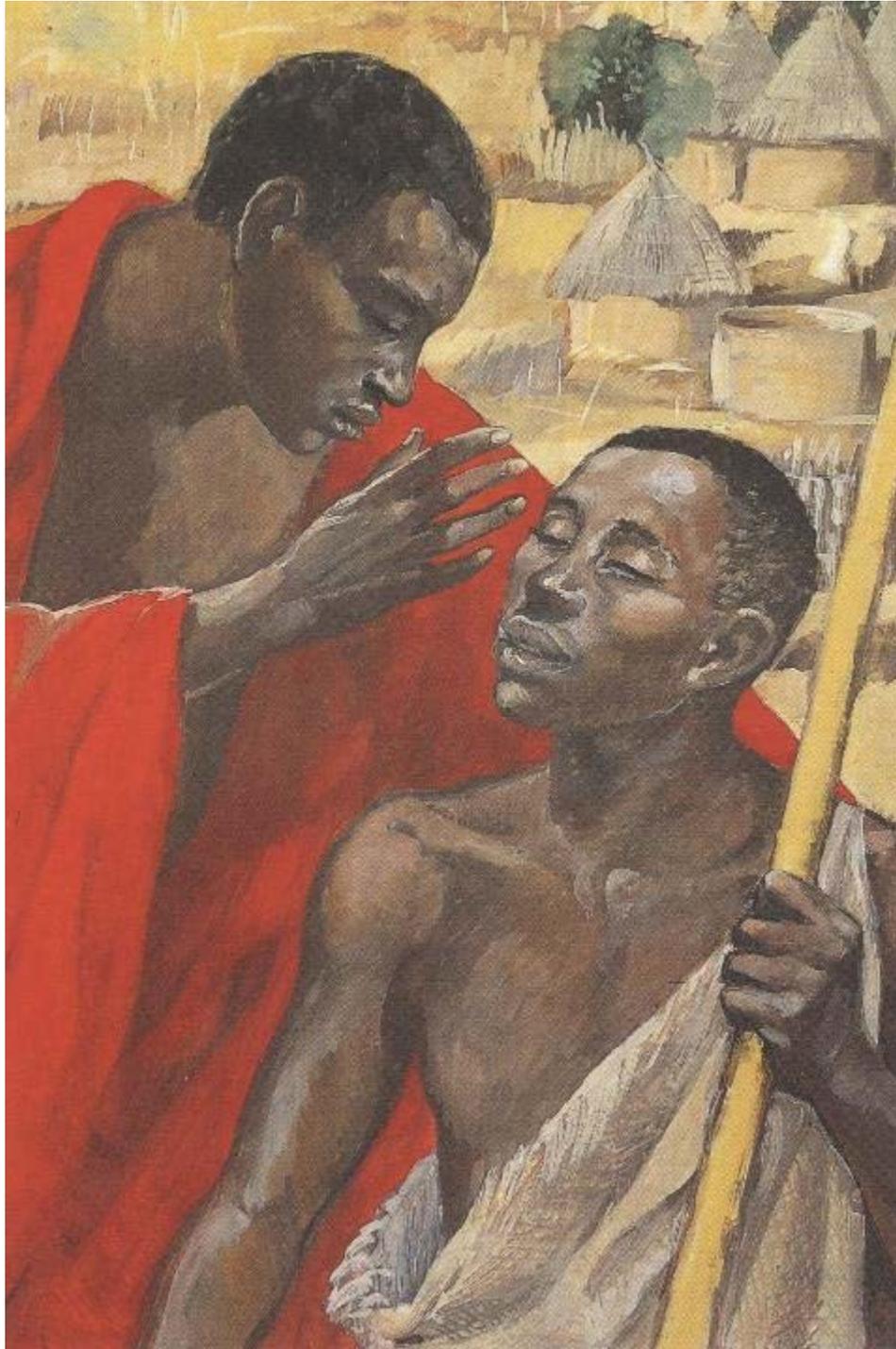


St. John United Church of Christ
Arlington Heights, Illinois



Jesus Healing the Blind -- JESUS MAFA, Cameroon

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
October 24, 2021

Welcome to St. John

Welcome back! Thank you for joining us for in-person worship today. We're so glad that everyone can gather safely in the sanctuary.

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 every first and third Sunday of the month. All are invited to come forward, row by row. After receiving an individual cup with wafer, please return to your seat and we will take communion together. If you cannot come forward, a server will bring communion to you. **A gluten-free option is available upon request.**

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 for children are available for children. The children are dismissed for Sunday school in the first half of worship.

Interested in Membership? Contact Pastor Michael at mjones@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.

CONTACT US –

308 N. Evergreen Avenue, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

www.stjah.org | office@stjah.org

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

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

Dr. J. Paul Cochran, Organist & Orchestra Director

Linda Styzek, Pianist & Worship Band Coordinator

Alberto Mantovano, Choir Director & Livestream Coordinator

Carin Zachar, Bell Choir Director

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 24, 2021

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF GATHERING

*OPENING HYMN #6

Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of Love: We want to be a church open to your transforming love, yet we cling to comfortable ways. We we want to honor your “still speaking voice”, but often are fearful of insights which challenge old assumptions. We want to live into Jesus’ dream of oneness, but often fail to listen to voices of difference:

Jesus, have mercy on us! Hear our prayers, and help us to be transformed.

