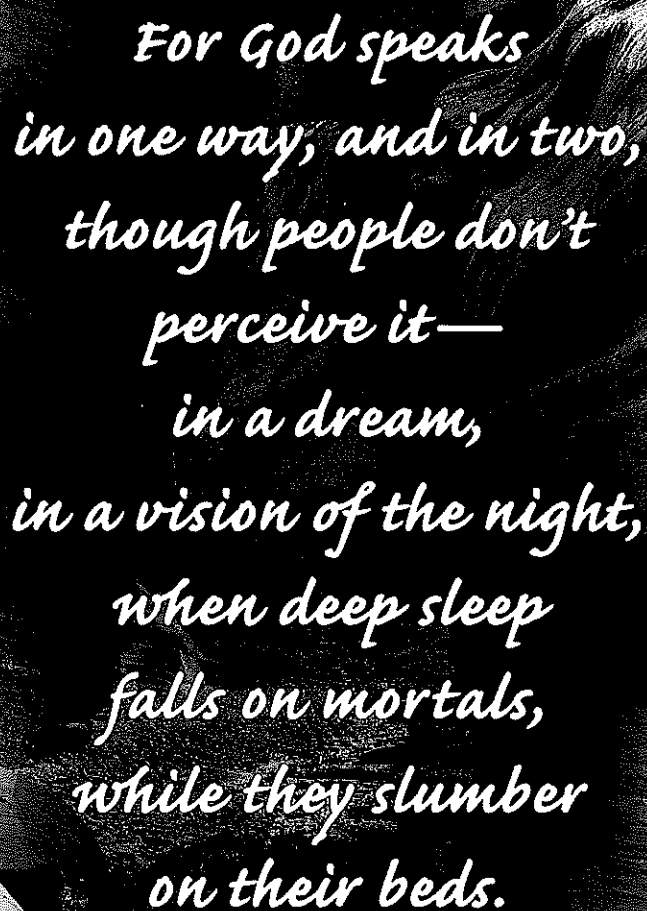


St. John United Church of Christ
301 S. Market Street
New Athens, Illinois 62264



*For God speaks
in one way, and in two,
though people don't
perceive it—
in a dream,
in a vision of the night,
when deep sleep
falls on mortals,
while they slumber
on their beds.*

Job 33:14-15

The Fifth Wednesday In Lent

April 3, 2019

Evening Worship at 7 pm

Our Wednesday night services
are preceded by
Soup and Sandwich Suppers
in the church dining hall.

Serving begins at 5:30 pm
and runs through 6:30 pm.

Learn More About Us
stjohnuccnewathens.com

Contact Our Staff

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475-2969

Church Office Phone
(618) 475-2947

THE EVENING PRELUDE, CALL OF THE BELL

OPENING HYMN

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

Tune, "Behold, a Sower"

Hymnal, No. 480

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Mark 4, Psalm 3, Genesis 28, Proverbs 3

A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat. Jesus was in the stern, asleep. The disciples woke him and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we're perishing?"

I cry aloud to the LORD, and the LORD answers me.

I lie down and sleep, for the LORD sustains me.

Jesus rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm.

Jacob woke from his sleep and said,

"Surely the LORD is in this place—and I didn't know it!"

Precious Lord, take my hand Lead me on, let me stand

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light:

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Awestruck, they asked, "Who is this, that the wind and the sea obey him?"

Don't be afraid of the storm that strikes the wicked;

for the LORD will be your confidence.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,

And the day is past and gone,

At the river I stand, Guide my feet, hold my hand:

Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We've been there, with the disciples, Lord Jesus.

We've been there when the waves were high,

and came crashing in.

We've been there when the winds howled like a demon,

tearing at our heart.

We've been there when it seemed that all was lost,

and we despaired of your love and care. Forgive us.

Storms of all sorts will buffet our lives,

some so powerful that we cannot stand.

When our faith falters, reassure us of your presence and care.

Ride out the storm with us,

that we might find faith's safe harbor,

that place of rest and renewal from where

you'll call us forth to serve once more. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Passing the Peace

SPECIAL MUSIC

TONIGHT'S PSALM

From Psalm 34

Your eyes are on those who do justice, O God, and your ears are open to their cry.

**You turn your face against evildoers,
to cut off their memory from the earth.**

But the just cry out, and you hear, saving them from all their troubles.

**You're close to the brokenhearted,
and rescue those whose spirits are crushed.**

Many are the afflictions of the just; but you deliver them from all their troubles.

**You protect their very bones,
and not one of them will be broken.**

Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

**You ransom the lives of the faithful,
and none who take refuge in you will see punishment.**

THEME HYMN

Tune: "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Sometimes, at night, we lay awake and sleep is hard to find,
As worries, cares, and what-might-be all fill our troubled minds.

At other times our slumber proves a refuge snug and safe,
Still, God can use it as a way to call our lives to faith.

