



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

Confirmation Sunday, May 15, 2022

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

Words of Welcome: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
~ Isaiah 41:10

Thought to Ponder: "God is strength and wisdom, and he is a part of you. Whenever you are feeling down, look within yourself, and remember the greatness that he gave you."

Organ Prelude: "Toccata" — Driffill

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Call to Worship⁺:

L: We are God's work of art--each one of us a precious gem, a marvelous melody, a potter's delight.

P: **We are God's handiwork--woven together in love, shaped with infinite compassion, painted with incredible beauty.**

L: We are the church of Jesus Christ--diverse in human qualities, but united in our call to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves.

P: **We are the Body of Christ--sharing his peace, carrying his hope, embodying his love, in the world he loves so much.**

L: Remind us, Holy One, who we are and what our lives are about.

P: **Renew us and empower us to live out the miracle of who and whose we are.**

A: **Together let us worship the living God, who makes all things new.**

*Opening Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" #106

Prayer of the Day:

Holy God, you are Lord of All. In Jesus you have come to show us life and life eternal. In Christ, you have brought us closer to you. Through your Spirit, you have invited us into true relationship with you. For this we give you glory and praise. Come yet one more time into this worship. By your grace, let us experience your presence and come to know you better. Then empower us all to leave grown into more powerful disciples and witnesses for you. For we pray this in Jesus's name, Amen.

Prayer Response: "Glory Be to the Father" #734

Mission Moment: St. John's Emergency Fund

Chancel Choir: Anthem: "Sacred Waters"

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: Isaiah 43:1-7
Matthew 28:17-20

Message: "Never Alone

Hymn: "Be Not Afraid"

#430

Pastoral Prayer

The Celebration of the Rite of Confirmation

For: Warren Boor, Zachary Frye, Noah Kuykendall, Landon Raver, Quinten Sarringhaus

The Invitation and Words of Scripture

The Confirmation Vows and Promises

Baptism of Noah Kuykendall

*The Statement of Faith [In Unison]

We believe in you, O God, Eternal spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in Holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declare through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.⁺

The Prayers of the Congregation [In Unison]

Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Act of Confirmation and Laying On of Hands

The Prayer of Confirmation

The Address and Question about Participation

*The Welcome and Promise of the Congregation [In Unison]

We welcome you into our membership and the Body of Christ. We promise you our continued friendship and prayers as we together share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ. May God bless you on this sacred day. May we together continue to be witnesses of the love of Christ.

The Greeting of Christian Love

The Signing of the Membership Book

The Prayer

St. John's UCC 2021 Confirmation Students Confirmation Statements of Faith

Warren Boor

All the other people of the world and I are children of God. I think God made everything on earth. Knowing this helps me understand God loves us and will forgive our sins. But being forgiven from sins isn't everything, learning your lessons and praying is the bigger picture. I look forward to living under God and Jesus and being a part of the church.

Zachary Frye

Over the past 2 years, I have learned many things. Not just about God, but about how to be a good family member, a good friend, and even a good stranger. Sometimes the world is tough, but I can't back away from God because of that.

I've come so far over my confirmation. From feeling like I knew very little about Christianity as a whole, to feeling like I have a pretty firm standing on my religion. I am very aware that I am far from knowing everything, and that makes me want to know more. I want to know God's purpose for me.

But I also know that I will never know everything. Everything is only for God to know. I cannot control what God wants with me, but whatever that is, I will try to understand even if it is not what I see best. If something bad happens, I'm not going to be happy, but I'll be fine, knowing it was done in God's plan.

I will be strong in Christ. I know there will be hardships. I know there will be struggles. I know there will be people who will try to tell me I'm wrong, and that's ok. I will never force what I believe on someone else, but I will listen to them. I will understand their point of view and let them speak. Some people feel as if they cannot talk. I never want that to be the case if someone is talking to me.

I will always give people a chance. I will always give people my time. I will try to learn as much as I can from God. And I will try the hardest that I can to fulfill God's purpose however I can. I've come so far, and it not over yet. I'm not done here.

