

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship July 14, 2024

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ringling of the Chimes

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

"Come to the Music"

Martin

*The Call to Worship

We come here shouting, our voices lifted in praise.

We come here singing, our songs full of joy.

We come here dancing, our hearts rejoicing.

To the Holy One who is worthy, all praise and glory forevermore!

* Hymn

"Let All Things Now Living"

#717

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God our creator triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.
Till shadows have vanished all fearfulness banished
As forward we travel from light into Light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a Song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!"

*Gathering Prayer *(In Unison)*

Lord of the dance, creator of whirling winds and shimmering flames, move in us this day.
Breathe life into our songs of praise. Set our hearts ablaze to your word. May our worship
bring joy to you, Lord. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

Rev. Katie Jo Bielke

Special Music

"Grace"

arr. Hayes

A LITANY FOR RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Welcome

Our Covenant Together

We ask you now to join in mutual covenant with us and with the church universal in all times and places, by affirming the following:

Do you seek to grow in God's transforming love, as you follow in the way of Jesus?

New Member: I do.

Are you open to the movement of the Spirit in your life?

New Member: I am.

Will you join with us as a church, as we seek to follow God's direction in our midst? Will you participate in the life and mission of this community as we seek to share God's love and grace?

New Member: I will, with God's help.

Will you share regularly with us in the worship of God and offer your time and support for our ministries? Will you take the risk of sharing your gifts, as we share our gifts with you?

New Member: I will, with God's help.

Congregation Vows *(In Unison)*

We thank you for your desire to join this Body of Christ called St. John's UCC. We pledge to open our hearts to get to know you, to learn from you, and to learn with you as servants of Jesus Christ.

New Member Vows *(In Unison)*

We thank you for your gracious welcome, and we also pledge to open our hearts as we get to know you, learn from you, and learn with you as servants of Jesus Christ.

Unison Blessing Prayer *(In Unison)*

O God, we praise you for calling us to both seek and serve you, and for gathering us into this church. Together may we grow in your Spirit, building one another up in love and ministering to the world as followers of Jesus. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: 2 Samuel 6:1-19

David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem

6 David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. 2 David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. 3 They carried the ark of God on a new cart and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart 4 with the ark of God, and Ahio went in front of the ark. 5 David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

6 When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen lurched. 7 The anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him there, and he died there beside the ark of God. 8 David was angry because the Lord had burst forth with an outburst upon Uzzah, so that place is called Perez-uzzah to this day. 9 David was afraid of the Lord that day; he said, "How can the ark of the Lord come into my care?" 10 So David was unwilling to take the ark of the Lord into his care in the city of David; instead, David took it to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. 11 The ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months, and the Lord blessed Obed-edom and all his household.

12 It was told King David, "The Lord has blessed the household of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing, 13 and when those who bore the ark of the Lord had

gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatted calf. 14 David danced before the Lord with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. 15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

16 As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, and she despised him in her heart.

17 They brought in the ark of the Lord and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. 18 When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts 19 and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

* Hymn	<i>"Lord of the Dance"</i>	Glory to God Hymnal
<p style="text-align: center;">I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, but they would not dance and they would not follow me. I danced for the fishermen, for James and John. They came with me and the dance went on. [Refrain]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black. It's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on. [Refrain]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">They cut me down and I leapt up high. I am the life that will never, never die. I'll live in you if you'll live in me, I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. [Refrain]</p>		

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

Blessing the VBS Volunteers *(In Unison)*

O God, we give deep thanks for these volunteers who are making VBS possible. We are grateful for their commitments to lead the Campers at Camp Firelight in knowing you better. Give them patience, energy and joy this week, so the kids may know your love through our volunteers. As we teach the kids, may we all be reminded to turn to you and trust you when we are afraid. God, bless our volunteers this week and the children and families we reach through VBS. Amen.

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

***Doxology** *(In Unison)*

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)*

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts of life and living. We give thanks by bringing our resources to this community, to be shared and used for your kingdom, in our ministry, and for the world we inhabit. Bless and facilitate our generosity beyond our imagination. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	"When in Our Music God Is Glorified"	#7 vs 1,2,3,5
When, in our music, God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried, "Alleluia!"	So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in every tongue: "Alleluia!"	
How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound "Alleluia!"	Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: "Alleluia!"	

Benediction

Postlude

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Kathy Scherr**
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Rosemarie Spray**
Special Music: **Meher Arora, Soloist**

Chancel Choir: **Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Don Duperrett, Mary Jane Duperrett, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Pisoni, Helen Stortz, Evelyn Weber**

Announcements

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

<p style="text-align: center;">07/21/24 Service Liturgist: Helen Stortz Usher Team: John Bartelt Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Rosemarie Spray Special Music: VBS kids</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">07/28/24 Service Liturgist: Mary Polt Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Rosemarie Spray Special Music: Handbells</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">08/04/24 Service Liturgist: Mike Kelly Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Ken Ruff Special Music: Flute Communion Service: Donna Switzer & Mary Polt</p>
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We pray for

Donna Dollgener, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart, David Leech, Cherie Messina and Gloria Vaclavik. Please let us know your prayer concerns

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

... Looking Ahead

7/14	10:00 AM	New Member Sunday
7/14	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Argentina
7/15	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
7/15 to 7/19	9:00 AM	VBS
7/21	10:00 AM	VBS Celebration Sunday
7/21	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Marshall Islands
7/23	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
7/25	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship at EdgeWild Chesterfield
7/26	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
7/28	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
7/28	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Marshall Islands

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

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

VBS and PBJ

The VBS team will again be having a **Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive** this year during VBS. They would like to ask the congregation to help them by bringing in jars of peanut butter and jelly. Please drop them in the Narthex, church office or the bin out front.

Our next Book Group will be on Thursday, August 15 at 10am.

We are reading "Code Name Sapphire" by Pam Jenoff.

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

15370 Olive Blvd. Chesterfield MO 63017

(636) 532-0540

stjohnsuccconlive@gmail.com

www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org



online giving



Stained Glass Window Fund