

# St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship      Nov 10, 2024

*Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

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.)*

Hymn	"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"	#721
My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing; land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride, from every mountainside let freedom ring.		

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Peace be with you

And also with you

**Prelude**

**\*The Call to Worship**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD!

**Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.**

Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong;

**we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name.

**Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from age to age.** [Psalm 100]

* Hymn	"Morning has Broken"	#53
Morning has broken like the first morning Blackbird has spoken like the first bird Praise for the singing, praise for the morning Praise for them springing fresh from the word  Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven Like the first dewfall on the first grass Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass  Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning Born of the one light, Eden saw play Praise with elation, praise every morning God's re-creation of the new day		

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

Attune us in this sanctuary to the reality of Christ's eternal reign. May your presence be so real to us that our lives are brought into harmony with your aims for justice and peace. Make us instruments of your help and carriers of your hope, both in this place and as we go our separate ways. Amen.

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

Hymn	<i>"Open My Eyes, That I May See"</i>	#586 vs1
Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!		

Scriptures: Psalm 146: 1-2, 5-6

**Praise for God's Help**

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

<sup>5</sup> Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God,

<sup>6</sup> who made heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them;  
who keeps faith forever;

Hymn	<i>"For the Beauty of the Earth"</i>	#56 vs1
For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.		

Scriptures: Jeremiah 9:23-24

**23 Thus says the Lord: Do not let the wise boast in their wisdom; do not let the mighty boast in their might; do not let the wealthy boast in their wealth; 24 but let those who boast boast in this, that they understand and know me, that I am the Lord; I act with steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I delight, says the Lord.**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn	<i>"Be Thou My Vision"</i>	#595
<p>Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.</p> <p>Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won, thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.</p>	<p>Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always: thou and thou only, first in my heart, Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.</p> <p>Great God of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.</p>	

### Hymn Sing

Hymn	<i>"Because He Lives"</i>	#562 vs1
<p>God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus; He came to love, heal and forgive; He lived and died to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!</p> <p>Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!</p>		

Hymn	<i>"Amazing Grace"</i>	#546 vs1
<p>Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.</p>		

Hymn	<i>"Old Rugged Cross"</i>	#548 vs1
<p>On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame; and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.</p> <p>[Refrain:] So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.</p>		

Hymn	<i>"Dios Padres, Dios Hijo"</i>	#45 vs1
<p>Dios Padre, Dios Hijo, Dios Santo Espiritu: Gloria te damos oh Trino Dios! Trino Dios Amen</p>		

Hymn

*"God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"*

#725 vs1

God of the ages, whose almighty hand  
leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,  
our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Hymn

*"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"*

#705 vs1

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;  
his truth is marching on.

[Refrain:]

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

Hymn

*"Trust and Obey"*

#556 vs1

When we walk with the Lord  
in the light of his word,  
what a glory he sheds on our way!  
While we do his good will,  
he abides with us still,  
and with all who will trust and obey.

[Refrain:]

Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Hymn

*"It is Well with my Soul"*

#561 vs1

When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

[Refrain:]

It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul),  
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Hymn

*"Lord I Want to be a Christian"*

#589 vs1

Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart;  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.  
In-a my heart, in-a my heart,  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.

Hymn	<i>"How Great Thou Art"</i>	#33 vs1
<p>O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  thy power throughout the universe displayed.</p> <p>Refrain:  Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee;  how great thou art, how great thou art!  Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee;  how great thou art, how great thou art!</p>		
Hymn	<i>"Here I Am, Lord"</i>	#452 vs1
<p>I, the Lord of sea and sky  I have heard my people cry  All who dwell in dark and sin  My hand will save</p> <p>I, who made the stars of night  I will make their darkness bright  Who will bear my light to them?  Whom shall I send?</p> <p>Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  I have heard you calling in the night  I will go, Lord, if you lead me  I will hold your people in my heart</p>		
Hymn	<i>"Lord, Listen to Your Children Prayin"</i>	#305
<p>Lord, listen to your children praying,  Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  Lord, listen to your children praying,  send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.</p>		
<p><b>Pastoral Prayer</b></p>		
<p><b>The Lord's Prayer</b> <i>(In Unison)</i></p>		
<p>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.</p>		
<p><u>WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD</u></p>		
<p><b>Testimonial</b></p>		
Hymn	<i>"I Love to Tell the Story"</i>	#480 vs1
<p>I love to tell the story  of unseen things above,  of Jesus and his glory,  of Jesus and his love.  I love to tell the story  because I know 'tis true;  it satisfies my longings  as nothing else can do.</p>	<p>[Refrain:]  I love to tell the story,  'twill be my theme in glory,  to tell the old, old story  of Jesus and his love.</p>	

