



St. John's United Church of Christ
300 N. Huntersville Road, Batesville, IN 47006
Worship Service: 9:00am / Sunday School: 10:15am

January 28, 2024

[* = Those who are able may stand, **L** = Leader, **P** = People and **A** = All]

Thought to Ponder: "Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together."

~ Vista M. Kelly

Organ Prelude:

"Trumpet Tune"

— Piontek

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Anthem:

"Shout to the Lord"

~ Chancel Choir

Call to Worship (Based Psalm 111)⁺:

L: Praise the Lord!

In the company of the saints above and beside us, let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**P: Great are the works of the Lord,
full of honor and majesty, whose righteousness endures forever.**

L: The Lord is gracious and merciful; the work of God's hands are faithful and just.

**P: God's covenant is established forever in truth and justice.
Our redemption is in the name of our Lord.**

A: Holy and awesome is God's name in all the earth!

*Opening Hymn:

"Great Is Their Faithfulness"

#72

***Prayer of the Day:**

Great and Gracious God, we thank you for this day. We praise you for the chance to be near you, to listen for your healing Word, to be empowered as your disciples. Be near us now. Move in the space by your Holy Spirit. Strengthen our walks with you so that through us, others might hear the good news. For you are the One who casts out demons. You are the one who gives us healing. You are the One who shows us love. And we pray all of this in Jesus's name, Amen.

Prayer Response:

"Glory Be to the Father"

#734

Mission Moment:

Our Church Wider Mission (UCC)

Especially for Children

The Song:

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.
Every child in every land, Jesus holds them in His hand,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

Sermon: “The Unclean Spirit”

Hymn: “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” #93

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory: “Lyric Reverie” — Saxton

Doxology #34

Offertory Prayer

*Closing Hymn: “Savior, Again to Your Dear Name” #711

*Benediction

Organ Postlude: “A Joyous Postlude” — Mallard

⁺ From re-worship.blogspot, original by Michael Morgan.

Ministers	Every Member
Pastor	Rev. Joseph Feldmann
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. David Johnston
Organist/Choir Director	Mr. David W. Hanson

St. John’s Prayer List – January, 2024

Those Bereaved (*these names remain on for one year*): Marian Koester; Willis Rouse; Doris Lamping; John Moody.

Others For Whom We Have Been Asked To Pray: Gayle Sarringhaus; Nikki Sarringhaus; Dave & Bonnie Johnston; Carolyn Carson (Breast Cancer, Grandmother to Nikki Sarringhaus); Randy & Becky Schebler; Margaret Meyers; Vicky & Jim Wintz; Brenda Mergenthal & Family (Passing of her Mother); Dale Koester (On the passing of Marian); Bonnie Johnston & family (On the passing of her Mother, Doris Lamping and her Brother, Greg Lamping); Ashton (Heart Issues and pregnant, Daughter of Jennifer Huffmeyer); The Family of Dr. Lisa Kelley; Edna Rouse (On the passing of Willis); Joan & John Kuhlman (On the passing of their Nephew, David Smith); Justin & Sarah Benoit & family (On the passing of Justin’s father, Guy Benoit); Randy Schebler & family (On the passing of his brother Wilbur Schebler); Andy & Sarah Jaisle & family (On the passing of Andy’s Mother, Rita Jaisle); Dale & Sandy Wittkamper and Elaine Wessling (On the passing of their brother Earl); Mark & Lara Mortimer (On the passing of Lara’s father); Connie Moody & family (On the passing of John); The family and friends of Henry “Hank” Pictor (on his passing); Brett & Amber Hofer (On the passing of Brett’s father Randy); Toby Holman (Health Issues, Nephew of Bev & Jeff Schwier); The family and friends of Gene Shimandle (on his passing, Gene was the recipient of Cody Stebels’ heart. Cody is the cousin to Kristina and Peter Frye); Darlene Hauck & Family (On the passing of her Father, Robert Hauck, friend of Kimberly Hill); Martin Fledderman (Health Issues, friend to Dale Koester); Lloyd Koester (Health Issues, brother to Dale Koester); John Meyer (Health Issues, friend to Dale Koester).

Members/Friends Serving Active Duty in the Armed Forces:

Kris Freeman, Aaron Gordon, Steven Meer, Ryan Miller, Chris Williams, Bryce Timonera.

Our Members and Friends in Nursing/Retirement Homes:

St. Andrews, Batesville: Margaret Meyers, Carol Narwold.

LITURGIST / BENEVOLENCE CALENDAR:

January 28	Peter Frye	Our Church Wider Mission
February 4	Sam Sitterding	<i>awaiting congregation approval</i>
February 11	Anna Mauer	<i>awaiting congregation approval</i>
February 18	Donna Weber	<i>awaiting congregation approval</i>

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

January 28: Annual Congregational Meeting @ 10:15am
January 31: Confirmation Class 6pm

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 4: Communion Sunday
Men's Choir Singing
February 5: Sunday School Board Meeting 6pm
Easter Ecumenical Choir Practice 6:30pm
February 7: Confirmation Class 6pm
Choir Practice 7pm
February 8: BAMA 1:30

Announcements

YOU Helped! YOU gave!



Thank you to those who donated at the blood drive, to the ladies that baked pies, made the soup, as well as the cleanup crew. We had 13 donors which produced 39 bags of blood, so we will be able to help 39 people. ~ Thanks again, It was a good day!

Good News!

HALLELUJAH!

What a Savior!

SINGERS NEEDED:

After a 4 year interruption due to the Covid Pandemic, St. John's United Church of Christ Easter Ecumenical Choir is back! This year marks the 40th year the interfaith choir will perform. The cantata, *Hallelujah! What A Savior!* tells the Easter story through meaningful lyrics, music, and narration. Singers of all ages and denominations are invited to participate. Practice begins Monday, February 5th, 6:30pm and will continue every Monday until the performances. Performance dates are: Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, March 31st, 7am and Sunday, April 7th, 7pm. Help us spread the word! Feel free to share this email to anyone you think may be interested in joining this meaningful and fun experience! For more information call the church at 812-934-4144.

SCRIPTURES



I Corinthians 8:1-13: Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth--as in fact there are many gods and many lords-- yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.



Mark 1:21-28: They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Hymns

Great Is Thy Faithfulness *(page #72)*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided:
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest;
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. *[Refrain]*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own
dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for
today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all
mine, with ten thousand beside! *[Refrain]*

Glory Be to the Father

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. Amen.

Doxology

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

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

(page #93)

Praise the One who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light.
Praise the One who frees the prisoners,
turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel,
healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children
with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the one who drove out demons
with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water,
quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory,
praise the One who makes us one.

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name *(page #711)*

Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
we give you thanks before our worship cease,
and now departing, wait your word of peace.

Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard now the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.

Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
turn all our darkness to your perfect light;
then while we sleep, our hope and strength renew,
for dark and light are both alike to you.

Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life:
comfort in sorrow, courage in the strife;
then, when your voice shall make our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.