

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship August 13, 2023

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

WE GET READY FOR THE WORD

Prayer of Preparation

We seek your presence, holy God. Break through all our pretences that we might sense the vibrant energy embracing the whole universe, yet know ourselves to be personally loved. How amazing are all the miracles of life that surround us! We praise you. We thank you. We bow in awe before you. In this time of worship, we pray that our faith may be enlivened, our trust deepened, and our commitment expanded to meet the challenges of our times. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

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

* Passing of the Peace

"Peace be with you!"

Prelude

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

arr. Curnow

*Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to God who lifts us up.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: Since the dawn of creation, you, Oh God, have lifted humanity from the dust of the earth to life and fullness.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: Through Jesus you lifted Peter from the waters of Galilee to a ministry of inviting others to leave the comfort of their boats and walk faithfully with you.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: When he had been crucified, dead and buried, you lifted Jesus from the grave to a resurrected life. Through Christ you extend that gift to all.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: With the sound of the rush of a mighty wind you lifted the first apostles from fear and despair to boldly proclaim a message of hope and build a community of purpose.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: You have lifted us through the waters of baptism to new life in Christ and through us you extend the invitation of life, community and purpose to others.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: You have given us ways to worship together and ways to continue to support each other.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: When we struggle, your handiwork may be eclipsed by the actions of others and yet you are present to lift us to new ways of living.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!

One: And so, with all others you have lifted up, in every time and place, we remember the unending hymn of praise.

All: Sing praise to God; tell of all God's wonderful works!"

Hymn"10,000 Reasons"*

Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I worship Your holy name

The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I worship Your holy name

You're rich in love,
And You're slow to anger
Your name is great
And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I worship Your holy name
Yes I worship Your holy name

***Opening Prayer**

One: God of Presence, as you walked upon the water to meet the disciples, meet us in the midst of the storms in our lives.

All: **God of Renewal, as you lifted Peter from the water, lift us from despair to hope, from distraction to focus, from death to life.**

One: God of the Journey, direct us in your way, work out your purpose in and through our lives.

All: **We pray in the name of Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Confession

Time for personal reflection and confession.

Assurance of Pardon

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Time for the Child in us All

Pastor Lisa

Special Music

"If Thou Be Near"

Bach

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

Hymn"Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult"***#337** verses 1, 2, 3

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
of our life's wild restless sea,
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,
saying, "Christian, follow me";

Long ago apostles heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home, and toil, and kindred,
leaving all for his dear sake.

Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store;
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."

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.

*** Hymn***"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"***#305**

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.

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.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** Prayer of Dedication** (*In Unison*)

Loving God, we believe that you have saved us, you are saving us, and you will save us. We offer to you our whole lives as a living sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Use us; multiply us and the gifts we offer, in person, by mail, or online, to extend the invitation of life, community to everyone we meet. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE*** Hymn***"God Speak to Me That I May Speak"***#531** in New Century Hymnal

God, speak to me, that I may speak
in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let me seek
your erring children lost and lone.

O fill me with your fullness, God,
your overflowing love to know;
In glowing word and kindling thought,
your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, God, use even me
just as you will, and when, and where,
until your blessed face I see,
your rest, your joy, your glory share.

Benediction

Postlude

"Worlds Apart"

Gulino

Preaching: **Pastor Lisa Hart**
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Merilee Dauster**
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
Technology Team: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Ken Ruff**
Song leaders: **Kathy & Mike Scherr**
Trombonist: **Joshua Adams**

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Announcements

We pray for **June Evers, Elizabeth Hart, Bill Lubbin, Ellen Meier, Marilyn Norton, Jeannie Rucker, Barbara Tretter, and Paul Van Driest.**
Please let us know your prayer concerns

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

08/20/23 Service

Liturgist: **Carol Tindira**
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Ken Ruff**

08/27/23 Service

Liturgist: **Daniel Dolan**
Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Ken Ruff**

A Look Ahead

8/13	11 AM	Men's Group Brainstorming Session
8/14	4:30 PM	Christian Education Committee
8/20		Global Ministries pray for Syria
8/20	10 AM	Hymn Sing
8/20	10 AM	No Sunday School
8/21	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
8/22	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
8/26	12:00 PM	Sharefest Drive Information
8/27	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
8/27	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting (<i>in library</i>)
8/27	10 AM	No Sunday School
8/28	6:00 PM	Visioning Committee
8/29	9:00 AM	ECC Staff Meeting
8/31 & 9/1	9:30 AM	ECC Visit Day
9/2	12:00 PM	Sharefest Drive MO Food Box
9/3	10 AM	Communion Sunday
9/3	11 AM	Senior Ministry meeting (<i>in library</i>)
9/3	10 AM	No Sunday School
9/4	8:00 AM	Labor Day (office closed)
9/5	9:00 AM	ECC Begins
9/9	12:00 PM	Sharefest Drive MO Personal Hygiene
9/10	10:00 AM	Rally Day

more at <https://www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org/fellowship> Please check your News Notes/Website for specific information around upcoming activities

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

St. John's United Church of Christ

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