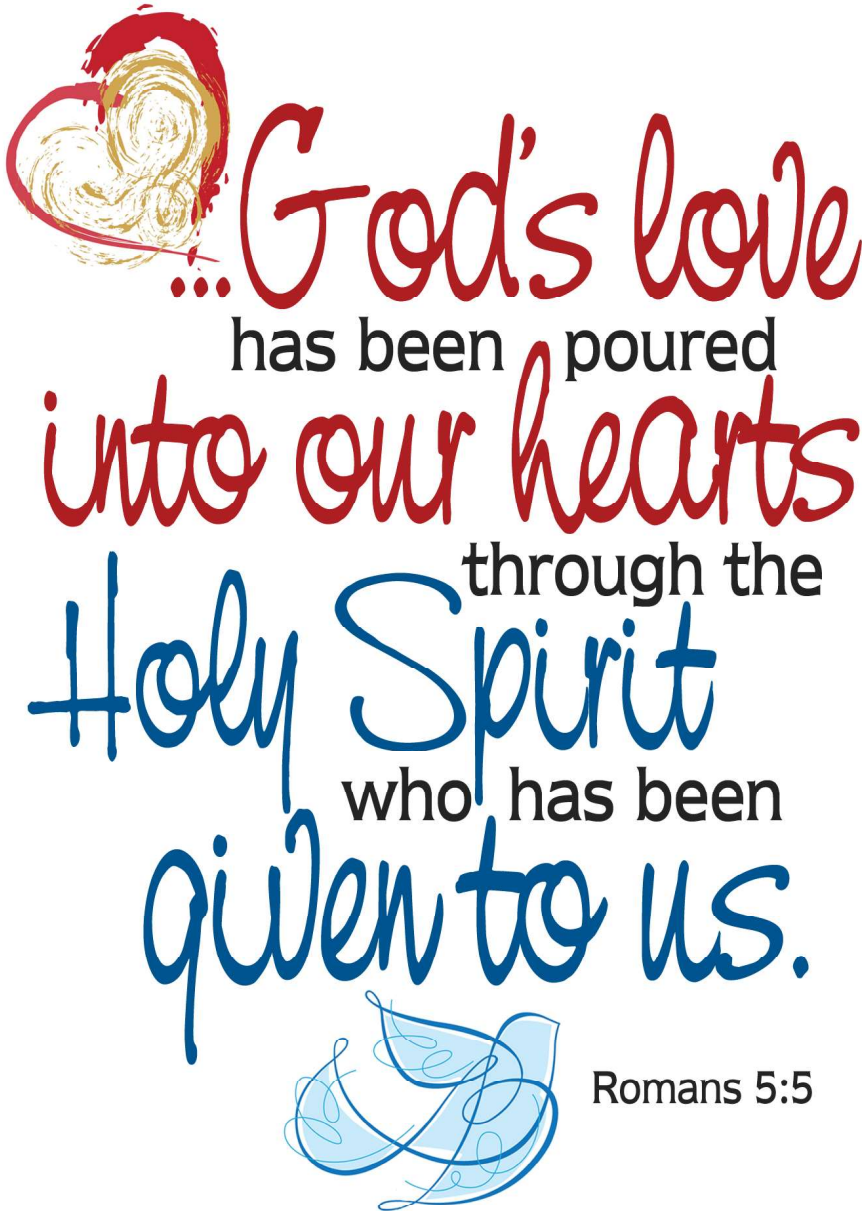


St. John United Church of Christ  
301 S. Market Street  
New Athens, Illinois 62264



Romans 5:5

Paul calls us to embrace a hope founded,  
not on mere wishful thinking,  
but on God's love for us, shown in Jesus Christ  
and experienced through  
the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Trinity Sunday

June 16, 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](http://stjohnuccnewathens.com)

Contact Our Staff

Bob Koch, Pastor  
[stjohnucc@att.net](mailto:stjohnucc@att.net)

Tarah Vaupel, Student Pastor  
[tarrahsv@gmail.com](mailto:tarrahsv@gmail.com)

Beth Buettner, Office Staff  
[stjuccdeskmail@att.net](mailto:stjuccdeskmail@att.net)

Cindy Vogler,  
Director Christian Education  
[dcecindy@att.net](mailto:dcecindy@att.net)

Melinda Milligan, Director  
New Beginnings Daycare  
[new-beginnings@att.net](mailto: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.

**Pastor Koch** is always available to help those seeking answers, comfort, or guidance. He is usually in his office all day Monday, and at various other times throughout the week. If you'd like to see him, feel free to stop by, or call the church office at 475-2947 to make an appointment.