Amen.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*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!

*RESPONSE #759

Gloria

**Glory to God 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.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL DISMISSAL (Age 4 through 8th Grade)

PSALTER

Psalm 34:1-8 [NRSV]

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. The angel of

the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:46-52 [NRSV]

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

GOSPEL RESPONSE #762

Glory to you, O Christ. Praise to you, O Christ.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

SERMON

What do you want?

HYMN #517

I Need You Every Hour

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Credo for Christians [James Burklo]

**I worship and adore God, source, essence, and aim of all things,
spirit that enlivens all beings.**

**I follow the way of Jesus, who found God in himself
and shared a way for others to find God in themselves.**

**He was born through love, he lived for love, he suffered for love, he died for love,
but love never dies.**

**I submit myself to the leading of the love that is God,
that I may be compassionate toward all beings,
that I may live and serve in community with others,
that I may ask for and offer forgiveness,
that I may praise and enjoy God forever.**

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING & OFFERTORY

I Need Thee Every Hour — Dale Wood

***DOXOLOGY #780**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN #473**

Blessed Assurance

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing – Albert Travis

*Indicates when congregation may stand.

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St. John UCC

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Judy Grimes. BULLETIN SPONSOR: None.

FLOWERS: Debbie Esmail, in Honor of Dorothy Esmail's 94th Birthday.

SCRIPTURE READER: Lana Cochran. CALLED TO CARE: Barbara Jo Scott.

SEXTON: Paul Thoms. ALTAR GUILD: Lana Cochran.

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders: GREETERS: Deb Wittmeyer & Barbara Blye.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Deb Wittmeyer. BULLETIN SPONSOR: None. FLOWERS: None.

SCRIPTURE READER: Deb Wittmeyer. CALLED TO CARE: Holly Endicott.

SEXTON: Paul Thoms. ALTAR GUILD: Lana Cochran.

GIVING to St. John

Thank you for your continued financial support of St. John. In addition to giving at Sunday worship, there are two other ways to give to St. John:

1. Giving Online: Go to www.stjah.org and click the "GIVE" tab at the top of the page. Once on the Give page, click "DONATE NOW." Consider signing up for recurring giving. It makes it easy and helps the church plan.

2. Give by mail: Mail your gift to St. John UCC, 308 N. Evergreen Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

St. John Worship Service Updates: The CDC is now recommending that vaccinated and unvaccinated people wear masks at indoor gatherings. We ask that you follow these guidelines. We are no longer requiring sign-ups.

If you have any symptoms, have been in close contact with someone with COVID within the last 14 days, or have been tested for COVID and are waiting for results, we ask that you watch worship from home.

The Week Ahead at St. John

- **Sunday Morning Spiritual Formation Class** – Sunday, October 24, at 9:00 A.M.
- **JuBellation Rehearsal** – Sunday, October 24 from 9:15 A.M. - 9:55 A.M.
- **Sunday Worship & Sunday School** – Sunday, October 24, at 10:00 A.M. – St. John Sanctuary & Streaming Live!
- **Coffee Hour** – Sunday, October 24, at 11:00 A.M. – Fellowship Hall
- **Fall Youth Group Gathering** – Sunday, October 24, at 4:30 P.M.
- **Bible Study** – Tuesday, October 26, at 10:00 A.M. – via Zoom.
- **Bell Tones Rehearsal** – Tuesday, October 26, at 6:00 P.M.
- **Christian Education Committee Meeting** – Tuesday, October 26, at 7:00 P.M.
- **Conversations on Race** – Wednesday, October 27, at 7:00 P.M.

October 31: All Saints'

Sunday/Recognition: On Sunday, October 31, St. John will celebrate All Saints' Sunday, a day when we remember our loved ones who have died both in the past year and beyond. If you have a family member or friend who has passed away in the past year, please submit their name to the office, which will be read aloud during the remembrance ceremony. We will also be reading all of the names that were submitted from 2020 at our All Saints' remembrance. There will also be the opportunity to light a candle during worship for loved ones who have died.

Pastor's Reading Group: All are welcome to join the first Saturday of the month to explore topics related to spirituality, faith, religion, Christianity, the church, and more! Meetings are in person in Fellowship Hall, but masks will be required. Attendees don't have to commit to every book and meeting every month. We will read a new book for each meeting. **The next meeting will be Saturday, November 6 at 10:00 A.M. and the book is "Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life." by Richard Rohr.**

Food Pantry Donations: We're collecting food pantry donations again every Sunday during worship. The kids will pick it up from people as you pass it towards the center aisle. Thank you for supporting the Food Pantry!

St. John's Youth Greenery and Wreath Fundraiser is underway! Please see Julie Kurka after church or email Schupple18@gmail.com for an order form. The last day to order is November 7th and items will be delivered to church or your home on Saturday November 20th starting around 10am. Please make checks out to "St. John UCC" and include "youth sale" in the memo.

