of God proclaims of Jesus, "You are my beloved, and I love you." **We, too, are God's beloved children, loved and embraced.**

With all the voices reminding us that we are not enough or don't belong, it is tempting to forget our place in God's Kindom.

With the waters of baptism and the voice of God's promises, we can face the temptations of any wilderness or desert that would draw us away from the Source of our hope.

Embrace your belovedness.

We rejoice in God's unending love for us!

Invocation

God of waters and deserts, God of hope and horizons, we celebrate your presence among us and among all your people. You have proclaimed that Jesus was beloved and, tenderly, you have claimed us as your own. Open the skies. Break through the clouds. Fall softly upon our shoulders and say our names with joy. For this day and each day, no matter what the other voices may say, we are your beloved and we rejoice in your inbreaking Kindom. Amen and Amen!

Hymn #164 "Arise, Your Light is Come"

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;

Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today!

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;

Proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.

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Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born, Bind up the broken hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing: God's power will make us strong.

Children's Time

Pastoral Prayer – The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #211 "Lord Jesus, who through 40 Days"

Lord Jesus, who through forty days for us did fast and pray, Teach us with you to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.

As you with Satan did contend, and did the victory win, O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.

And through these days of penitence, and through this Passion tide, Yes, ever more, in life and death, O Christ, with us abide.

Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past, An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

O God of love, as Jesus was driven out to be tempted in the wilderness, we too, face wildernesses of our own. We are tempted to forget your promises, to rely upon our own strength, and to listen to the destructive voices of power and oppression. Free us from our own hubris. Help us to reclaim our spiritual center as rooted in your love. Open our being to hearing your voice proclaim us as your child who is welcomed, held, and whole. Amen.

Words of Grace

Friends, through wilderness and desert, through sacraments born of water, you are a child of God held tenderly in the embrace of our Creator. Remember your baptism. Remember a path has been made for you. Remember you are not alone. Remember, that in Christ Jesus you are forgiven and made whole. Amen.

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.