Noah Kuykendall

What I have learned from my experiences in confirmation class is that God will always be by your side, no matter what. He will always forgive you of your sins. You should always forgive everyone in your life because everyone makes mistakes; no one is perfect. You should always treat others the way that you want to be treated. You should always try to be as nice as you can. Another way to confirm your faith is to pray. Praying is one way to get your word straight to God and just tell him what is going on and how life is treating you. Even though he is always by your side, he still wants to hear about your day and how you're doing and if you're ok. When you're not, you can find peace in prayer. I am glad God is always there.

Landon Raver

I think Jesus was a good teacher who spoke the great word of God and formed the Church that we know today. I also think Jesus is someone who helps us in times of trouble, fear, sadness, and joy. I feel Jesus helps us connect to the Church and shows us the Church as our home and as a safe place to go and worship God.

At the beginning of confirmation I knew little about the ways I could serve my church and spread the word of God. With the help of God's guidance, I am now ready to help the church and community. I can help the church by participating in church activities and being an active member. Also as I move into high school, I can help the community by leading by example and being there for people when they need it.

Quinten Sarringhaus

When Pastor Joey asked me to write a statement of faith, I didn't know what to write, and I didn't know exactly what he wanted. I gave Dad some fits at first, because I didn't want to do it and I didn't know what to write about. I'm going to talk about my Sunday school teachers and how they've made an impact on my relationship and beliefs of God.

I still remember being in Ms. Pam's class, going upstairs, and getting goldfish. In Floyd & Janet's class, I still remember singing some of the songs even though I wasn't one who sang along all the time. I didn't always do the motions, but I still remember some the movements and the songs.

(continued on next page)

(Quinten Sarringhaus continued) Sarah's class was fun even though Sarah and I butted heads sometimes. I know I got on her nerves, but we seemed to make it through Sunday School without her strangling me or duct taping me to the chair. My favorite thing and the thing I remember the most in her class was doing the bells. This was really fun and probably the most memorable part of her class.

Melinda's class.....hmmmmmm.....I don't even know where to start. It has been an amazing adventure in Melinda's class. I always LOVE eating Melinda cookies. Melinda tries to instill proper moral values in us while, at the same time, trying to teach us to stay true to ourselves and to God. I love talking to Melinda about God sightings and how it's connected in our day to day lives. She also encourages us to cite and remember our Bible verses.

All my Sunday school teachers have made such an impact on my beliefs and my relationship with God and Jesus. I still remember some stories that we learned in classes like Noah's Ark, judgement day and Zacchaeus. "God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy and he blesses all who listens to its message and obey what it says for the time is near." Revelation 1:3 is one of the verses that I remember.

It has often been a tradition to choose confirmation verses or have them chosen for you. My Mom wanted me to stick with tradition, so I have chosen Psalm 51:10-12 "Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit with me. Restore in me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit".

Also Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your path straight".

Every day God thinks of you. Psalm 68:19

Every hour God looks after you. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

Every minute God cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

Because every second He loves you. Jeremiah 31:3

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory:

"A Ukrainian Prayer"

— John Rutter

Doxology

#34

Offertory Prayer

Sacrament of Communion

*Closing Hymn:

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

#458

*Benediction

Organ Postlude:

"Trumpet Final"

— Manfredini

⁺Adapted from the Presbyterian Church in Morristown, NJ, original by Ben Valenti.

NOTE: The organ offertory, "A Ukrainian Prayer," was composed as a choir anthem by British composer John Rutter in March, 2022. The text of the prayer: "Lord God, we pray, protect Ukraine, grant her strength, Lord, hope, Lord, and salvation. Hear Our Prayer. Amen.

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

LITURGIST / BENEVOLENCE CALENDAR:

May 1	Charlie Dieckmann	Batesville Children's Summer Meal Program
May 8	Cindy Feller	St. John's Emergency Fund
May 15	Mike Schumacher	Strengthen the Church
May 22	RD Kitchell	St. John's Cemetery Fund
May 29	Joan Westereld	St. John's Sunday School (Vacation Bible School)



St. John's Prayer List – May, 2022

Those Bereaved (*these names remain on for one year*): Dick Sitterding; Vicki Wilhelm; Karen Simmons (cousin to Dale & Marian Koester and Barb & Joe Foster); Phyllis (Thie) Miller, Mike Koester; Elton Linville; Melvin Krieger; Lee Kuhlman (John Kuhlman's father); Bea Wessel; Owenita Grubert, Glen Kelley; Carl Hazelwood; Ron Raver; Kimberly Vest.