## 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** (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)

**We bring these gifts on behalf of those who hunger, those who seek freedom and justice, those who long to see, and all who have no hope. Help us to accomplish your purpose where we live, work and play. Amen.**

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

**\* Hymn**

*"They'll Know We Are Christians"*

**#494**

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;  
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.**

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

## Benediction

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**Pastor: Rev. Katie Jo Bielke  
Liturgist: Warren Stemme  
Usher Team: Phil Difani  
Technology: Steve Hawkinson  
Fellowship/Lockup: Carol Tindira**

## *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 **East Timor** this week

**11/17/24 Service**  
Liturgist: **Carolyn Golfin**  
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Carol Tindira**

**Totenfest**  
**11/24/24 Service**  
Liturgist: **Amanda Jones**  
Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Carol Tindira**  
Special Music: **Flautist**

**Hope; First Sunday of Advent**  
**12/01/24 Service**  
Liturgist: **Danny Mueller**  
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Philip Difani**  
Special Music: **Handbells**

## ... Looking Ahead November

Sun	11/10	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
<b>Mon</b>	<b>11/11</b>		<b>Veterans Day</b> (office closed)
		1:00 PM	Exec Council Meeting
<b>Wed</b>	<b>11/13</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Card Making in the fellowship hall</b> Join us, all are welcome
<b>Fri</b>	<b>11/15</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Biweekly Newsletter</b>
Sun	11/17	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Eswatini
Mon	11/18	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
<b>Tue</b>	<b>11/19</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Cookies with Santa Prepwork</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>11/20</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Book Group "The Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles.</b>
Thu	11/21	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
		<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Table Fellowship at Olive Garden</b> (please RSVP)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>11/24</b>	<b>9:20 AM</b>	<b>Loaves &amp; Fishes</b>
		<b>9:45 AM</b>	<b>ECH Donations Due</b> Take ornaments from the tree in the Narthex
		<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Totenfest &amp; Global Ministries Pray for Korea</b>
Sun	11/24	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
<b>Sun</b>	<b>11/24</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Combined Thanksgiving Dinner</b> (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)



RSVP TABLE FELLOWSHIP



Thanksgiving Dinner RSVP



**ECH Shopping List**



online giving



**St. John's 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

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[www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org](http://www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org)

## *... Looking Ahead December*

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

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

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





Money is a topic which creates discomfort for many, with most not knowing how to ask for what is needed or what is owed. If our conversations about money are challenging, then finding our way to God-talk on the subject could be even more challenging.

Such a theology starts with how we understand God present and with us in our lives and in the world around us. The prophet Malachi puts before us a theology of money that says God will bless what is given. The blessing is on the giver and on what is given. The tithe in this case is the expectation of giving. God is present blessing what is given back to God for use in the house of God. Malachi resonates an expectation one will give back to God regularly and in line with the expectations of the religious order of his day. This is one way to think about money and how we give. There are others.

A theology of money continues with a clear-eyed understanding of how much money we have. If I am giving a portion of what I have, then I should be knowledgeable about what my financial obligations are, including my desire to give in supporting the mission and ministries of the church. Whether investing, spending, or giving we should pay attention to what we have, in order to give from what we have whether a tenth, or another fraction, or amount of our choosing. When we give value and meaning to what we have, we give from abundance rather than from scarcity, from knowledge rather than fear.