



ST. JOHN

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Arlington Heights, Illinois

Sunday, February 16, 2020

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome to St. John

Children in Worship Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Packets for children are located in the narthex. We offer Sunday School every Sunday for children of all ages. Children are invited to the front of the sanctuary for children's gathering towards the beginning of worship, and then are led to their Sunday School classes. On the first Sunday of the month, children are brought back to their parents for Communion.

Nursery St. John's nursery is located beside Fellowship Hall and is always open to families. Two nursery workers are available every Sunday if needed. Just let them know at the beginning of the worship service.

After Worship Join us in Fellowship Hall for snacks, coffee, and community.

Interested in Membership? Contact Pastor Michael at mjones@stjah.org or 847-255-6687.

Questions? Stop by our welcome table in the lobby, where one of our members will happily meet you.

Getting Connected Please fill out one of our welcome cards and put it in the offering plate. We'd like to get to know you!

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

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2020
9:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Worship

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING AND WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

As we offer a welcome to stranger and friend, as we are embraced in their kindness,

we choose to be people of life and blessing.

As we serve others in God's name, as we receive blessings from those we do not know,

we choose to walk in God's way.

As we gather as a spiritual community,

we worship the God of love!

*OPENING PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN

#84 This Is the Day

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray. **Righteous God, we confess that we have been caught up in the ways of the world. Instead of looking to commandments and rules as a way to guide our life, we use them to punish and restrict others. Forgive us for our judgments and misconceptions. Forgive us for not working on ourselves, on our own lives. Call us back to Your way of life, a way of love, commitment, respect, and forgiveness. In the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.**

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

+*GLORIA

#756

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

COMMUNITY LIFE / ANNOUNCEMENTS

+FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION / SUNDAY SCHOOL DISMISSAL

PSALTER *Psalm 119:1-8 / Pages 701-702 in Hymnal*
Sung Response: **Teach me, O God, the way of your statutes.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21-37

'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

SONG *I Will Rise* — Tomlin, Reeves, Giglio, Maher

SERMON *Jesus Revealed: Morals*

HYMN #568 *God Marked a Line and Told the Sea*

OFFERTORY *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing with Sing To the King* — Arr. Carol Tornquist

+*DOXOLOGY #779

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter;
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

*HOLY COMMUNION, GREETING & PRAYER

God be with you. / **And also with you.** / Lift up your hearts. /
We lift them to God. / Let us give thanks to God Most High. /
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION, PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

This is Amazing Grace — Riddle, Farro, Wickham

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING SONG

In Christ Alone

Verse 1

**In Christ alone, my hope is found.
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground:
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace?
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease?
My Comforter, my All in All.
Here in the love of Christ I stand**

Verse 2

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh.
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The love of God was magnified.
For every sin on Him was laid,
Here in the death of Christ, I live.**

Verse 3

**There in the ground, His body lay.
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious Day:
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine
Sought by the precious love of Christ.**

Verse 4

**No guilt in life no fear in death:
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
Till He returns or calls me home:
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

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***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

***Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* — Arr. Lloyd Larson**

*Indicates when congregation may stand.

+Indicates parts of worship only at the 9:30 A.M. service and not at the 5:00 P.M.

This Sunday's Worship Leaders: GREETERS:. USHERS: Spiritual Life. COFFEE: Roberta Morand. BULLETIN SPONSOR: Roberta Morand. FLOWERS:. SCRIPTURE READER: Sharon Porter. CALLED TO CARE: Corrie Roesslein. SEXTON: Paul Frost. SOUND TECH: Dave Payne. ALTAR GUILD: Holly Endicott & Barbara Jo Scott.

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders: GREETERS: Tashima Family. USHERS: Spiritual Life. COFFEE: Jay Virchow & Jenn Borrell. BULLETIN SPONSOR: Glenn & Barbara Ahrenholz. FLOWERS: In Memory of Jean Mueller from Kim Vogt. SCRIPTURE READER: Dave Tashima. CALLED TO CARE: Barbara Jo Scott. SEXTON: Paul Frost. SOUND TECH: Dave Payne. ALTAR GUILD: Holly Endicott & Barbara Jo Scott.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN

2/16	9:30 a.m.	Communion Worship & Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Refreshments & Fellowship
	11:00 a.m.	Christian Education Committee Meeting
	5:00 p.m.	Communion Worship
2/18	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
2/19	7:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
2/20	9:00 a.m.	Thursday Morning Crew
	1:00 p.m.	St. John Crafters
2/22	7:00 p.m.	Jazz Piano Concert in Fellowship Hall
2/23	9:30 a.m.	Worship & Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Refreshments & Fellowship
	5:00 p.m.	Communion Worship

Announcements

Membership at St. John: Are you interested in joining St. John? We have a group that is interested in joining and want to welcome all. If you have questions please talk to Pastor Michael.