**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.

**The flowers on the altar** are given by Vic and Lee Main in memory of Family and loved ones.



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## *Gathering Together*

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### **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

"My God and I" (Vs. 1)

*Beginning five minutes prior to worship*

Pew Booklet, p. 33

### **THE CHURCH CALENDAR**

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

### **THE MORNING PRELUDE, CALL OF THE BELL**

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## *Seeking God's Presence*

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### **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(From Psalm 8)*

LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!

**You made your glory higher than heaven!**

When I look up at your skies, at what your fingers made—the moon and the stars that you set firmly in place—what are human beings that you're mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

**Yet you've made them only slightly less than divine,  
crowning them with glory and grandeur.**

You've let them rule over your handiwork, putting everything under their feet—all sheep and cattle, the wild animals, too—birds in the sky, fish in the ocean, and everything that travels the pathways of the sea.

**LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!**

### **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Paul, writing to Christians in Rome he had yet to meet,  
called them to a life of hope built on faith.

That hope, he said, wouldn't disappoint them, no matter what they faced.

Though not persecuted as the first century Romans were,  
we cope with challenges of our own, holy God.

Fill our hearts, we pray, with the same hope that sustained  
our brothers and sisters in the faith long ago. Amen.

### **\*OPENING HYMN**

"We Join In Proclaiming"

Bulletin, p. 6

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## *Asking God's Forgiveness*

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### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Time of Silent Confession

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Together*

“Hope doesn’t disappoint,” Paul said.  
We confess to you, God of reconciling love,  
that sometimes our hope does.  
It’s gradually ground underfoot by daily routine,  
by the depressing litany of the headlines,  
and by the setbacks, both great and small, that are part of life.  
Forgive us. Christ died for people just like us,  
those whose easy answers and hollow hopes inevitably fail.  
We pray that your love would fill us  
and that the embrace of Christ would find us,  
reassuring us and reminding us of a hope that never disappoints  
and of cross-sealed love that never fails. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon  
Gloria Patri  
Passing the Peace

Hymnal, No. 493

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*Hearing God's Word*

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**THE MORNING COLLECT**

Paul was trying to get his apostolic foot  
in the theological door at Rome, holy God.  
He did so by writing to them about issues at the heart of faith—  
suffering, doubt, perseverance, courage, and hope.  
May Paul’s words encourage us, as they did the Romans,  
to hold onto hope, even and especially when it’s hard to do so. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Romans 4:20-25, 5:1-11

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**THE SERMON**

“This Grace In Which We Stand”

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**HYMN**

"Our God, Our Help In Ages Past"

Hymnal, No. 63

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*Responding With Our Prayers*

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**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

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*Responding With Our Gifts*

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**MORNING MISSION MOMENT, OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Hymnal, No. 551

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We give you thanks, generous God, for the grace in which we stand  
and upon which we build both our faith and our lives.

Accept our offerings, gifts brought to share  
the sure, unfailing ground of that grace with those  
whose footsteps are faltering and whose hopes are proving empty. Amen.

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*Responding With Faithful Service in the World*

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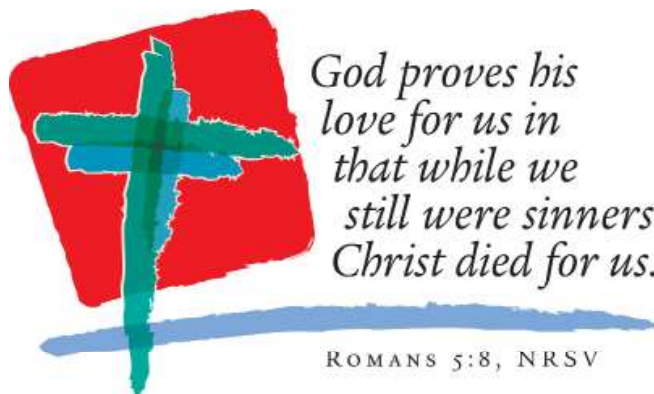
**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN**

"Standing On the Promises"

Pew Booklet, p. 40

**POSTLUDE**



**We Join In Proclaiming**  
(Tune: "We Gather Together")

We join in proclaiming the faith we believe in —  
That God is Creator and we are God's own.  
We trust in Christ Jesus and gladly receive him,  
For we have been blessed by the love he has shown.

Christ died and is risen and, one with the Father,  
He reigns now in heaven, still loving the earth.  
The Spirit of God that moved over the waters  
Now moves here among us, empowering God's church.

O God, we have pondered through years of our history  
How you can be Father and Spirit and Son.  
We've prayed and we've studied and called it a mystery  
That you are three persons and yet you are one.

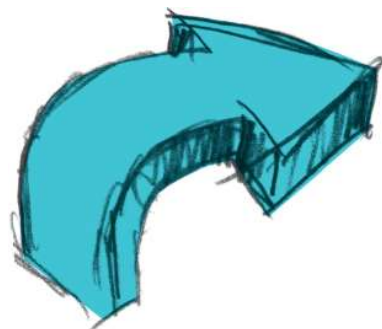
Creating and saving, your church here renewing,  
You still are one God working many good ways.  
May we humbly thank you for all you are doing!  
O God in three persons, we offer you praise.



