October 12, 2025 St. John's UCC October 12, 2025 St. John's UCC

## St. John's United Church of Christ

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Minister of Music: Mary Albrecht 815-547-7503
Choir Director: Jeanne Anderson 815-985-2652

**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.





Amazon List



T-Shirts

## **Announcements**

- ₱ Fellowship Meal next Sunday after worship. Sign up to bring a dish in the Narthex.
- ♣ Holiday Bazaar Set up begins after worship on October 19th. Other set up worship hours include Monday the 20th Thursday the 23rd 10am-4pm.
- ♣ Holiday Bazaar Friday, October 24th, 9am-3pm & Saturday, October 25th, 9am-1pm We are looking for holiday decor, baked goods, handmade crafts, and more. Donations are being accepted now through October 22nd at noon. If you would like to help make wreaths with a group of creative folk, learn more or volunteer, please, contacting Bonnie Stevens 815-979-6941.
- ◆ October 26th Trunk or Treat 3-4pm sign up for a parking spot today and invite your friends!
- ➡ Totenfest November 2nd 10:30am during Sunday worship. Please give names of loved ones and information to Vicki Cummings TEXT ONLY PLEASE 815-566-1249. this is the corrected number. We are so sorry for printing the wrong number in the past.
- November 23rd Decorate for Advent we are looking for a creative contact person to plan the decor and organize the volunteers after worship.
- ♣ Coffee Hour was hosted by Bonnie today! Thank you so much! We will be gathering every fist Sunday at 9:30am for this fellowship. You can sign up to host in the Narthex.
- ♣ Community Meal every third Wednesday of the month from 5p-6pm.
- 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.

your visions. Amen.

Hymn #49 "Ask me what Great Things I Know"

Benediction

Return to Give Glory: Service Prayers for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost was written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian, an ordained UCC minister in Belleville, Illinois.

### 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!

#### (Inspired by Psalm 66) Call to Worship

We celebrate the Holy One who eases our souls.

Come and see what God has done!

We celebrate the Holy One who keeps us from slipping.

Come and see what God has done!

We celebrate the Holy One who steadfast love sustains us.

Come and see what God has done!

### Invocation

Loving God, Compassionate Architect, You are the bearer of all our souls, the hope of all possibilities when walls surround us. You carve paths in mountainous regions when our roads appear blocked. You build bridges between people separated by gaps and distances. May we be ones who create channels so that your children continue to form relationships with one another and with you. Amen.

"When Morning Gilds the Skies" Hymn #86

UCC Statement of Faith #885

Children's Time "Hard Work"

Pastoral Prayer~ The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #441 "Jesus Savior, Pilot Me"

**Prayer for Transformation and New Life** 

Holy One, Creator of All,

As your Spirit nudges people from all experiences and lands into our lives, we often turn the sign from "Come In! We're Open!" to "Sorry, We're Closed." It's easier for us to draw the curtains and remain in the shadows than open ourselves up to the light, to healing, and all the possibilities that God sends our way. May your Spirit swing

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open our souls to all possibilities of newness. May our unlocked minds notice the ways your presence fills our hearts with expanding love and hope. Amen.

### **Words of Grace**

In each season of our lives, God's grace continuously transforms our hearts. May we return our gratitude and celebrate the glory of God in our Alleluias and Amens.

Alleluia and Amen! Thanks be to God!

### 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.

Luke 17:5-10 Scripture

Sermon "What's the Ask?"

Moment for Mission Neighbors in Need

Time for Tithe and 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.

### **Prayer of Dedication**

Divine Crafter of Joy, Through your great works. we see your glory. Through our work together, we reflect your glory to a world of pain. May we deliver your dreams and build your Realm here on earth. Bless the work of our hearts as we move into a future filled with hope and living