

# St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship April 14, 2024

*Third Sunday of Easter*

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

## Ringling of the Chimes

### Prayer in Preparation

O God, as we worship here this morning, help us to be aware of your loving presence, to listen to your voice and to heed your guidance, so that we may go forth to faithfully serve in Jesus' name. Amen.

### Welcome and Announcements

*(Please note the \* indicates when you should stand.)*

### \*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you

**And also with you**

### Prelude

*"Because He Lives"*

Gaither arr. Whitworth

### \*The Call to Worship Psalm 66

With all the heavenly host, we gather at the throne of God.

**Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.**

Worthy is the Lamb of God to receive power and wisdom and might.

**Worthy is the Lamb of God to receive honor and glory and blessing.**

### \* Hymn

*"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"*

#91

**All hail the power of Jesus' name!**

**Let angels prostrate fall;**

**bring forth the royal diadem,**

**and crown him Lord of all;**

**bring forth the royal diadem,**

**and crown him Lord of all.**

**Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,**

**ye ransomed of the fall,**

**hail him who saves you by his grace,**

**and crown him Lord of all;**

**hail him who saves you by his grace,**

**and crown him Lord of all.**

**O Sinners, who can ne'er forget  
the wormwood and the gall,  
go spread your trophies at his feet,  
and crown him Lord of all;  
go spread your trophies at his feet,  
and crown him Lord of all**

**Let every kindred, every tribe,  
on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe,  
and crown him Lord of all;  
to him all majesty ascribe,  
and crown him Lord of all.**

**O that with yonder sacred throng  
we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
and crown him Lord of all;  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
and crown him Lord of all.**

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

**Creating and sustaining God, we praise and worship you as we unite in prayer and thanksgiving for your resurrected Son. The prophet Isaiah proclaimed your plan to create a new heaven and a new earth. As we worship you, this day, enable us to catch a vision of this new world. May we commit ourselves to it's wonder and the glory of your Son, who rules forever. Amen.**

**Time for the Child in us All**

**Rev. Dr. Rich Brandon**

**Special Music**

*"Rejoice, The Lord is King"*

**Darwall arr. Pethal**

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Scriptures: Acts 3:1-12**

**Peter Heals a Crippled Beggar**

3 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. 2 And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. 3 When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. 4 Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." 5 And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. 6 Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." 7 And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. 8 Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. 9 All the people saw him walking and praising God, 10 and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had happened to him.

**Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico**

11 While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished. 12 When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "Fellow Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

**"Following the Dream"**

**\* Hymn**

*"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"*

**#602**

**O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
tell me thy secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**

**Teach me thy patience; still with thee  
in closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong.**

**Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.**

**In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.**

**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**

*"Nothing but Blood of Jesus"*

**Lowry arr. Tornquist**

**\*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)*

**God of grace, we bring our offerings to continue the work of your reign upon earth. Our hope is for a new world, where justice will prevail for all. Bless these gifts and bless us as we work for peace and healing among all people. Amen.**

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

**\* Hymn**

*"Lead on, O cloud of Presence"*

**#633**

**Lead on, O cloud of Presence,  
the exodus is come,  
in wilderness and desert  
our tribe shall make its home.**

**Our bondage left behind us,  
new hopes within us grow.  
We seek the land of promise  
where milk and honey flow.**

**Lead on, O fiery pillar,  
we follow yet with fears,  
but we shall come rejoicing  
though joy be born of tears.**

**We are not lost though wand'ring  
for by your light we come,  
and we are still God's people.  
The journey is our home.**

**Lead on, O God of freedom,  
and guide us on our way,  
and help us trust the promise  
through struggle and delay.**

**We pray our sons and daughters  
may journey to that land  
where justice dwells with mercy  
and love is law's demand**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

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**Join us downstairs for snacks and a showing of "Common Ground". The film centers around regenerating the world's soils to stabilize the Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies.**

Preaching: **Rev. Dr. Richard Brandon**

Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**

Liturgist: **Susie Pisoni**

Usher Team: **Phil Difani**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellow & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**

Children's Time: **Rev. Brandon**

Song leaders: **Kathy & Mike Scherr**

Choir: **Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Jeanne Buchner, Don Duperett, Mary Jane Duperett, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Piano, Helen Stortz, Evelyn Weber.**

