



# 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

## 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.

## Announcements

- ✚ **Community Meal** this Wednesday from 5p-6pm. Free meal open to everyone. Menu: Beef vegetable soup, roll, crackers, dessert, milk and coffee.
- ✚ **Chair and Mat Yoga** with Katherine Ray every Saturday in November. Chair yoga at 10 AM and mat yoga at 11:30 AM. No RSVP required, classes are \$5 a piece per person.
- ✚ **Decorate for Advent Saturday, November 22nd** there will be a group decorating the outside of the church. Contact Bonnie Stevens if you are interested in helping. Indoor decorating will be ongoing through out the Advent Season as we anxiously await and prepare for Christmas Season! Contact Pastor Muriel to learn more.
- ✚ **Coffee Hour** We will be gathering every first Sunday at 9:30am for this fellowship. You can sign up to host in the Narthex.
- ✚ **Blessing Box** non-perishable are welcome.
- ✚ **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.
- ✚ **Church Shopping** Anyone looking to buy supplies for general church use, we could use postage stamps and paper towels and facial tissues.



Delicious Fundraiser



Amazon List



T-Shirts

**Hymn "The Spirit sends us Forth to Serve"***(Tune: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing Text: Delores Dufner, 1993)*

**The Spirit sends us forth to serve;  
we go in Jesus' name  
To bring glad tidings to the poor,  
God's favor to proclaim.**

**We go to comfort those who mourn  
and set the burdened free;  
Where hope is dim, to share a dream  
and help the blind to see.**

**We go to be the hands of Christ,  
to scatter joy like seed  
and, all our days, to cherish life,  
to do the loving deed.**

**Then let us go to serve in peace,  
the gospel to proclaim.  
God's Spirit has empowered us;  
we go in Jesus' name.**

**Benediction**

As we work to faithfully follow God's call,  
May the Christ illuminate the road ahead,  
May the Spirit invigorate us throughout each day,  
May our Creator soothe us and instill hope.  
Beloved siblings, even as waves of fear crash over  
us, God never leaves nor forsakes us and brings us  
courage as we journey together.  
Amen!

*Gain Your Souls: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost* was written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian, an ordained UCC minister in Belleville, Illinois.

**Prelude****Announcements****Choral Introit "Seek Ye First"**

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness;  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia.**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
Seek, and you shall find. Knock,  
and it shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia.**

**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 as-  
pects 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 circum-  
stances,**  
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 chal-  
lenge 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 98)**

O Sing to our Creator a New Song,  
**Make a joyful noise to God, everyone!**  
 With trumpets and sounds of the horn  
**We create joyful sounds for you, God of love.**  
 The hills will sing together in bliss.  
**Just as the sea roars and the artists rhyme, we**  
**serenade our Creator.**

**Invocation**

**Beloved Divine Sustainer,**  
**Like the sunlight, your presence illuminates the**  
**world around us. Like the air, your being invigor-**  
**ates us. Even when the world seems to be on**  
**fire, your quenching rain soothes our souls.**  
**Through your wisdom, we find our hope and**  
**strength. Fill our minds with your peace and our**  
**hearts with fortitude, knowing you will never de-**  
**part from us. Amen.**

**Hymn #28 "For the Beauty"****A New Creed #887****Children's Time "The End"****Pastoral Prayer~ The Lord's Prayer****Hymn #562 "Take my Gifts"****Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

**Holy Strength,**  
**At the signs of conflict in our communities and**  
**world, we cower instead of running towards the**  
**needs of our neighbors. We believe the end is**  
**near, but in actuality, this is another wave of**  
**dread coming from our fellow humans. Unfortu-**  
**nately, we can't simply wish this conflict away.**  
**Instead you call us to walk through the fire and**  
**to use our voices. Forgive us when we want to**

**stop instead of continuing to follow the way of**  
**Jesus. Give us grace to keep moving forward,**  
**even when betrayal and hate are raining upon us.**  
**Amen.**

**Words of Grace**

Shame and despair will not overtake us. The grace  
 of God sustains us from dawn until dusk and in the  
 depths of the night. 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.**

**Scripture Luke 21:5-19****Sermon "Signs of Life"****Moment for Mission~ Remedies****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 God, Source of All Energy,**  
**We see how your gifts transform the hearts,**  
**minds, and souls of this world. May your wisdom**  
**continue to strengthen our spirits. Through our**  
**gifts of treasures, talents, and time, we can serve**  
**your children, ensuring no one goes hungry and**  
**all are thriving. Through our endurance and com-**  
**passion, may we build God's Realm here on**  
**earth. Amen.**



General Giving