Others For Whom We Have Been Asked To Pray: Gayle Sarringhaus; Nikki Sarringhaus; Kent Meyers (son of Taaron & Roger); Elizabeth Hall; Chyntia Buczak (cancer, friend to Dan Hall); Bob Wilhelm; John Thie (brother to Jennifer Huffmeyer); Dave & Bonnie Johnston; Danny McDonough (health issues, father to Sarah Feldmann); Marian Koester; Carolyn Carson (breast cancer, grandmother of Nikki Sarringhaus); Loretta Jones (health issues, cousin to Dale Koester); Robert Weiler Jr. (colon cancer); John & Connie Moody (health issues); Jennifer Huffmeyer (injuries from a fall); Judy Schebler (stage 4 cancer, sister-in-law to Randy & Becky Schebler); The family of Sam Bruce (friend of Anita Narwold); Marge Thole (health issues); The family of Kim Vest.; The family of Jim & Vicki Wintz (passing of Jim's Mother).

Members/Friends Serving Active Duty in the Armed Forces: Aaron Gordon, Chris Williams, Kris Freeman, Steven Meer, Ryan Miller (Mac & Gail's son), Curtis Davidson (Scott & Sharon's son); Brantley Springmeyer (grandson of Ron & Jenell Schroeder).

Our Members and Friends in Nursing/Retirement Homes: (For Peace)

St. Andrews Health Campus in Batesville: Willis Rouse; Ruth Thie

Chateau of Batesville: Margaret Meyers

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

May 15: Confirmation Sunday

Chancel Choir Practice @ 8:15am / Singing during Service

May 17: Messenger Deadline

May 19: Griefshare @ 6pm

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 22: Chancel Choir Practice @ 8:15am / Singing during Service

May 25: Quilt Makers @ 9:30am

May 26: Griefshare @ 6pm

Announcements



Thinking about Foster Care? Join our panel discussion May 19th @ 6:30pm at the Batesville Library. Children thrive in safe, caring supportive families and communities.



Aging Care Series: Understanding Senior Care Options presented by Ann Edwards; Tuesday May 24th, 6:30pm at the Batesville Library. Home Care, Assisted Living and Nursing Home Care: you have heard of them, but do you know the difference? Join to learn more about the difference, how to access, how they are paid for and to have your questions answered.



Batesville Food Pantry is in need of the reusable cloth bags. At the moment they have quite a few of the plastic bags (but please don't stop giving, as there is always a great need for these). If you could help with the donation of the reusable cloth bags, the Food Pantry and the recipients would be so appreciative. Also, please spread the word to friends, family, other congregations, or anyone in the community about this need. Thanks!

Announcements continued



On June 5th, Offering and Communion will return to the traditional passing of the trays. For a few months, on the Welcome table we will have a tray of the “packaged wafer and juice cups” we used during the pandemic. Anyone who would like to continue receiving Communion in that form, you may pick those up prior to service. We are compiling a list of people who would be willing to help take up offering each week. There is a Council member who has “led” each Sunday and they would ask folks from this list to help from time to time. Also, we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to empty and clean up the Communion trays after service on Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of each month. If you can help with these ministries, please let us know at church or text or call either of us. Thanks!

Kimberly Hill: 812-212-3200 / or / Cindy Feller: 812-212-8308

SCRIPTURES



Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”



Matthew 28:17-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Hymns

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!

O seed of Israel's chosen race
now ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!

Let every tongue and every tribe
responsive to his call,
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all.
To him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!

Oh, that with all the sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

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.

Be Not Afraid

You shall cross the barren desert,
But you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety,
Though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words to foreign lands
And they will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.

(Chorus:)

Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me
And I will give you rest.
If you pass through raging waters

(continued in next column)

(Be Not Afraid continued)

In the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
You shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the power of hell
And death is at your side,
Know that I am with you through it all.
(Chorus)

Blessed are your poor,
For the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
For one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked men insult and hate you
All because of me,
Blessed, blessed are you.

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.

O Jesus, I Have Promised

O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me,
my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.

O let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self will.
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
now speak, and make me listen,
O guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, you have promised
to all who follow you
that where you are in glory,
your servant shall be too; and,
Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.