

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship April 5, 2026
Easter Sunday

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	"Thine is the Glory"	Handel arr. Childers
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*The Call to Worship

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

God is alive...

New birth is given.

Hope is alive...

A new age is dawning.

Joy is alive...

Redemption is here.

Love is alive...

Death cannot harm us.

We are alive...

New life is within us.

The church is alive...

God's spirit is within us. Amen.

* Hymn	"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"	#216
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**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation join to say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious king; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

* Gathering Prayer *(In Unison)*

O God, we rejoice in Your love for us, and in the life we have been given through the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Open our eyes to recognize Your presence here among us;

open our hearts to the love that You have for us;

open our minds to the truth You would reveal to us.

All glory and praise to You, God, now and forevermore. Amen.

"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: Matthew 28:1-10

The Resurrection of Jesus

28 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

*** Hymn**

"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

#222

**Christ is risen! Shout hosanna!
 Celebrate this day of days!
 Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
 all creation is amazed.
 In the desert all-surrounding,
 see, a spreading tree has grown.
 Healing leaves of grace abounding
 bring a taste of love unknown.
 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
 from the caverns of despair.
 Walk with gladness in the morning.
 See what love can do and dare.
 Drink the wine of resurrection,
 not a servant, but a friend.
 Jesus is our strong companion.
 Joy and peace shall never end.**

**Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
 nevermore shall be the same.
 Break the bread of new creation
 where the world is still in pain.
 Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
 "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
 God the first and last is with us.
 Sing Hosanna everyone!**

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 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)*

We know, O God, that the good news of the resurrection is not to be kept a secret, hidden away as the private promise to a few. Rather, it is to be universal communication of hope and joy to all people; and to that worldwide proclamation we dedicate our lives and gifts today. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation & Story

Blessing the Elements

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(In Unison)*

O God, Jesus shared our joy and sorrow, he healed the sick, befriended sinners, and showed us the way to everlasting life. Even having taken up his cross and dying that we might live, he overcame death and is risen in power. He is with us still, victorious over every power that can hurt or divide us. Thank you for sending Jesus who guided us to your love and way and for his continued presence with us around the tables we gather at. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

#638

In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
in our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

Benediction

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**

Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**

Liturgist: **Jane Lindberg**

Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Warren Stemme**

Handbells: **Norma Armstrong, Pastor Katie Jo Bielke, Jan Boehm, Lee Difani, Barb Nichols,
Scott Nichols, Chris Norton, Ruth Notch, Jim Pisoni**

Please feel free to join us after service for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Easter Lilies given to the Glory of God

In celebration of Amelia Rose Mendoza Rizzo. Given by Kevin & Kathy Rizzo.

In celebration of children, grandchildren & great grandchildren.

Given by Rev Carleton & Marilyn Norton.

In celebration of family & friends. Given by Norma & Todd Armstrong.

In celebration of family. Given by Dean & Jean Goldenstein.

In celebration of Jackson Tippin. Given by Phyllis Freiberger.

In celebration of John, Jennifer & Raymond. Given by Jan Boehm.

In celebration of Kim Kohl Erickson. Given by Mel & Ruth Kohl.

In celebration of Kipp Kohl. Given by Mel & Ruth Kohl.

In celebration of Korey Kohl. Given by Mel & Ruth Kohl.

In celebration of Maggie & Millie Freiberger. Given by Phyllis Freiberger.

In celebration of my family & friends. Given by Charles & Nora Amato.

In celebration of St. John's Church, Pastor & Congregation.

Given by Rev Carleton & Marilyn Norton.

In honor of all my beloved family. Given by Phyllis Freiberger.

In honor of the Tobiasz family. Given by the Warren Stemme family.

In memory of Dorothy & Roy Steiner. Given by Jan Boehm.

In memory of George & Lynn Hudson. Given by Larry & Angela Sontag.

In memory of Irene & Roy Aldrich. Given by Lee & Phil Difani.

In memory of Leonard J. and LaVerne Haas.

Given by Charles & Marjorie Neubert.

In memory of loved ones. Given by Dean & Jean Goldenstein.

In memory of Michael Hart. Given by Mr. & Mrs. Brian Spahr.

In memory of my husband, Harold Freiberger. Given by Phyllis Freiberger.

In memory of my parents. Given by Barb Ackerman.

In memory of our parents; Wesley & Arland Stemme.

Given by the Warren Stemme family.

In memory of parents & loved ones. Given by Rev Carleton & Marilyn Norton.

In memory of Pearl & George Hill. Given by Jan Boehm.

In memory of Phil Difani Sr.. Given by Lee & Phil Difani.

In memory of Raymond & Ruth Sontag. Given by Larry & Angela Sontag.

In memory of Richard, Aniela & Eric. Given by Mary Polt.

Please feel free to take your lilies home after the service.

Announcements

**Tyler Ackerman, Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Andy Kissel,
Danny Mueller, Anita Paz, Lindsey Spahr and Melanie Spangler.**

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

... Looking Ahead






Sun	04/05/26	11:00 AM	Easter Sunday Easter Egg Hunt at Church
Fri	04/17/26		Bimonthly Newsletter
Mon	04/20/26	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	04/21/26	10:00 AM	Book Club "South of Broad" by Pat Conroy
Thu	04/23/26	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship
Sat	04/25/26	8:00 AM	GHSP Build volunteer by signing up in the rear of the sanctuary
Sun	04/26/26	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	04/26/26	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	04/26/26	2:00 APM	Sr Min Holocaust Museum Tour (rsvp)
Tue	04/28/26	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night

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

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

<p style="text-align: center;">04/12/26 Service Liturgist: Helen Stortz Usher Team: John Bartelt Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Warren Stemme Special Music: Vocalist</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">04/19/26 Service Liturgist: Lynn Potts Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Warren Stemme Special Music: Flautist</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">04/26/26 Service Liturgist: Ellen Brandon Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Warren Stemme Special Music: Choir</p>
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Sign up for the following fun activities: Using your phone and the QR code

 Thu, 4/23 5:30 pm Table Fellowship	 Sat, 04/25, 9 AM GHSP Build	 Sun, 4/26/26 2 PM Holocaust Museum Tour
 Tue, 4/28 6:30 PM Women's Game Night		 Casserole Donation Put 'casserole' in the NOTES

We are livestreaming Sunday morning services. You can join us live or watch the YouTube video later.

<p>Facebook: livestream:</p> 	<p>YouTube: video here:</p> 	<p>Website: info here:</p> 	<p>Offering</p> 
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<p style="text-align: center;">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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15370 Olive Blvd. Chesterfield MO 63017 (636) 532-0540 stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com www.stjohnsucchesterfield.org</p>
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April 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1  6 pm Lenten Study	11 am Sr 2 Min Meeting  6 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship 	 Good Friday 6 pm Service 	
5 Easter Sunday 	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13  1 pm Ex Cncl Mtg	14	15	16 ECC Evening of the Arts 	17 	18
19	20  6 pm Council Mtg	21 	22	23  Table Fellowship	24	25 GHSP Build 
26 Holocaust Museum  Senior Ministry  11 am Mission mtg	27  9:15 am	28	29	30	31	