*Biblical References: Genesis 1-2; Galatians 3:26; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; John 15:13;  
Matthew 28:6; Acts 1:6-11; Acts 2; John 10:30; 2 Corinthians 13:14  
Text: Copyright © 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Used with permission.*

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**Join your friends at St. John's for lunch at the Eagle's Nest** in Addieville on June 23. Please sign up in the foyer so we can give them an accurate headcount. We'll meet in Addieville at 11 am.



**We'll recognize graduates** in our congregation during contemporary worship on June 30. Please sign up in the foyer if you graduated this spring or summer! At the same service, **we'll also recognize and pray for the youth and chaperones** leaving on their work trip to Louisville.

**The Church Council** is hoping to donate the contents of St. John's choral library to area churches. Before they do, though, they are asking anyone interested to go through the music collection and grab whatever copies they might like. The music is stored on the back porch of St. John South, which will be unlocked Sunday mornings in June. (Enter through the parking lot door.)

**Vacation Bible School will be held July 8 through 11.** Please check the sign up display in the foyer to see how you can help!

**Wisdom Calls**  
**Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31**

**Trinity Sunday**  
**Father's Day**

School is out and, in the northern hemisphere at least, summer stretches ahead, full of the promise of rest and warmth, rejuvenation and wonder. Maybe you are youthful, and the promise of summer break is so new and fresh for you that you are practically bursting with the excitement of it. Or maybe you are in the middle of life, balancing care for children and elders with work and hobbies, even in the summer. Or maybe you are later in life, and the time for both school and work is past and summer is a season like the others.

Wherever you are on life's journey, listen! Lady Wisdom is calling you. She is calling out in the places you are most likely to be, she is trying to get your attention. What does she want to tell you? "I was there in the beginning," she sings, "delighting and rejoicing in creation."

Wisdom blows into our lives in a rush of joy and pleasure. On this Trinity Sunday, she reminds us that the magnificent labor of the Creator and the redeeming love of the Savior are only two parts of the divine purpose. Wisdom's part - enjoying creation as it unfolds and wandering, without direction but with confidence in the beauty of the divinity - is just as potent.

Wisdom is at the creator's side when all the sweaty-browed work of creation is being done, and Wisdom knows her place is at the Creator's side. She delights in creation but doesn't feel a need to do anything. And you know what? The Creator doesn't demand it of her. Maybe Wisdom is showing us that the Creator doesn't demand action all the time from us either. Even if school isn't out for you, you can still take a summer break. Soak in the wisdom of Wisdom, just be in and with creation. Find a moment or a month where there is nothing to do but rejoice in the Creator.

"Life is this simple. We are living in a world that is absolutely transparent, and God is shining through it all the time," writes the mystic Thomas Merton. Take Wisdom's lesson today. See God's shining and delight in it.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Sustainer, Redeemer, Creator. Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver.\* Lover, Beloved, Love. Holy Three in One, immerse us this day in mystery and wonder, and send us forth into your beautiful creation, ready to delight in it. Amen.

\*From the New Zealand Prayer Book, published by Harper Collins, 1997.

*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

**Organist**  
Paul Bickel

**Ushers**  
Carroll Barlow, Wanda Heively

**Acolyte**  
Jolie Alfeldt

**Please pray for these churches, pastors, and friends:**

Hospitalized:

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| - James Engel | Memorial - Belleville    |
| Kent Fullmer  | Memorial - East (Shiloh) |
| Betty Fullmer | Memorial - East (Shiloh) |

From the Illinois South Conference:

*United Church of Christ, O'Fallon*  
Rev. Dr. Martha Thierheimer, Pastor

*St. Paul's, Ohlman*  
Rev. Dr. Steve Nance, Pastor

Members and friends of St. John's:

- Abigail, Daniel, William, Debbie and Eric Benedick  
Sam, Laura, Jacob, Betsy and Ron Berger  
Alex, Zachary, Bonnie and Paul Bickel  
Henry, Hudson, Chelsea and Zachary Bergman  
Kristin Bielke  
Bobby, Brandi, Bob and Chris Bierman  
Byron Birkner and Family  
Diane Boschert and Family  
Andrew, Isabelle, Nick and Crystal Bova  
Denise Bova  
Kaitlyn, Tyler, Kelly and Tim Brandenburger  
Dennis and Georgia Breithaupt  
Lance, Alyssa and Nicole Brokering

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

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



*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:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usher                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Bible study     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teach Sunday School   | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on a committee   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth group volunteer | <input type="checkbox"/> Join "Prayer Partners" |