

St. John United Church of Christ
301 S. Market Street
New Athens, Illinois 62264

**"RISE AND GO YOUR WAY;
YOUR FAITH HAS MADE YOU WELL."**

LUKE 17:19 ESV



Ten lepers cried out for healing;
only one returned to thank Jesus.
He went his way not just healed, but made whole.
There is a difference,
one we too often ignore ourselves.

The Eighteenth Sunday
After Pentecost

October 13, 2019

Worship and Grow Today

Traditional Worship
8 am

Contemporary Worship
9:15 am

Sunday School Classes, 9 am

Learn More About Us
stjohnuccnewathens.com

Contact Our Staff

Bob Koch, Pastor
stjohnucc@att.net

Tarrah Vaupel, Student Pastor
tarrahsv@gmail.com

Beth Buettner, Office Staff
stjucckdesknaill@att.net

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Director Christian Education
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Melinda Milligan, Director
New Beginnings Daycare
new-beginnings@att.net
475-2969

Church Office Phone
(618) 475-2947

Please fill out and tear off your Attendance/Prayer Concern slip before worship begins. Pass it to the center aisle while the church calendar is being discussed. Our ushers will collect it there.

Please note that large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available from our ushers.

New members are welcome and received regularly at St. John's. If you or someone you know is interested in joining our worshiping family, speak to Pastor Koch as you leave today, or check the appropriate box on your attendance card.

If this is a Communion Sunday (generally the first Sunday of each month) we invite all Christians welcome at Christ's table in their own family of faith to join us here. The inner circle in each tray of glasses contains grape juice.

Children are always welcome in worship at St. John's. Live closed circuit TV broadcasts of our services are available in the foyer fellowship room, though, for parents who may decide that their child needs a break from worship temporarily.

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We cordially invite all members and guests to participate in the on-going ministries of St. John church. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our church office, which is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. till Noon and 1 p.m. till 3 p.m. It is staffed through the week by Beth Buettner.

Please join us for coffee, juice, and doughnuts in the foyer after worship.



Gathering Together

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

"How Great Thou Art" (Vs. 1)

Beginning five minutes prior to worship

Pew Booklet, pp. 14-15

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

(Please pass your Attendance/Prayer Concern slips to the center aisle.)

THE MORNING PRELUDE, CALL OF THE BELL

Seeking God's Presence

CALL TO WORSHIP *(From Psalm 111)*

Praise the Lord! I'll give thanks to, you, Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Your works are many and wondrous, studied by all who delight in them.

Your work is full of honor and majesty, and your righteousness endures forever.

You've gained renown by your wonderful deeds; you're gracious and merciful.

You provide food for those who fear you; you're ever mindful of your covenant.

**You've shown your people the power of your works,
giving them the heritage of the nations.**

The works of your hands are faithful and just; all your precepts are trustworthy.

They're established forever and ever,

to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

You sent redemption to your people; you've commanded your covenant forever. Your name is holy and awesome.

Reverence for you, Lord, is the beginning of wisdom. Your praise endures forever.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Jesus saw people others tried not to see, holy God.

**He saw the very poor and the very ill, those pushed to life's margins,
those named, labelled, and excluded for any number of reasons.**

Jesus saw them all—and calls on us, his followers, to do the same.

As we worship, open our eyes and our hearts

to the very people whom Jesus loved most,

the discounted and disregarded, the rejected and the banned. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Hymnal, No. 12

Asking God's Forgiveness

CALL TO CONFESSION

Time of Silent Confession

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Together

Jesus didn't see ten lepers, holy God—he saw ten people with leprosy.
He refused to let labels take away someone's humanity;
he wouldn't allow anyone's disease or nationality to define them.
We can't say the same for ourselves.
Forgive the way we paint whole classes or even nations of people
with the broad brushstrokes of prejudice and ignorance.
Help us return thanks, as one lone Samaritan did,
that Jesus not only sees us, but also offers us
healing, wholeness, and renewal that go so much deeper
than any label or disease, touching every human heart
that dares open itself to his love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon
Gloria Patri
Passing the Peace

Hymnal, No. 493

Hearing God's Word

THE MORNING COLLECT

You were forever doing the unexpected, Lord Jesus,
surprising people with the way you overturned barriers and prejudices.
Help us take courage from your example
and reach out beyond our comfort zones,
seeing those whom we too often chose instead to ignore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 17:11-19

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE SERMON

"The Other Nine"

THE APOSTLES' CREED

HYMN

"Ten Who Suffered Sought Out Jesus"

Bulletin, p. 6

Responding With Our Prayers

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF OUR WORSHIPING FAMILY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And with you also.

