

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship

May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday after Easter

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

"Blessed Assurance"

Crosby

*The Call to Worship

We come together this day, drawn by the light of God's love!

In God's kingdom, darkness and despair are vanquished.

In God's realm, peace and hope reign!

Let all the people praise God with their music and their voices!

Let all the people praise God with their deeds of loving-kindness!

Praise be to God. AMEN!

* Hymn

"We Gather Together"

#276

We gather together to ask for God's blessing,
to turn to a wisdom surpassing our own
the pow'rs that oppress us now cease to distress us.
O God, be present with us, and make your will known.

Beside us to guide us, O God, we perceive you
ordaining, maintaining the power of life
Yes, yours be the glory; let all tell the story
Our God, be ever with us, in gladness and strife.

May all sing your praises, Redeemer triumphant,
defend us, befriend us, whatever may be.
May your congregation escape tribulation.
Your name be praised forever, O God make us free!

*Gathering Prayer *(In Unison)*

O God, make your home with us and teach us to love. Send your Spirit to bring hope and peace. Expand our capacity to live with differences and to respect the beliefs of others. Move us to praise and rejoicing, and lift from us the troubles that weigh us down. Shine your light on us to show us your way. Amen.

Children's Time

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Proverbs 20:5 & Exodus 12:14,24-28

Proverbs 20:5

Purpose comes from the deep waters of the heart; those with understanding can draw it out.

Exodus 12:14,24-28

¹⁴ "This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

24 You shall observe this as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. 25 When you come to the land that the Lord will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. 26 And when your children ask you, 'What does this observance mean to you?' 27 you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.' " And the people bowed down and worshiped.

28 The Israelites went and did just as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron; so they did.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

The Message*** Hymn***"This Is a Time to Remember"*

This is a time to remember
The greatness of the Lord
He has so faithfully led us
As promised in His Word
He has so bountifully given
His grace like freshening rain
He has so lovingly pardoned
And made us whole again

This is a time to remember
The glories that have been
This is a time to press onward
To vistas yet unseen
For Christ is alive in His people
He meets us face to face
He grants us the power of His Spirit
To serve Him in this place

This is a time to remember
The church is His not ours
This is a time to surrender ourselves
Our wealth our powers
This is a time to be servants
To give ourselves away
Building the church of the future
Until the coming day

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

"Be Thou My Vision"

Nystrom

***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)

Still speaking God, we are witnesses to who Jesus is. We experience a grace that renews and enlivens us. Bless our offerings so others can be witnesses to the ways we live into your word, so that our community may be refreshed and restored. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

***Hymn**

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

#475 1-3,5

**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**

**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.**

Benediction

**The rose on the altar this Sunday is given to the Glory of God
in celebration of the birth of Amelia Rose**

7 pounds 15 oz

19 3/4 inches long

**Grandchild of Kevin and Kathy Rizzo, nephew of Matthew & Emily Rizzo,
and daughter of Sarah and Juan**

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Pastor: Rev. Katie Jo Bielke

Director of Music: Ruth Notch

Liturgist: Logan Potts

Usher Team: Larry Sontag

Technology: Steve Hawkinson

Fellowship/Lockup: Barb Ackerman

Vocalist: Emma Gibson

Announcements

We pray for: **Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener,
Cherie Messina, Rev. Peter Muschinske, Anita Paz and Gloria Vaclavik.**

Please let us know your prayer concerns. Private prayer concerns speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke

Global Ministries requests that we pray for the **Philippines** this week

... Looking Ahead

Mon	5/26		Memorial Day (office closed)
Tue	5/27	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night rsvp sign up in Narthex
Fri	5/30		Summer Office Hours Begin
Sun	6/1	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	6/1	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	6/1	4:30 PM	Ronald McDonald House
Tue	6/3	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter
Wed	6/4		Muny RSVPs for the show on the 19th need to be in.
Wed	6/4	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Fri	6/6	11:00 AM	Miss Augusta
Sun	6/8	10:00 AM	Strengthen the Church Offering
Sun	6/8	11:00 AM	Christian Education Mtg
Sun	6/8	11:30 AM	St. John's Block Party (please rsvp and feel free to bring a dish)
Mon	6/9	1:00 PM	Exec Council Mtg
Mon	6/16	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	6/17	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter subscribe by email StJohnsUccOnOlive@gmail.com

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

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



We need your help on **Sunday, June 1st** to assist with preparing a meal for the **Ronald McDonald House** located in **Creve Coeur**.
Times are from **4:30 pm – 7:30 pm**. If you are interested in helping, please sign up on the sign up sheet in the back of church and Monica Hart will reach out.
If you would like to make a **donation** that would be great too!

