

# St. John's United Church of Christ

**10 A.M. Worship      March 9, 2025**

*First 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

*"On Eagles Wings"*

**Joncas arr. Larson**

## \*The Call to Worship

Are you restless and unsettled? This place is for you.

**Let us worship God!**

Are you hungry for love and hope? This place is for you.

**Let us worship God!**

Are you searching for direction? This place is for you.

**Let us worship God!**

Do you have love to share? This place is for you.

**Let us worship God together!**

## \* Hymn

*"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"*

**#180**

Lord, who throughout these forty days  
for us did fast and pray,  
teach us with you to mourn our sins  
and close by you to stay.

And thro' these days of penitence,  
and thro' your passiontide,  
forevermore, in life and death,  
O Christ, with us abide.

As you with Satan did contend,  
and did the victory win,  
O give us strength in you to fight,  
in you to conquer sin.

Abide with us, that through this life  
of doubts and hope and pain,  
an Easter of unending joy  
we may at last attain!

## \*Call to Confession

## \*Prayer of Confession

We confess, Lord, that we have sometimes fallen prey to the temptations our Lord rejected. Unlike the Savior who refused to turn stones into bread, we have misused our powers and positions for personal advantage. Unlike the Savior who refused to leap from the pinnacle of the temple, we have gotten ourselves into precarious situations, then expected God to miraculously save us. Unlike the Savior who refused to bow to Satan, we have compromised our standards in order to make financial gains. May we, like the Christ, recognize temptation for what it is, and reject its subtle attempt to control us. Amen.

### **\*Words of Grace**

You are God's beloved child. You are important to God's story, and God needs you. You are forgiven and loved. Go now, continue to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. Forgive as you are forgiven, love as you are loved, and know that God is with you, always. Amen.

**Time for the Child in us All**

**Pastor Katie Jo**

*"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.**

**Special Music**

*"Sicilienne"*

**x**

### **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Scriptures: Luke 4:1-13

#### **The Testing of Jesus**

**4** Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.' "

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,  
'He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,'

<sup>11</sup> and

'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### **Message**

Take time to be holy,  
speak oft with thy Lord;  
abide in him always,  
and feed on his word.  
Make friends of God's children,  
help those who are weak,  
forgetting in nothing  
God's blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy,  
the world rushes on;  
spend much time in secret  
with Jesus alone.  
By looking to Jesus,  
like him thou shalt be;  
thy friends in thy conduct  
his likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy,  
let him be thy guide,  
and run not before him,  
whatever betide;  
in joy or in sorrow,  
still follow the Lord,  
and, looking to Jesus,  
still trust in his word.

Take time to be holy,  
be calm in thy soul,  
each thought and each motive  
beneath his control;  
thus led by his spirit  
to fountains of love,  
thou soon shalt be fitted  
for service above.

**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***"My Jesus, I Love Thee"***Gordon arr. Campbell****\*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)*

Dear God, use these gifts, and our lives, to feed and nourish, spreading your love where it is most needed. Amen.

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

**\*Hymn**

*"Hope of the World"*

**#538 vs 1-4**

Hope of the world, O Christ of great compassion:  
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;  
save us, your people, from consuming passion,  
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.

Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,  
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life:  
still let your Spirit unto us be given  
to heal earth's wounds and end our bitter strife.

Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,  
showing to wandering souls the path of light:  
walk now beside us lest the tempting byways  
lure us away from you to endless night.

Hope of the world, who by your cross did save us  
from death and dark despair, from sin and guilt:  
we render back the love your mercy gave us;  
take now our lives and use them as you will.

### **Benediction**

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**

Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**

Liturgist: **Lynn Potts**

Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Phil Difani**

Violin: **Hanna Frey**

## *Announcements*

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

We pray for

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

Please let us know your prayer concerns.

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

### **03/16/25 Service**

Liturgist: **Daniel Dolan**

Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Phil Difani**

Special Music: **Chancel Choir**

### **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**

## ... Looking Ahead

|     |      |          |                                                          |
|-----|------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun | 3/9  | 11:00 AM | Movie "The Greatest Showman" join us.                    |
| Sun | 3/9  | 5:00 PM  | Newsletter Articles Due EOD                              |
| Mon | 3/10 | 10:00 AM | Lenten Study join us.                                    |
| Sat | 3/15 | 8:00 AM  | Habitat build date (volunteer)                           |
| 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.                                    |

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

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

Habitat Build 3/15



RSVP

Lenten Study



Monday 10 AM

Women's Game  
Night



3/25 RSVP

Table  
Fellowship



3/27 RSVP

Speaker, Dr.  
Curtis Cain  
Rockwood  
Schools  
Superintendent