Adult Spiritual Formation & Discussion: Are you looking to learn and discuss topics that are related to current events, spirituality, and the Christian Life? We started a new Adult Spiritual Formation and Discussion series, which meets every Sunday after Coffee Hour. Topics will change throughout the year and be posted in Sunday bulletins. If you can't come regularly, that's okay. All are encouraged to stay when they can. Below are upcoming topics. We hope to see you there!

NEW SERIES: "What Does the Bible REALLY Say About...". We all hear people use the Bible to defend their positions or make theological statements about God and our world, but what does the Bible really say about some important topics? Join us as Rev. Paris Donehoo helps us to see what the Bible REALLY says!

Sunday, February 16: "What Does the Bible REALLY Say About...Homosexuality".

Sunday, February 23: "What Does the Bible REALLY Say About...The Second Coming".

Sunday, March 1: "What Does the Bible REALLY Say About...Family".

Jazz at St. John: Please join us on February 22nd at 7:00 as St. John welcomes Chicago jazz pianist Carl Kennedy and his trio. The performance will take place in Fellowship Hall and refreshments will be served. This concert is free admission and a casual, family-friendly event. We hope to see you there!

Clean Up of the Junior High Classroom: The Christian Education Committee has set a date of March 1st, after the Sunday service, to begin the much needed clean-up of the classroom. We have been hesitant to begin this process, not wanting to throw out or donate anything of use or sentimental value. If you know of anything that you would like to use or keep, please contact Ellen Burkhardt or Gabby Slonke before Sunday, March 1st. Thank you.

Spring of Life/Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Opportunities: St John has been added to the regular rotation of volunteer churches for Spring of Life, the Habitat for Humanity affiliate. We are asked to provide work volunteers for a new house project in Elgin on February 22. We are asked to provide lunch on-site for workers on that date. There is no limit to the number of people who can participate or how often. *We're starting a new home and the goal is to complete it by the summer. The new homeowners are a working mother and two children, and they're excited the project has begun! They will contribute 250 hours of effort to the project.* Please contact Jay Virchow with questions or if you are able to help.

PADS Volunteer Opportunities: St John serves and provides meals for PADS guests on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Congregational United Church of Christ, 1001 W. Kirchoff Rd, Arlington Heights. There are a number of opportunities available, from preparing & delivering part of the dinner, to providing food & beverages for Friday's breakfast or sack lunches. You can learn more & sign up at: <http://tinyurl.com/y3yn5wy4>. For questions, contact Kathy Winters (kwinters7@sbcglobal.net) or Michelle Johns (mmjohns03@yahoo.com).

CONTACT US –

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Office: 847.255.6687

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

STAFF –

Rev. Michael D. Jones, Pastor – mjones@stjah.org

Janice Gilligan, Church Administrator – office@stjah.org

Gabby Slonke, Director of Children's Ministries – gslonke@stjah.org

Dr. J. Paul Cochran, Organist

Linda Styzek, Pianist

Alberto Mantovano, Choir Director

Carin Zachar, Bell Director



St. John is going to the United Church of Christ 2020 National Youth Event! This is the first time our church is sending our youth to this denominational gathering.

National Youth Event (NYE) is a spirited quadrennial event centered on faith, leadership, service, and social justice first inaugurated in 1980. It is celebrated as the largest denominational gathering for the United Church of Christ, right after General Synod, with an expected attendance of 2,500.

It will be held July 22 - 25, 2020 at Purdue University. 6th Grade through college are welcome to attend. A \$50 deposit will be required. Ellen Burkhardt will chaperone, and she is looking for at least two (2) other adults to join her. Please contact the office at office@stjah.org if you and/or your child(ren) are interested in attending and/or if you are interested in being a chaperone. We'd like to register as a group. An informational meeting regarding event details will be held at a later date.

Lent at St. John

The season of Lent is a time of reflection and spiritual practice in the Christian tradition. We welcome you to participate in the gatherings listed as we journey together through Lent.

Lenten Soup Suppers *Wednesday Evenings*

6:30 P.M. SUPPER

March 4, 11, 18, & 25 Soup Supper followed by Hands-on Mission Project for all ages.

April 1 Potluck Supper followed by Worship Service with Lenten Hymn-Sing

Ash Wednesday *February 26*

9:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Holy Communion, Ashes, & Continental Breakfast to follow

7:00 P.M. WORSHIP

Holy Communion, Ashes, & Chancel Choir

Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY

9:30 A.M. & 5:00 P.M. Worship

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Program TBA

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10

12:00 P.M. Worship

7:30 P.M. Worship & Holy Communion / Cantata with Christian Church of Arlington Heights and Congregational UCC - at St. John