Piano/Organ Duet: **Ellen Brandon/Ruth Notch**

Piano Solo: **Ellen Brandon**

## *Announcements*

**Global Ministries** requests that we pray with **Puerto Rico** this week

We pray for **June Evers, Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina, Kathy Scherr, Corryne Sontag, Larry Sontag, Barbara Tretter and Gloria Vaclavik**

Please let us know your prayer concerns

"I want to thank everyone for including me in your thoughts and prayers. Surgery was very much a success and I am making great progress in my recovery, thanks to you all." Richard Camp

### **04/21/24 Service**

Liturgist: **Carolyn Golfin**

Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellow & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**

Children's Time: **Open**

Special Music: **Flautist**

### **04/28/24 Service**

Liturgist: **Todd Armstrong**

Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellow & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**

Children's Time: **Rev. Katie Jo**

Special Music: **Trumpet**

### **05/05/24 Service**

Liturgist: **x**

Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellow & Lockup: **Nora Amato**

Children's Time: **Rev. Katie Jo**

## **NAMETAGS**

With the arrival of **Pastor Katie Jo** and her first service on March 10, we are reminding everyone to try and remember **to wear your nametag** at church! Orders due **TODAY April 14.**

## *... Looking Ahead*

<b>4/14</b>		<b>Name Tag order forms due.</b>
<b>4/15</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
<b>4/17</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Donald Danforth Plant Science Center Tour</b>
<b>4/18</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>ECC Art Show</b>
<b>4/19</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Biweekly Newsletter (<i>subscribe</i>)</b>
<b>4/21</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Earth Day Movie following services</b>
<b>4/21</b>		<b>Global Ministries Pray for Lebanon/Syria</b>
<b>4/22</b>		<b>Earth Day</b>
<b>4/23</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Bunko Women's Fellowship</b>
<b>4/25</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Table Fellowship at Addie's Thai House 14156 Olive Blvd</b>
<b>4/28</b>	<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>Loaves &amp; Fishes</b>
<b>4/28</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Mission Meeting</b>
<b>4/28</b>		<b>Global Ministries Pray for Korea</b>
<b>4/29</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Container Gardening Class</b>
<b>5/3</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Biweekly Newsletter (<i>subscribe</i>)</b>
<b>5/3</b>	<b>5 PM</b>	<b>Wine Tasting (<i>RSVP to Lynn Potts date changed</i>)</b>
<b>5/5</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>



RSVP Container Gardening Class

5/5 11:00 AM Senior Ministry Meeting  
 5/5 Global Ministries Pray for Republic of Congo  
 5/6 1:30 PM Personnel Committee Meeting zoom  
 5/4 20th Annual Tab Top Pandemonium  
 5/5 10:00 AM Communion Sunday  
 5/5 11:00 AM Senior Ministry Meeting  
 5/5 Global Ministries Pray for Republic of Congo  
 5/6 1:30 PM Personnel Committee Meeting zoom  
 5/9 Ascension Day  
 5/9 & 10 ECC Mothers Day Parties  
 5/12 Global Ministries Pray for Palestine  
 5/13 4:30 PM Christian Education Committee  
 5/14,15,15 ECC Last Day

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

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

**April 29<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM Container Gardening Class**

Come hear Ms. Zelle, a volunteer from the MO department of conservation in the community room. The **presentation** will be on container gardening. How to **make** and **maintain** both **inside** and **outside** container gardens. **All are welcome.**



**ECC Spring Fundraiser  
going on Now until April 29th**



**Graduation Celebration!** Help us celebrate all of the graduations & accomplishments of our students. If someone in your family graduated this year from **high school, college, trade school, graduate school, or any accomplishment** you want to brag about—send us a **paragraph** with where they are graduating from, what their post-graduation plans are, and a short list of accomplishments they achieved during the education (if you like). Send the information to the church office at [stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com) by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.

**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TAB TOP PANDEMONIUM**

**Saturday, May 4, Park Avenue Ronald McDonald House 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.**

We already collect aluminum tabs for RMH, but you can also recycle keys and electronic devices. RMH turns these into a monetary donation. More information is available at [rmhcstl.com/tabtop](http://rmhcstl.com/tabtop).

**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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