Let us pray....

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

Together, Words on Screen

RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer"

Hymnal, No. 501

Responding With Our Gifts

MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Hymnal, No. 551

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Only one of ten lepers was grateful enough
for the gift of healing he'd received to thank the One
who'd given him that gift in the first place.

We pray that we aren't as self-centered and thoughtless, generous God,
even knowing that we often are just that.

Accept our offerings, small steps on the lifelong path
of gratitude and generosity that is the hallmark
of faithful people in every time and place. Amen.

Responding With Faithful Service in the World

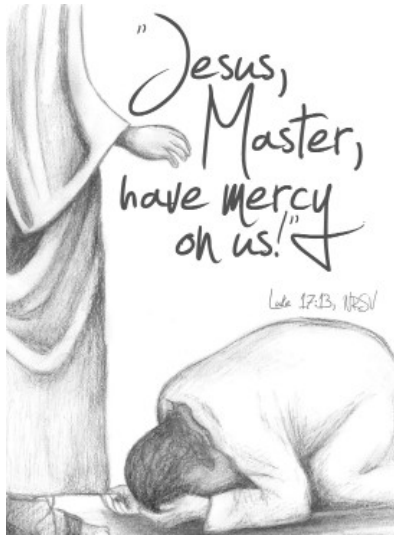
BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Pew Booklet, p. 10

POSTLUDE



Ten Who Suffered Sought Out Jesus
 (Tune, "Not Alone for Mighty Empire")

Ten who suffered sought out Jesus
 when they saw him traveling through:
 "Jesus, Master, show your mercy!
 Hear our cry, we beg of you!"
 When he saw them, Jesus answered,
 "Find the priests. See what they say."
 As they did what Jesus told them,
 ten found healing on the way.

Ten were healed, and saw the wonder!
 Nine kept going, homeward bound.
 Only one—despised by others— took the time to turn around.
 Finding Jesus, singing praises, he said "Thank you!" on that day.
 Jesus said, "Your faith has healed you. But the others—where are they?"

Where are we, O God of mercy? For your Son has blessed us, too.
 He has given life abundant, offered healing, made us new.
 Like the nine, are we distracted by our homes, our work, our play?
 Or do we return and thank you, taking time to humbly pray?

Jesus, make us truly grateful for the blessings we receive.
 Like that one, may we say, "Thank you!" like that one, may we believe:
 Give us faith to see your mercy, and through all we do and say,
 May our lives become our "thank you!" as we follow you each day.

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"Slide Into Christmas" Saturday, November 9, beginning at 6 pm for a movie night, snowball hunt, and appetizer buffet held at the Bullpen Bar and Grill. Cost for the event is \$20 per person for all festivities, or \$15 per person for the buffet, movie, and raffle only.

"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" will be our movie feature for the evening, after which folks will be invited down to Cousin Eddie's (Okaw Valley Park) for a snowball hunt. Here's the catch—there are two squirrels hiding among the snowballs worth \$50 each in cold, hard cash! All snowballs collected will be entries in an end of evening prize drawing.

The holiday appetizer buffet will include chicken tenders, toasted ravioli, nachos, Christmas cookies, and other seasonal favorites. Deck your personal halls with an ugly Christmas sweater; you might win a genuine Marty Moose mug!

Donations of baskets for the event are welcome, as are volunteers to bake Christmas cookies for the holiday-themed appetizer buffet. Volunteers will be in the foyer today to take your reservations!



Planting Life
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Access Sunday and Disability Awareness Week

The Rev. Sarah Lund has been called as the United Church of Christ's first Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice. What inspires her about this role? The Rev. Lund says, "The UCC's commitment to disabilities and mental health justice drew me to this position. I am excited to support the UCC as we seek to live out our commitments to be A2A (Accessible to All) and WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. I am inspired to work with lay leaders and clergy, supporting their efforts to reflect the extravagant love of God in Jesus Christ.