Sunday Morning Spiritual Formation Class: Join Pastor Michael on Sundays from 9:00 A.M. to 9:45 A.M. on Sundays. The first topic will be "The Christian Story: From Jesus to Today." Each Sunday will be a discussion about Christian history and how the church developed over the centuries. All are welcome to join. Those who attend don't have to come every Sunday. We will meet in Fellowship Hall and wear masks.

Student Care Packages: Do you have a student that is attending college or trade school? Would they like to receive a care package from St. John? If so, please send your student's address (home or school) to office@stjah.org. Care packages will be sent in late fall. **Donations** of food/small school items may be placed in the blue bin labeled "care packages" in Fellowship Hall. Suggestions include individual packages/packets of cookies, granola bars, dried fruit, hot chocolate, popcorn or other food. Also needed are post-its, highlighters, pens or other small school items. Checks (for mailing the packages) or \$5 gift cards for students may be dropped off with Janice or mailed to church. Questions? Contact Mary Santi at maryfs2154@sbcglobal.net or 847-907-1586 (call or text).

St. John PADS

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to serve, cook and provide groceries for our October 14th PADS evening. With your help, our guests get a hot home cooked dinner, warm safe place to sleep, a continental breakfast and a bag lunch to take with them when they leave in the morning. Our next PADS evening is Thursday November 11th. Your continued support is much appreciated.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4cadae23a5f49-pads6>

Sunday Morning Prayer Requests

Prayer request forms are available in the lobby. If you would like your prayer request read during the Prayers of the People, please fill out the form and give it to one of the ushers or Pastor Michael before the start of the worship service.

Little Free Pantry Update

The Little Free Pantry has seen a fair amount of activity since it was installed. Popular items have been laundry detergent, tube socks, baby wipes, toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap and shampoo. A collection bin is in the church for these items (small/travel sizes, please!). If you are interested in helping monitor and maintain the box, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4EADAC23A7F49-little> to sign up for a 2-week commitment. Contact Jay Virchow jayvirchow@hotmail.com or Jenn Borrell at jborrell@hotmail.com with questions.

Coffee Hour Updates: Coffee Hour will now be held in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend. We ask that you wear a mask when you are not drinking/eating. The Spiritual Life Committee would like to invite you to **host** coffee hour. Hosting coffee hour includes preparing coffee, lemonade, and water, all of which the church provides. Sign-ups are located in Fellowship Hall. If you'd like to sign up but need instructions on how to make the coffee and/or lemonade, please let the office know. A Spiritual Life Committee member can also walk you through the instructions at the church. Thank you for hosting!

October 24, 2021 | Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
Mark 10:46-52 / Take Heart / United Nations Day

When Jesus meets Bartimaeus by the side of the road, he does not assume what is needed for healing. Instead, he asks, “what can I do for you?”

When the Winslow Congregational Church in Winslow, Maine, found that they had a budget surplus for the second year in a row, they did not assume they knew what was needed. Instead, Winslow Pastor Kim Shrader recounts, “Questions were asked, and ears were open to find where there was a need we could serve. There was a very small food bank at another church that was in danger of losing their space. So, we looked at partnering with them. The idea quickly grew beyond providing space for the existing food bank that was only open two hours a month, to starting a second food bank with more capacity and open two days a month.”

“Six months into operation, the food cupboard is thriving. Food is donated from local grocery stores and Walmart, from food drives by different organizations, from gleaners working with local farmers, and from the Good Shepherd Food Bank. The Good Shepherd food is available at a deep discount allowing money donations to go a very long way. Many local businesses, organizations, and individuals give generously. Additionally, the cupboard has distributed USDA farm to table food boxes as part of the Corona relief aid from the federal government.”

“It is an all-volunteer staff. A local parochial school provides a lot of volunteers on distribution days with youth from 7-12 grades. Volunteer drivers bring food to those without transportation (a major problem here).”

“There is a lot of hospitality offered,” Rev. Shrader concludes. “It’s not just the food. It’s things like a few gardeners in the congregation got together, made raised beds, and planted vegetables for the cupboard. It’s the new member using his skills as a publicist to get newspaper and TV coverage of the food cupboard. It’s the church’s youth insisting that their “school from home” schedule allow them to spend Thursday helping at the cupboard.”

- What questions are going unasked in your community?
- How can you and your congregation listen more deeply?
- Who is speaking and asking for help?

ST. JOHN UCC JR./SR. HIGH
**FALL
YOUTH GROUP
GATHERING**
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24
4:30 P.M. AT ST. JOHN
PIZZA & GAMES
At 6:00 P.M., We'll be asking parents to return to St. John to transport kids to the St. John Cemetery, where they'll go on a **St. John Cemetery Scavenger Hunt**, searching for the tombstones of people who were part of the history of St. John!
LET US KNOW IF YOUR YOUTH IS PLANNING TO ATTEND!
E.BURKHARDT@HENRICKSEN.COM
ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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. www.stjah.org