

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship March 16, 2025

Second Sunday in Lent

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ringling 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

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. Willis

*The Call to Worship

Today is a day to sing praise to God!

God continually blesses us, each and every day.

Even in the midst of cold and darkness, the warmth of God's love is real.

We can count on God to be here for us.

Let your hearts rejoice and your voices shout praise to God.

For God is great and worthy to be praised. AMEN.

* Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

#86

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain:

**Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)**

*Invitation to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

O Lord, we feel that the journey on which we have embarked will demand too much of us. There are so many other things in our lives which claim our spirits, our energy, our hopes and fears. It is easy to be like Jerusalem, turning our backs on those whom you send. The world shouts its solutions to us and then deserts us when we are in need. Forgive us for the many times in which we have strayed from your pathway of life; when we have chosen not to hear the cries of those in need; when we have belittled the gifts and skills you have given us in order to avoid serving others. Heal us, O Lord. Place us back on your path to Jerusalem. Amen.

*Words of Grace

When God called your name, God called you to a journey of faith. Do not be afraid to look inside to see those things which are holding you back from being who God created you to be. Place your trust in God who is always with you, loving you into wholeness. Amen.

Children's Time	<i>"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"</i>	Pastor Katie Jo
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.		
Special Music	<i>"I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me"</i>	Spiritual arr. Mayo

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Psalm 27 & Luke 13:31-35

Psalm 27

Triumphant Song of Confidence Of David.

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?
² When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.
³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.
⁴ One thing I asked of the LORD;
this I seek:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.
⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.
⁶ Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent

sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!
⁸ "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"
Your face, LORD, do I seek.
⁹ Do not hide your face from me.
Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off; do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!
¹⁰ If my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me up.
¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.
¹² Do not give me up to the will of my
adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.
¹³ I believe that I shall see the goodness of the
LORD
in the land of the living.
¹⁴ Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

Luke 13:31-35

The Lament over Jerusalem

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³² He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

* Hymn	"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!"	#545
He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught! Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.	Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine; by waters still, oe'r troubled sea since 'tis thy hand that leadeth me. [Refrain]	
[Refrain:] He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me; his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.	And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the victory's won, e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God thro' Jordan leadeth me. [Refrain]	

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

*Doxology

**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)*

O God, we thank you for your great generosity. All that we are and all that we have is a gift from you. Help us to serve one another and so reflect your spirit and goodness. Accept these offerings and grant that they may flourish as they bring your love to the community. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

***Hymn**

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

#560

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

[Refrain:]

Leaning, leaning
safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning
leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

Benediction

COPYRIGHT NOTICE - © Music used with permission of Christian Copyright Licensing, Inc. #696970

Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**

Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**

Liturgist: **Daniel Dolan**

Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Phil Difani**

Chancel Choir: **Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Jeanne Buchner, Don Duperrett, Mary Jane Duperrett, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Pisoni, Helen Stortz, Evelyn Weber**

Announcements

Global Ministries requests that we pray with **Japan** this week

We pray for

Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina, Rev. Peter Muschinske, Anita Paz and Gloria Vaclavik.

Please let us know your prayer concerns.

If you have private prayer concerns please speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke

03/23/25 Service

Liturgist: **Rev Rich Brandon**
Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Phil Difani**

03/30/25 Service

Liturgist: **Ellen Brandon**
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Phil Difani**

04/06/25 Service

Liturgist: **Warren Stemme**
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Lynn Potts**
Communion Service:
Carolyn Golfin & Judy Dierberg

... Looking Ahead

Mon	3/17	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter (subscribe)
Mon	3/17	10:00 AM	Lenten Study join us.
Mon	3/17	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Mon	3/24	10:00 AM	Lenten Study join us.
Tue	3/25	10:00 AM	Book Group "The Second Life of Mirielle West"
Tue	3/25	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night join us.
Wed	3/26	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due End Of Day
Thu	3/27	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship join us.
Sun	3/30	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	3/30	10:00 AM	One Great Hour of Sharing offering
Sun	3/30	11:00 AM	Speaker, Dr. Curtis Cain Rockwood Schools Superintendent
Sun	3/30	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Mon	3/31	10:00 AM	Lenten Study join us.
Wed	4/2	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Thu	4/3	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter
Sun	4/6	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
Sun	4/6	11:00 AM	Christian Education

Please check your News Notes/Website for specific information around upcoming activities
<https://www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org/fellowship>



online giving



One Great Hour of Sharing Donation



News & Events

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

15370 Olive Blvd.

Chesterfield MO 63017

(636) 532-0540

stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com

www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org

**Sign up for Activities easily using the camera on your mobile phone
and the QR codes below**

VBS 7/21 – 7/25



Volunteer Now

Lenten Study



Monday 10 AM

Women's Game
Night



3/25

Table Fellowship



3/27

Dr. Curtis Cain
Rockwood



3/30