

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship November 03, 2024

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ringing of the Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

*(Please note the * indicates when you should stand*

Members and Visitors please make note of your attendance by signing in on the pew pads.)

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you

And also with you

Prelude

"All Creatures of Our God & King"

Sherman

*The Call to Worship

Come into the land of God.

We come seeking the land of love.

Live as the people of Christ.

We gather to grow as a community of love.

Follow in the ways of the Lord.

We move forward on the path of love.

Come, young and old, friend and foreigner,
for all are welcome here.

We come to live and grow in the love of Christ.

Praise God for this wonderful gift!

* Hymn

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

#464

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail thy ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy righteous goal,
lest we miss thy righteous goal.

Set our feet on lofty places;
fill our lives that we may be
strengthened with all Christ-like graces
pledges to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail our call from thee,
lest we fail our call from thee.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

***Gathering Prayer** (*In Unison*)

Teach us, O God, to delight in your commandments and to meditate on your statutes. Grant us life in your righteousness, and trust based on your word. May this hour of worship be a time of growth. Amen.

Special Music

"Meditation"

Massenett

Time for the Child

Rev Katie Jo Bielke

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"
**Child of God your loving parent,
Learn to listen for God's call
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,
Trust and love God more than all.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 6:1-9 & Mark 12:28-34

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

The Great Commandment

6 "Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, 2 so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. 7 Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. 8 Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, 9 and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Mark 12:28-34

The First Commandment

28 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" 29 Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." 32 Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; 33 and 'to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." 34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

The church of Christ, in every age,
beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live until they die.

Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.

For Christ alone, whose blood was shed,
can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread
and feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread Christ's liberating word.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(In Unison)*

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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Invitation to Give Generously

(Thank you for being so generous in your care of St. John's UCC and its mission, through your participation and giving. Your stewardship makes a difference. You may make your offering several ways including in church, online, by text at 833-502-0657, or mail. We are grateful for your support.)

Offertory

"Blessed Assurance"

arr. Brown

***Doxology** *(In Unison)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** *(In Unison)*

God of justice and love, transform these offerings, that they may be gifts of justice and love for a world in need of hope and help. Let love flow through these offerings, that they may become gifts of love for the world. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation

Remembering the Story

Blessing the Elements

Sharing the Meal *(the gluten free wafers are on a separate tray)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(In Unison)*

O God, We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions you have laid on our hearts. We are now commissioned to: feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	<i>"When You Do This, Remember Me"</i>	#400
<p>You my friend, a stranger once, do now belong to heaven. Once far away, you are brought home into God's family. "When you do this, remember me."</p>		<p>All your sorrows shall be mine, your joy shall be my joy; in debted to God's love in Christ, We die and reign with him. "When you do this, remember me."</p>
<p>Now my Lord is also yours, my people are your own; embraced together in God's arms, I enfold you now in mine. "When you do this, remember me."</p>		<p>So let us renew our faith, remembering our Lord; to our strong hope we will hold fast, unshaken to the end. "When you do this, remember me."</p>

Benediction

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
 Liturgist: **Ellen Brandon**
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Carol Tindira**
 Clarinet: **Rebecca Hill**
 Communion Service: **Donna Switzer & Mary Polt**

Announcements

We pray for
**Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Kevin Beatty, Donna Dollgener, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener,
 Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina and Gloria Vaclavik.** Please let us know your prayer concerns
 If you have private prayer concerns please speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke.

Global Ministries requests that we pray with **Armenia/Lebanon** this week

<p>11/10/24 Service Liturgist: Warren Stemme Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Carol Tindira</p>	<p>11/17/24 Service Liturgist: Carolyn Golfin Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Carol Tindira</p>	<p>11/24/24 Totenfest Service Liturgist: Amanda Jones Usher Team: Jim Pisoni Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Carol Tindira Special Music: Flautist</p>
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<p>Join us on Sundays 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship in Fellowship Hall 10:00 a.m. – Sunday School 10:00 a.m. – Worship In-Person, Facebook Live, or Virtual</p>	<p>15370 Olive Blvd. Chesterfield MO 63017 (636) 532-0540 stjohnsuccnonlive@gmail.com www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org</p>
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... Looking Ahead November

Sun	11/3	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Mon	11/4	10:00 AM	Poinsettia Orders Due
		1:30 PM	Personnel Committee Meeting zoom
Wed	11/6	10:15 AM	Tour of Sappington House (please RSVP Narthex or QR code below)
Thu	11/7	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
Sun	11/10	10:00 AM	Hymn Sing Service & Global Ministries Pray for East Timor
		11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
Mon	11/11		Veterans Day (office closed)
		1:00 PM	Exec Council Meeting
Wed	11/13	6:00 PM	Card Making in the fellowship hall Join us, all are welcome
Fri	11/15	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
Sun	11/17	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Eswatini
Mon	11/18	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	11/19	6:00 PM	Cookies with Santa Prepwork
Wed	11/20	10:00 AM	Book Group "The Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles.
Thu	11/21	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
		5:30 PM	Table Fellowship at Olive Garden (please RSVP)
Sun	11/24	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
		9:45 AM	ECH Donations Due Take ornaments from the tree in the Narthex
		10:00 AM	Totenfest & Global Ministries Pray for Korea
Sun	11/24	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	11/24	12 noon	Combined Thanksgiving Dinner (RSVP Narthex or QR code below)
(Join us for a combined Thanksgiving Dinner in Fellowship Hall with St. Thomas and Ivy UCC churches.)			
Thu	11/28 & 29		Thanksgiving (office closed)
Fri	11/29	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)



Sappington House Tour



RSVP TABLE FELLOWSHIP



Thanksgiving Dinner RSVP



ECH Shopping List



online giving

... Looking Ahead December

Sun	12/1	10:00 AM	Hope; First Sunday of Advent with Communion
		11:00 AM	Hanging of the Greens with luncheon to follow.
		11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Mon	12/2	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study
Tue	12/3		Giving Tuesday (please consider St John's)
Thu	12/5	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
Sat	12/7	9:00 AM	Cookies with Santa
Sun	12/8	10:00 AM	Peace; Second Sunday of Advent & GM Pray for Honduras
		10:00 AM	The Christmas Program
		11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
		2:00 PM	Sr Ministries Metro Singers Christmas Concert
Mon	12/9	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study
		1:00 PM	Exec Council
Fri	12/13	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
Sat	12/14		Habitat Build Date
Sun	12/15	10:00 AM	Joy; Third Sunday of Advent & GM Pray for Hong Kong
Mon	12/16	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study
		6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	12/17	10:00 AM	Book Group Reading "Comfort and Joy" by Kristin Hannah
Wed	12/18		ECC Christmas Break Begins
Thu	12/19	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
Thu	12/19	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship at TBD
Sat	12/21	3:00 PM	Longest Night Service
Sun	12/22	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
		10:00 AM	Love; Fourth Sunday of Advent & GM Pray for Afghanistan
		11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Mon	12/23	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study
Tue	12/24	4:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
Tue	12/24	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
Tue	12/24 & 25		Christmas (office closed)
Wed	12/25		Merry Christmas

Please check your News Notes/Website for specific information around upcoming activities

<https://www.stjohnsucchesterfield.org/fellowship>



St. John's News & Events