

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



Delicious Fundraiser



Amazon List



T-Shirts

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.
- ✚ **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** every Sunday at 9am.
- ✚ **Community Meal** free to all this Wednesday, January 21 from 5-6pm.

Rummage Sale : April 24-25

Bring donations in now and we'll store them in the garage. (no fabric or paper items until April 1 please.)

Large or "specialty" items to donate? We'll post them on Facebook Marketplace and find a good home for them using a wide audience of buyers.

We have sold \$475 already through Marketplace – a tall jewelry tower, an antique desk and an electric typewriter. Donors? A lady who regularly cleans house and texts me to pick up her items, and also a friend of Paul's whose parents are moving and were glad to have their donations picked up and go to support a church. We pick up anything that will fit in a minivan! Please let people know we are available to help them.

Questions? Betsy (815-222-9323) or Nancy (815-978-3319)

Scripture John 1:35-42
1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Sermon "Heaven on Earth"

Moment for Mission~ Sri Lanka

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

Creator of heaven and earth, receive these offerings from our hearts and our hands. May they be used to bring heaven to the earth.

Hymn #584 "I am the Light of the World"
(Verses 1, 2, & 4)

Benediction

Salvation May Reach: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday after Epiphany was written by Rev. Teña T. Nock, who serves as The Associate Pastor of Digital Ministry, First United Church of Tampa, United Church of Christ. Mystic in the making.



General Giving

Prelude

Announcements

Choral Introit "Come, Just as You Are"

**Come, just as you are; Hear the Spirit call.
Come, just as you are; Come and see, come receive;
Come and live for-ever-more.**

**Life ever-lasting, and strength for to-day;
Taste the Living Water, and nev-er thirst again.**

**Come, just as you are; Hear the Spirit call.
Come, just as you are; Come, receive Christ, the King;
Come and live for-ever-more.**

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 (Isaiah 49:1,6-7 NRSVUE)

Listen to me, O Coastlands; pay attention, you people from far away!

God called us before we were born; we were named by God while in our mother's womb.

God made our mouths like sharp swords; in the shadow of God's hand, we were hidden.

God made us a polished arrow; in God's quiver, we were hidden away.

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

Kings shall see and stand up; princes shall prostrate themselves, because of God, who is faithful, the Holy One has chosen you.

Invocation

Knitter of our bones and namer of our being, we invite you to encompass us with your spirit. Everything we desire can be found in you. You desire wholeness for us and in us so now we draw near to receive from you and to share in you. Amen.

Hymn "Will You Come and Follow Me"

**"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?"**

**Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"**

**"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?"**

**Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"**

**"Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found—
to reshape the world around,**

Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

**Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.**

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I'll go—

where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Apostles' Creed #881

Children's Time "Who is Calling?"

Pastoral Prayer~ The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #472 "Precious Lord"

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Redeemer, granter of free will, helps us to stay encouraged to exercise our free will to cause heaven to exist on the earth. We confess that we often miss the bigger picture, while staring at the snapshot of our lives. You have equipped us to see each other's suffering and remedy it. In doing so, we transform how we live and where we live. Amen.

Words of Grace

God's ability to help us stay alert, keeps us open to salvation and the possibility of experiencing Heaven on earth at any given time. Heaven can be a place on earth. 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.**