A storm-tossed boat with water filled is no place safe to be,
But Jesus calmed his friends' deep fears, and stilled both wind and sea.

Asleep, awake, we live each day as children of your grace.
Be with us, God, as, with your help, life's crosses we all face.

TONIGHT'S SCRIPTURE

Mark 4:35-41

VISIONS OF THE NIGHT

"Don't You Care, Jesus?"

EVENING PRAYERS

THE OFFERING

CLOSING LITANY

(From Proverbs 3)

If we sit down, we won't be afraid;

when we lie down, our sleep will be sweet.

We won't be afraid of sudden panic, or of the storm that strikes the wicked;

for the LORD will be our confidence, and will keep our feet from stumbling.

*Just a closer walk with thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING HYMN

Bulletin, p. 4

"Does Jesus Care?"

POSTLUDE

Does Jesus Care?

Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you. 1 Pet. 5:7

MY SAVIOR CARES Irreg. Ref.
J. Lincoln Hall, 1901

Frank E. Graeff, 1901

1. Does Je - sus care when my heart is pained Too deep - ly for
2. Does Je - sus care when my way is dark With a name - less
3. Does Je - sus care when I've tried and failed To re - sist some temp -
4. Does Je - sus care when I've said good - by To the dear - est on

mirth and song; As the bur - dens press and the cares dis - tress, And the
dread and fear? As the day - light fades in - to deep night shades, Does He
ta - tion strong; When for my deep grief I find no re - lief, Though my
earth to me, And my sad heart aches till it near - ly breaks—Is it

Refrain
way grows wea - ry and long?
care e - nough to be near? O yes, He cares; I know He cares, His
tears flow all the night long? aught to Him? Does He see?

heart is touched with my grief; When the days are wea - ry, the

long nights drear - y, I know my Sav - ior cares. (He cares).

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April 10
John 19:25-27
"A Mother's Worst Nightmare"
Special Music, Dulcimer player

That awful day on Golgotha, Mary probably wished everything happening was a dream, that she could wake up and make it all vanish. Instead, she endured a living nightmare, in the midst of which her dying son still spoke words of provision and care.

She'll share how she felt that day, as well as how her feelings changed in the days that followed.

April 18 (Maundy Thursday)
Mark 14:32-42
"Heavy Eyes and Heavier Hearts"

How could the disciples fail Jesus when he needed them most, sleeping as Jesus pleaded with God to spare him the suffering he knew lay ahead? One of those who slept will ask that same question of us since, when Jesus needs us most, he often finds us spiritually asleep as well. Maundy Thursday worship will include the sacrament of Holy Communion.

April 19 (Good Friday)
Matthew 27:15-24
"Dreams, Death, and Passing the Buck"

Pilate's wife, who goes nameless in scripture, sent word to Pilate in the middle of Jesus' trial, calling Jesus innocent and telling Pilate to have "nothing to do with him." Probably not for the first time, Pilate didn't heed his wife's advice, trying, unsuccessfully, to wash hands of the death sentence that would forever be linked to his name. A Service of Darkness will also be part of our Good Friday worship.

Easter Sunday, April 21

Some of Jesus' female followers, unable to sleep, headed through the pre-dawn darkness to visit his tomb. What they found forever freed us from death's nightmare and enables us to close our eyes—even for the last time—with hope.

Our Easter celebration will begin at 6:30 am on the old village cemetery, and then continue with traditional worship at 8 am and contemporary worship at 10:30 am. Be sure to stop by for our youth group's Easter breakfast fundraiser from 7-10 am.

Please take a few minutes to fill out this slip, noting prayer concerns on the back. If you're a visitor with us today, we hope you'll come again!

April 3, 2019 (Lenten Worship)

Your Name _____

☐ Member ☐ Visitor ☐ Child/Youth ☐ Looking for a Church Home

☐ Desire a Call

Visitors--If you're comfortable doing so, please tell us a little about yourself.

Street Address

City

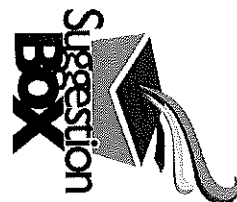
State

Zip

Phone

Email

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



Pastor

Dr. Robert Koch

Student Pastor

Tarrah Vaupel

Organist

Julie Daab

Ushers

Greg Ray
Scott Stehl

Special Music:

Phillip Tinge
Gina McIsaac
Kim Gindler
Jesse Crotser



Prayer Joys and Concerns

Please pray for:

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



Welcome to Lenten worship!

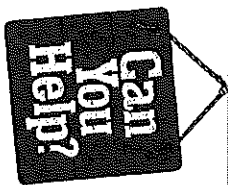
Please fill out and tear off your Attendance/Prayer Concern slip before worship begins. Pass it to the center aisle, where ushers will collect it.

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

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.

If this Holy Communion is celebrated as part of tonight's worship service, we invite all Christians welcome at Christ's table in their own family of faith to join us here. Both wine and grape juice area always offered.

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