

St John Church of Christ

February 27, 2022

Worship
Service

Premiers
Sunday at 11:00



Mulligans, Do-Overs, and the New Birth

Welcome to Worship!

We're glad you're here. Bible classes begin at 10:00. For kids, Pete & Penelope, our children's puppet program, is followed by songs and classes in the Fellowship Hall.

A disciple without discipline is a contradiction in terms. Sadly, church discipline has been badly misused in the past. Join us for "Basic Training" in the auditorium this morning as we explain this important concept. Join us at 10:00 A.M. for class. Worship follows at 11:00 A.M.

If you are unable to be with us in person, our worship is shared through our website:

www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org

Simply select "Sermons" from the menubar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



Every year I try to learn something new. Some years are wonderful! I love to sail, hike, take pictures, but other years aren't so great, like the year I learned to play golf. I enjoy being outside and walking across a beautiful course, but oh, what a frustrating game! One hole is perfect. You feel on top of the world, but then the next hole is a disaster, and you are ready to throw your clubs in the pond!

Not long into my year of golf, my patient friends introduced me to a beautiful golfing tradition called a "Mulli-

gan." If your stroke didn't go the way you planned, just do it over. Take a "Mulligan," and it doesn't count. Wouldn't it be great if life was like that?

I've heard people wishing for a Mulligan, a do-over, for their lives. But, of course, we all make mistakes - some of them tragic beyond words, and most of us wish there were things from our past that we could change. But, unfortunately, it's been my experience that a do-over won't help because, more than likely, we'd just do it all

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over again, mistakes and all. So if we could do it over, we'd need something more than just a second chance.

One night, early in the ministry of Jesus, a ruler of the Jews, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, came to visit Jesus. He began his conversation by saying, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

In response, Jesus promised Nicodemus a Mulligan: "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (See John 3:1 - 14.)

The adverb Jesus used: "again" (Greek: *an-O-then* ἄνωθεν), has two meanings. First, not only does it mean "again" (our second chance), it also means "from above," and that is precisely what we need. To just be born again would probably result in our just making the same mistakes over and over again what we need in a completely new birth with a brand new heart - a new way of thinking. That's the promise "from above."

It seems too good to be true, doesn't it? Jesus told Nicodemus, "Do not marvel that

I said to you, 'You must be born again.'" (v. 7). It's the promise of God!

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

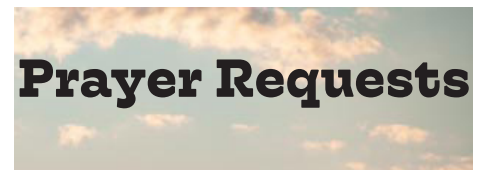


Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 3/1: Orrin Feril
- 3/1: Dylan Huffman
- 3/5: Destiny Huffman
- 3/11: Orvalee Aldrich
- 3/12: Meagan Feril
- 3/13: Misty Blakeslee Rudy
- 3/13: Gary Hornbaker
- 3/15: Joe Cornwell
- 3/16: Adam Holmes
- 3/20: Angel Johnson
- 3/20: Mara Feril
- 3/25: Lory Willinger
- 3/25: Kay Kinnamon

Those Who Serve

- Song Leader: Stan
- Welcome: Tom
- Prayer: Richard
- Communion: Orrin
- Sermon: John
- Closing Prayer: Teddy



Garland's funeral was Friday morning. Please continue to pray for the whole Mansel family during this time.

Kay's surgery in Wichita was a success and she is home recovering.

Gail fell again Tuesday evening and was taken to Pratt where she was diagnosed with Covid (again).

Terry continues to recover from his surgery and should finally be home.

Marilyn is still struggling after her hospital visit.

Finally, don't forget our home-bound members:

- Don
- Dena
- Don
- George and Shirley

