

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of 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

"Come, Christians Join to Sing"

arr. Larson

*The Call to Worship

The Risen One has come alongside us on our journey from the empty tomb.

He speaks to us with love and encouragement the word that frees us from our sorrows.

A guest among us, he becomes the Host.

He makes himself known still today in the breaking of bread.

Let us celebrate the promise of life, for Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

* Hymn

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

586

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

* Gathering Prayer *(In Unison)*

Life-giving God, as we continue to celebrate the resurrection of Christ, we pray that we may be bound together in Christian love and that our faith and fellowship may be a witness through which your spirit will bring others into your church. We humbly thank you for your many blessings you have given us. We ask that we may learn how to truly be Easter people and always remember that we are celebrating resurrection day every day. 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.**

Special Music

"You Are My King"

Foote arr. Larson

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**Scriptures: Luke 24:13-35****The Walk to Emmaus**

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.**Message**

*** Hymn**

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

627

I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
O, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
in my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
O, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
O, I want Jesus to walk with me.

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

"Folk Song"

arr. McTee

***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*)

With hearts of praise, O Lord, we dedicate to you these gifts as tokens of our lives and work. Use them, as you use us, to the fulfilling of your purposes for creation, that we might give glory to you not only in the hearing, but in the doing of your word. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** Hymn**

"In the Garden"

#227

I come to the garden alone,
while the dew is still on the roses;
and the voice I hear falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.

Refrain:

**And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own,
and the joy we share, as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.**

He speaks, and the sound of his voice,
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
and the melody that he gave to me
within my heart is ringing. [Refrain]

I'd stay in the garden with him
though the night around me be falling,
but he bids me go; through the voice of woe
his voice to me is calling. [Refrain]

Benediction

Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
 Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**
 Liturgist: **Ellen Brandon**
 Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Warren Stemme**
 Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**

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Announcements

Please pray for
Tyler Ackerman, Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener
Danny Mueller, Anita Paz, Lindsey Spahr, Melanie Spangler and Michelle Unruh.
 Please let us know your prayer concerns. Private prayer concerns speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke.

Thank you for all your prayers for **Andy Kissel**.
 He is being taken off the prayer list as he is doing great.

<p style="text-align: center;">04/26/26 Service Liturgist: Lynn Potts Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Warren Stemme Special Music: Choir & Duet</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">05/03/26 Service Liturgist: Laura Ayers Usher Team: Jim Pisoni Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Barb Ackerman Special Music: Piano Duet</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">05/10/26 Service Liturgist: Mike Kelly Usher Team: Larry Sontag Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Barb Ackerman Special Music: Handbells</p>
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... Looking Ahead

Mon	4/20	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	4/21	10:00 AM	Book Club "South of Broad" by Pat Conroy
Thu	4/23	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship at Oishi Sushi and Steakhouse
Sat	4/25	8:00 AM	GHSP Build volunteer by signing up at the rear of the sanctuary
Sun	4/26	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	4/26	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	4/26	2:00 PM	Sr Min Holocaust Museum Tour (Join Us)
Tue	4/28	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night (Join Us)
Sun	5/3	10:00 AM	Communion & Confirmation Sunday
Sun	5/3		Bimonthly Newsletter
Tue	5/5		Cinco de Mayo
Thu	5/7	10:00 AM	Sr Min Botanical Garden (Join Us)
Fri	5/8	8:00 AM	Volunteer at LifeWiseSTL
Wed	5/13		ECC last day of classes
Sun	5/17		Bimonthly Newsletter
Mon	5/18	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Sun	5/24	10:00 AM	Pentecost Sunday wear red
Sun	5/24	10:00 AM	Strengthen the Church Offering
Sun	5/24	4:00 PM	Ronald McDonald House volunteer
Mon	5/25		Memorial Day Office Closed

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

The parsonage is available for rent.

If interested, please contact KeyRenter St. Charles Property Management at (636) 707-2000, or the website at: www.keyrenterstcharles.com.

Address of the rental is:
15362 Olive Blvd., Chesterfield, MO 63017
Rental rate is \$2,700/month.



**Thank you to all that brought milk jugs.
We have reached our goal and no longer need any more.
You are a generous crew.**

Sign up for the following fun activities: Using your phone and the QR code

HOW TO SCAN A QR CODE

1. OPEN YOUR CAMERA
2. POINT IT AT THE QR CODE
3. TAP THE LINK THAT POPS UP



**Thu, 4/23 5:30 pm
Table Fellowship**



**Sat, 04/25, 9 AM
GHSP Build**



**Sun, 4/26 2 PM Holocaust
Museum Tour**



**Tue, 4/28 6:30 PM
Women's Game Night**



**Thu, 5/7 9:00 AM
Sr Min Botanical Garden ([Link](#))**



**Sun, 5/24 4:00 PM
Ronald McDonald House
([volunteer](#))**

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

Facebook: livestream:



YouTube: video here:



Website: info here:



Offering



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

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April 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
19	20  6 pm Council Mtg	21 	22	23  Table Fellowship	24	25 GHSP Build  GATEWAY HOUSING SERVICE PROJECT
26 Holocaust Museum  11 am Mission mtg	27  9:15 am	28 	29	30	31	

May 2026

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3 Communion & Confirmation Sunday 	4	5 CINCO de MAYO 	6	7 Botanical Garden 	8 LifeWise STL 8-11am 	9