St. John's ECC has the following **openings** for the 2025/2026 school year

Rainbow Teacher: 4-5 year olds 8:30-noon M-F

Lunch Bunch Teachers: 11:30-3:00

Substitute Teachers

If interested, please inquire at stjohnsecc@gmail.com or call **636-530-7529**



online giving



News & Events

Join us on Sundays

9:00 a.m. - **Fellowship** with coffee and donuts

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



Would you like to **support St. John's Early Childhood Center**? The **Marilyn Norton Scholarship Fund** was established to honor SJECC's founding director, Marilyn Norton, and it is used to provide assistance to families in need with help in covering the cost of preschool tuition. The Fund is currently under \$500 which limits the Board's ability to provide tuition assistance. If you would **like to make a donation** to the Fund, please **contact Laura Hewgley or John Bartelt**. Gifts can be made **payable to SJECC** and please **note** they are for the **Marilyn Norton Scholarship Fund**.

06/01/25 Service

Liturgist: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Warren Stemme**
 Special Music: **piano duet**
 ComServ: **Donna Switzer & Mary Polt**

06/08/25 Service

Liturgist: **Susie Pisoni**
 Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Warren Stemme**
 Special Music: **Flautist**

06/15/25 Service

Liturgist: **Craig Bielke**
 Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Warren Stemme**
 Special Music: **choir, piano/organ duet**

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

Miss Augusta June 6th



6/8 Strengthen the Church



Offering

6/8 St. John's Block Party



Table Fellowship



VBS 7/21 – 7/25 Volunteer



VBS July 21 – 25, 2025



Registration

Altar Flowers



Women's Game Night



Subscribe Newsletter



Congratulations Graduates



Sara Jacober, daughter of **Jeff and Marilyn Jacober** and granddaughter of **Rich and Ellen Brandon**, earned her medical degree from the University of Missouri at Kansas City on May 17th. A graduate of Marquette High School, she completed her undergraduate studies at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. Sara will begin her ophthalmology residency at the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City.



Sophie Louis Bly, granddaughter of **Leitha Macalady**, is graduating from the University of Maryland with a major in Hearing and Speech Sciences and a minor in Human Development. Following graduation, she will attend Missouri State to pursue a Doctorate of Audiology in the School of Health Professions.



Hayden Hewgley, son of **Kevin and Laura Hewgley**, brother of **Maddie Hewgley**, and grandson of **Beverly Stemme Behan**, is graduating from Whitfield School and will attend Butler University to study Actuarial Science and Risk Management and Insurance. During his time at Whitfield, he participated in cross country, wrestling, and golf, and was a multi-year member of the All-District Honors Choir. Hayden recently presented his documentary about power structures at Auschwitz-Birkenau, created for his Human Rights and Genocide class, at the St. Louis Holocaust Museum. He is currently completing his Capstone Project on cultural learning through food and food preparation. You might ask him to make you some tamales!

Logan Potts, the son of **Lynn and Charlie Potts**, will graduate from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration-Marketing. During his time at Mizzou, he was instrumental in re-establishing the Kappa Alpha Order social fraternity, holding leadership positions such as Secretary, Philanthropy Chairman, and Correspondence Officer. He also belonged to the Pi Sigma Epsilon business fraternity, where he served as Fundraising and Outreach Chair. Logan recently began working for a successful State Farm agency in West County and holds Missouri licenses for home, auto, life, and health insurance sales.

Matthew Bizer, grandson of **Karen and Dan Rocchio**, earned his PhD in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Connecticut on May 12th. His dissertation focused on tracking and evaluating climate change adaptation in wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. Utilizing novel research methods, he identified new practical insights regarding transformational and incremental changes within utilities and government. Matthew intends to continue this research in New England or through remote work.



Joshua Hawkinson son of **Kathy and Steve Hawkinson**, graduated in December, 2024 from Grand Canyon University with a BA in Advertising and Graphic Design. He currently resides in Hillsboro, Oregon where he is seeking full-time employment opportunities.