

*St. John United Church of Christ
Arlington Heights, Illinois*

*Created
to Care*



*Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 9, 2024*

Welcome to St. John

Welcome Thank you for joining us for in-person worship today!

Livestreaming All of St. John's worship services are now livestreamed. You can watch the service live or at another time by going to our website, www.stjah.org or our Vimeo page, www.vimeo.com/stjah.

Holy Communion All are welcome to participate in Holy Communion at St. John. We believe that Jesus welcomed all to his mission of love and all are welcome to the table. We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. All are invited to come forward, row by row. If you cannot come forward, a server will bring communion to you.

A gluten-free option is available. White Grape Juice or Red Wine are available in the trays.

Giving Offering plates are passed during worship. You can also give by going to www.stjah.org and clicking the "GIVE" tab at the top of the page, or by mail. Thank you for your generosity!

Children in Worship Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Packets are available for children.

Interested in Membership? Contact the office at office@stjah.org or 847-255-6687.

Open and Affirming We are an ONA church. Please visit our website and see our ONA Statement on the back page of this bulletin for more information.

Wifi Network & Password Guest & StJohnGuest

CONTACT US –

308 N. Evergreen Avenue, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

www.stjah.org | office@stjah.org

facebook.com/stjohnuccah | twitter.com/stjohnuccah | instagram.com/stjohnucc

Office: 847.255.6687

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday – Friday

STAFF –

Rev. Judith Wang, Interim Pastor – pastor@stjah.org

Janice Gilligan, Church Administrator – office@stjah.org

Dr. J. Paul Cochran, Organist & Orchestra Director

Linda Styzek, Pianist & Worship Band Coordinator

Alberto Mantovano, Choir Director & Livestream Coordinator

Carin Zachar, Bell Choir Director

June 9, 2024

Please silence all phones and electronic devices. Thank you.

The Music Committee respectfully requests that you refrain from applauding after the musical offerings, as reflective silence is a part of the musical experience. Thank you.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Leader and **People**)

Like gentle rain on hard soil, let God's grace soften your heart today.

Precious is the gift of that first step.

Like a river full of water, let God's providing flow through your life today.

Bountiful doesn't even begin to describe it.

Like waves rolling over the sea, let God's power calm the storm.

Hope reaches the ends of the earth and we join the sunrise shouting for joy.

*OPENING HYMN #17 Stz. 1-4 "To You, O God, All Creatures Sing"

*OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Quiet our hearts, O God, that we may praise you.

Quiet our minds, O God, that we may hear you.

Quiet our bodies, O God, that we may be satisfied by your presence.

Quiet us, O God. Amen.

*OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*THE PEACE [*Please simply say "Peace be with you" with a nod or wave.*]

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

*GLORIA

Hymnal #759

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS COLLECTION

TIME WITH CHILDREN

HISTORICAL WITNESS

Psalm 65

- ¹ Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
and to you shall vows be performed,
- ² O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.
- ³ When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.
- ⁴ Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.
- ⁵ By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.
- ⁶ By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.
- ⁷ You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.
- ⁸ Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.
- ⁹ You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.
- ¹⁰ You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
- ¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
- ¹² The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
- ¹³ the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

CONTEMPORARY WITNESS

The Power of Water

HYMN #34

“As the Rain Is Falling”

TIME OF PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

I Need Thee Every Hour – Dale Wood

*DOXOLOGY

Tune: Hymnal #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN #18

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C Minor – J. S. Bach

TIP FOR GOING GREEN: Going out to eat? Bring your own container for leftovers. Too many leftovers go home in Styrofoam and plastic containers that end up in the trash. One church member told me she leaves a lunchbox and container in her car so she is always prepared! Great idea!

*Indicates when congregation may stand.

The Call to Worship and Opening Prayer were written by Rev. Teri Peterson.

Bolded text is intended to be read in unison by the whole congregation.

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This Sunday's Worship Leaders: GREETERS: Judy Grimes & Dennis Roesslein.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: April Swenson. FLOWERS: COFFEE: Barbara & Glenn Ahrenholz and April & Mark Swenson. CALLED TO CARE: Holly Endicott. SEXTON: Doug Petersen. ALTAR GUILD: Lana Cochran.