I enjoy the inspiring people I am honored to get to know doing this work. One of the main things I do is build relationships with pastors, lay leaders, Conference Ministers, National Staff colleagues, seminarians, and members of the wider community as we share stories about how our lives are shaped by disabilities and mental health justice.

The temptation in the church is to think of disabilities and mental health justice as a side issue. It is challenging and critical to think of disabilities and mental health justice as part of every other justice issue. There is great opportunity in the places of intersectionality and that is where we are excited to explore moving forward. For example, as we continue to engage the whole church in our Sacred Conversations to End Racism, we can include in that conversation how disabilities and mental health justice intersect with racism.

Inviting churches to seek justice with people who live with disabilities and mental health diagnoses is important because it is what Jesus calls us to do. Jesus' teachings call us to love our neighbors and loving our neighbors means seeking justice for people who live with disabilities and mental health challenges.

The UCC has a strong history of supporting disabilities and mental health justice through the work of its ministers and congregations. We celebrate the important role of UCC minister Rev. Harold Wilke, a person with a disability who was a disability rights pioneer and activist involved in the passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). We also celebrate the wider church's commitment at the 25th General Synod in the adoption of the resolution 'Called to Wholeness in Christ: Becoming a Church Accessible to All.' We celebrate that at the 31st General Synod the wider church adopted the resolution to be WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. The challenge that these celebrations offer is the opportunity and responsibility of the ongoing work."

To find out more about how you can be engaged in this vital ministry, contact lunds@ucc.org.

*Please fill out this slip, noting prayer concerns on the back.
 Legible handwriting or printing is much appreciated!
 If you're a visitor with us today, we hope you'll come again!*

Date _____

Your Name _____

- Member Visitor Child/Youth Looking for a Church Home
 Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

We want to know
 what you think!
 Please include
 comments, suggestions,
 or other feedback below:





Pastor
Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor
Tarah Vaupel

Organist
Paul Bickel

Ushers
Carol Prunty, Becky Stolte

Acolyte
Gavin Gallagher

Please pray for these churches, pastors, and friends:

Members Hospitalized:
Kim Hughes Sparta Comm. Hospital

From the Illinois South Conference:

St. Peter, Centralia
John Pawloski, Student Pastor

St. John, Collinsville
Rev. Dr. Marvin Morgan, Senior Pastor

Members and friends of St. John's:

Dana and David White, and Danica
Denae White
Herbert Wiegand
Lisa Wiegand and Kaylyn
Laura and Randy Wildermuth
Vicki and Ralph Wildy
Sharon and Ed Wilson
Alexis Winkleman
Beth and Albert Winter
Martha Wirth
Steve Wirth

***Low-cost, Christian counseling is available
through Family Care Ministries.***

Contact Pastor Koch or the church office
to schedule an appointment.

All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Prayer Joys and Concerns

Please pray for:

- Mention this joy/concern during morning prayers.
- Please pray for this joy/concern silently.



Sign me up for the following:

- Prayer Partners
- "Doughnut time" helper

I'm interested in these opportunities to serve and grow:

- Usher
- Teach Sunday School
- Youth group volunteer
- Attend Bible study
- Serve on a committee
- Join "Prayer Partners"

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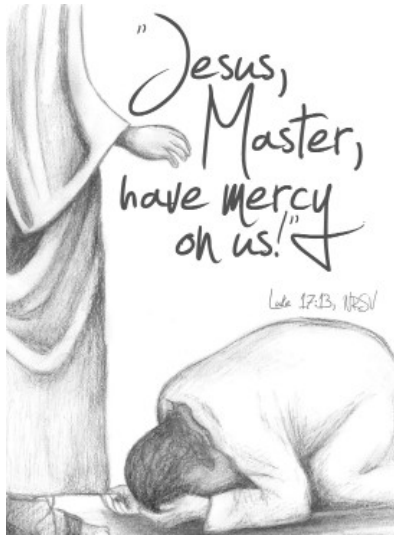
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Date _____

Your Name _____

- Member Visitor Child/Youth Looking for a Church Home
 Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please give us your address and phone.

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____

We want to know
 what you think!
 Please include
 comments, suggestions,
 or other feedback below:



