

Announcements

- ‡ **Worship at Heritage Woods** every 3rd Sunday of the month at 3pm.
- ‡ **Coffee Hour** every first Sunday of the month at 9:30am
- ‡ **Fellowship Meal** every second Sunday of the month after worship.
- ‡ **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.

St. John's United Church of Christ

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SERVICE OF COMMUNION**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**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY****MOMENT FOR MISSION~ Mother House Crisis Nursery****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 God, may the gifts that we bring reflect the image we bear. Be glorified through our generosity and the meeting of needs among and beyond us. Amen.

HYMN #82 "Go My Children"**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

Do the Works: Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Easter Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

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 (inspired by Psalm 31)

In You, Holy One, we seek sanctuary. In you, Sovereign God, we seek refuge.

Holy One, for your name's sake lead us and guide us.

You are indeed our rock and our fortress. Our times are in your hands. Strengthen us in your righteousness.

Holy One, for your name's sake lead us and guide us.

Shine upon us this day as we worship you. Saturate us in your steadfast love.

Holy One, for your name's sake lead us and guide us.

HYMN #400 "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"**INVOCATION**

Holy and Living God, build us into a spiritual house, a gathering of witnesses for the world and in the world to declare your goodness, to follow in your way, to do the work of your hands, voice, and heart. Renew our spirits as we worship you and bask in your presence. Fill us with your Spirit that we collectively proclaim ourselves as your people, called to the fullness of your glorious and radiant being. Amen.

YOUNG & YOUNG AT HEART TIME**PASTORAL PRAYER~ THE LORD'S PRAYER****HYMN #509 "How Deep the Silence" (Tune: Kingsfold)****PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION & NEW LIFE**

Redeemer of our lives, we come to you knowing that we participate in a world often crushed by tyranny and evil. Our hearts are troubled, overwhelmed, and dismayed. At times, we feel help-

less and hopeless by the enormity of the problems presenting all around us. We believe the lie of the enemy that there is nothing that we can do or that someone else is the one to do it. May you, Holy and Righteous One, be glorified in the tumbling of walls cemented in evil and fortified by hate. For this, we pray for courage and resolve to do the works needed in this hour. For this, we pray for faith, trust, and hope to believe that the realm of the possible eclipses the narrow places of improbability. For this, we pray for the boldness to pray for what the world needs and more than our imaginations may hold. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE**WORDS OF GRACE**

Chosen of God, receive the mercy of God, who calls you from despair into hope, from suffering into repair, from hopelessness into resolve. God has given you capacity for strength and compassion. The Holy One journeys with you. Grace is available for you. Know that your prayers are met and amplified by the Spirit, and Christ will lead the way to life and love everlasting on earth as in heaven.

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 14:1-14 NRSVUE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON *"Do the Works"*