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders: GREETERS: ANNOUNCEMENTS: FLOWERS: Kaves. COFFEE: Linda & Laura Janus. CALLED TO CARE: Corrie Roesslein. SEXTON: Doug Petersen. ALTAR GUILD: Lana Cochran.

The Week Ahead at St. John:

- **Third Sunday after Pentecost** – Sunday, June 9 at 10:00 A.M.
 - **Coffee Hour** – Sunday, June 9 at 11:00 A.M.
 - **Book Club** – Monday, June 10 at 1:00 P.M.
 - **Council Meeting** – Tuesday, June 11 at 7:00 P.M.
 - **Girl Scout Troop Meeting** – Wednesday, June 12 at 4:00 P.M.
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Sponsoring Flowers: If you are interested in sponsoring flowers for Sunday service, you may now sponsor one bouquet for \$20 or \$40 for both. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall or contact Janice.

St. John Social Potluck: The second Saturday of the month finds Fellowship Hall filled with good food, good friends and good conversation. On 7/13 join us for an All-American Potluck. We meet at 6pm. All are welcome so join us for an evening of fun and community.

St. John Book Club: Come join us as we gather to discuss books we are reading. Book Club meets at 2pm on the 2nd Monday of each month. On 6/10 we will share our ideas on First Lie Wins by Ashley Elston. See the bulletin for the books we will be reading for 7/8 & 8/12. Book Club is open to all. Join us whenever one of our selections tickles your fancy.

PADS Update / Summer Suppers at St. John: This summer we will again participate in the Summer Suppers program with 16 other faith communities. We will serve dinner to our PADS guests and any other community members who are food insecure. All are welcome. We will serve dinner from 6:30pm - 7:30pm at St. John UCC on the 4th Sunday of the month. We will collect non-perishable items for the guests to take with them as they leave the dinner. **We will also collect new / gently used (washed) sleeping bags & small (1-2 person) tents for our PADS guests who will sleep outside this summer.** Non-perishable items can be dropped off at St. John UCC (308 N. Evergreen Avenue) at the front entrance between 10:00am - 2:00pm on 8/10. Summer Suppers Sign up - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45ADAA28A7F4CE9-48790449-stjohn#/> Thank you!
Barbara Jo, Kathy and Michelle

June 9, 2024
Third Sunday after Pentecost
“God’s Will”
Mark 3:20-35

Jesus is teaching and preaching, telling stories, and inviting listeners to a new way of life. In the midst of the teaching, someone brings word that his mother, and his brothers are waiting outside.

Jesus responds to their presence with what seems like uncharacteristic harshness. “Who are my brothers and mother?” he asks, looking around at the gathered crowd. And he answers himself. It is not Mary and her sons who are his family, but his gathered family and friends.

It may be the first, but it certainly is not the last time that Christ followers are referred to as a family. Many congregations consider one another a family. Is your congregation one of these? What are some of the pitfalls and positives of calling your congregation a family?

First of all, consider the positives. A family at its best is a place of sanctuary, growth, humor, help, joy in its season, and a willingness to weep when grief comes. Some people find such a place in their families of origin. Others find this sanctuary in found families created in adulthood, including church congregations.

What about the pitfalls? Well, it can be difficult to enter a family with its many customs, rituals, inside jokes, and ideas that may take years for outsiders to understand. And, while healthy families are sanctuaries, families that are unhealthy can be containers for toxic secrets and even abuse. Third, the very intimacy that creates a sense of deep belonging in families can also create a sense of being suffocated or constrained into a particular role.

If your church community considers itself a family, this may be a good Sunday for conversation about what that might mean for you. What are the positives of you considering yourself a family? What are the challenges? What are the ways that you can nurture the intimacy of family and still be open and welcoming to outsiders?



www.stjah.org

ST. JOHN UCC OPEN & AFFIRMING STATEMENT



The congregation of St. John United Church of Christ rejoices that our community of faith is strengthened by diversity. We declare ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation, extending God's extravagant welcome to all people regardless of culture, economic status, age, sex, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, marital status, or physical/mental condition. We invite everyone to join our journey of faith and participate fully in the life of our congregation.