

May 2, 2021



**St. John's United Church of Christ**  
300 N. Huntersville Road, Batesville, IN 47006

**Worship Service: 9:00am / Sunday School: 10:15am**

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

Words of Welcome: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us that we should be called children of God; and so we are."  
~ 1 John 3:1

Thought to Ponder: Though life may be understood by looking backward . . . .  
It can be lived by only looking forward.

Organ Prelude: "Priere a Notre-Dame" — L. Boellman

### Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 22:25-31) Please respond "For your love, O God, always surrounds us."

- L: We will praise you in the congregation, Holy One; we will sing hymns of praise to you...  
L: We are grateful that you care for the poor and needy; we rejoice that you satisfy all of our needs...  
L: All dominion belongs to you, O God. You shall reign forever and ever. This is good news...  
L: We will proclaim your great works to generations yet to come; we will describe them to the whole world.  
**A: Amen.**

Musical Meditation #1: "To God Be the Glory" arr. Douglas Wagner

### \*Prayer of the Day\*:

**One: Cultivating God, we come as your children to grow and learn. You are our divine vine grower. God, we desire for you to abide within us, and for your grace to be revealed anew daily. As your branches, we ask you to nourish us and grant us continued growth. Transform our hearts and minds as we hear your Word, sing your praises, and engage in holy dialogue through prayer. Help us to bear good fruit through the vine of Jesus Christ. For it is in His name we pray, Amen.**

Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"



- 1) Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of Heaven to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.
- 2) Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;  
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

~ over for final verse ~

Hymn Continued: 3) Finish then thy new Creation, pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly resorted in thee:  
Changed from glory into glory, till in Heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

Mission Moment: Batesville Children's Summer Meal Program

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.

\*Musical Meditation #2: “Safe in the Arms of Jesus” arr. Hughes

Reading from the Holy Scripture: 1 John 4:7-21  
John 15:1-8

Message: “Abiding in Love”

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings:

Organ Offertory: “Lyric Poem” — Brahms

\*Offertory Prayer:

The Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

*[We share an open communion here at St. John's. All who have accepted Christ as Lord and Savior are invited.]*

The Communion Prayer and Words of Institution

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen**

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

(Note that there are grapes in the trays – these grapes are offered for youth who have not been confirmed yet. We want them to start experiencing the meaning of communion and feel included.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

\*Benediction:

Organ Postlude: “Jubilation” — Mansfield

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

### **BENEVOLENCE CALENDAR:**

May 2	Batesville Children's Summer Meal Program
May 9	St. John's Emergency Fund
May 16	Strengthen the Church
May 23	St. John's Cemetery Fund
May 30	St. John's Sunday School (Vacation Bible School)

*All offerings placed in the pew envelopes go to the mission for that Sunday. Your weekly offerings for the Local Church Expenses, Benevolences, and Building Fund should be placed in regular numbered church offering envelopes. These are available at the back of the church. If you are visiting with us this morning, we invite you to sign a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you for worshipping with us.*



### **St. John's Prayer List – May, 2021**

**Those Bereaved (these names remain on for one year):** Diana Schantz (sister to Becky & Roger Schutte and nurse to majority of Batesville); Mary Barnes (Charlotte Huffmeyer's sister); Marilyn Tangman (friend of Candy Bessler's father); Glen Butte (former member); Jason Wintz (son-in-law to Shannon Hankins & nephew to Jim Wintz); Don Barton (uncle of Elizabeth Hall); Randy Riehle (brother to Pam Gutzwiller & son to Nick & Marlene Riehle); Earl L. Wilhelm (brother to John and Cindy Wilhelm); Jessica Wiedeman (friend of Charrel Raver & Cindy Wilhelm); Steve Gookins (brother-in-law to Myron & Linda Kanning); Jim Brutsche (Kristina Frye & family); Zane Koester (cousin to Dale & Marian Koester and Barb Foster); Scott

Vonderheide (father to Keevan Vonderheide, cousin to Mike & Gayla Vonderheide); Howard Wessel; Carol Pinckney (friend of Elizabeth Hall); Lois Strand (mother to Dawn Buettner); Edgar Schebler (brother to Randy Schebler).

**Others For Whom We Have Been Asked To Pray:** Doris Lamping; Debbie Rollins; Rita Zimmerman (cancer); Beverly Hitchcock (cancer); Carl Holbert (health issues); Bill Nicholson; Brian Meyers; Howard & Bea Wessel; Dave Butt (cancer), Vicki Wilhelm; Dave Amberger (health issues); Vernon Meyers; Nathan Hall; Rhonda Zukoski (cancer); Mary Curran (breast cancer); Toby Holman (diabetes); Chuck Klosterman; Jessica Schumacher (health issues); Valerie, Dave & Jakob Stebel (continued prayers after the loss of their son/brother, Cody); prayers for Claire Ronnebaum and her family (3 year old with cancer); Cason Weberding; Gayle Sarringhaus; Greg Bultman (health issues); Paul Long (health issues); Mike Straber; Donna Doyle (diagnosed with ALS), Tracy (stage 4 cancer); Barbara Schwartz (heart problems); Julie Sparks (cancer); Ron Raver (health issues); Sandy Dalton (heart surgery, Bea & Howard Wessel's daughter); Sharon Bartling Much (health issues); Dennis Winia (health issues, friend of Ron Meyer); Reverend Charles Flory (health issues); Beth (Evans) Lamping (health issues, friend of Sherry Linville and a teacher at Batesville); Nikki Sarringhaus (cancer); Abby David (colon cancer, friend of Elizabeth Hall); Elton Linville recovering from an illness; Bonnie Johnston with an extended illness; Nathan Cross (health issues, son-in-law to Ron & Linda Meyer); Gerald Huffmeyer (recovering from back surgery); Kent Meyers (son of Taaron & Roger, recovering from brain surgery); Nick & Kay Bailey (the loss of Kay's sister Nancy); Melvin Krieger (health issues); Jennifer Huffmeyer (recovering from surgery); Elizabeth Hall (dealing with ongoing health issues); Warren Brown, father to Amber Wirth (battling COVID-19); Chyntia Buczak (Stage 3 Cervical Cancer, friend to Dan Hall); Matthew Royster (sophomore at Greenfield-Central High School, battling Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a student to David Hanson); Bob & Vicki Wilhelm (health issues).

**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 Center in Batesville: Willis Rouse

Majestic Care Nursing Home in Connersville: Ruth Thie

Chateau of Batesville: Margaret Meyers

*Our Prayer List is an important part of ministry for our congregation. If you would like to have a name added, please fill out the Prayer List Request form and turn in to the office. **If you would like to help update us on the condition of someone who has been on the prayer list, we appreciate those notes also and if you added a name and the person can now be removed from our prayer list, please let the church office know. Thank you.***

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## Scriptures



### **1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God.

So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us.

Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.



### **John 15:1-8**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.