

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship July 7, 2024

Seventh 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

"How Great is Our God"

arr Larson

***The Call to Worship**

Wait for the Lord, like those who hope in God's mercy.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Watch for God, like those who eagerly await the morning.

We watch for God, whose power redeems us.

Hear God's hopeful word, like those who long for pardon.

Sing praise to God and rejoice in God's love.

*** Hymn**

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

#67

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of thy throne
still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages, in thy sight,
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

***Gathering Prayer** *(In Unison)*

Loving God, we are yours. We come as we are, with our cares and concerns. We long to touch you and find healing in your embrace. Strengthen our faith and heal our brokenness, that we may worship you with joy. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

Rev. Katie Jo Bielke

Special Music

"Berceuse"

Gaubert

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 **David Mourns for Saul and Jonathan**

¹ After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag.

¹⁷ David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan. ¹⁸ (He ordered that The Song of the Bow^[a] be taught to the people of Judah; it is written in the Book of Jashar.) He said,

¹⁹ "Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places!

How the mighty have fallen!

²⁰ Tell it not in Gath;

proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon,
or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice;
the daughters of the uncircumcised will exult.

²¹ You mountains of Gilboa,
let there be no dew or rain upon you
nor bounteous fields!^[b]

For there the shield of the mighty was defiled,
the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more.

²² From the blood of the slain,
from the fat of the mighty,
the bow of Jonathan did not turn back,
nor the sword of Saul return empty.

²³ Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely!
In life and in death they were not divided;
they were swifter than eagles;
they were stronger than lions.

²⁴ O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
who clothed you with crimson, in luxury,
who put ornaments of gold on your apparel.

²⁵ How the mighty have fallen
in the midst of the battle!

Jonathan lies slain upon your high places.

²⁶ I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan;
greatly beloved were you to me;
your love to me was wonderful,
passing the love of women.

²⁷ How the mighty have fallen,
and the weapons of war perished!"

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

**Come, you disconsolate, where'er you languish;
come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel!
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish:
Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.**

**Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,
hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,
"Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot cure."**

**Here see the bread of life; see waters flowing
forth from the throne of God, pure from above:
Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing
Earth has no sorrow but heaven can remove.**

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

"Down to the River to Pray"

Spiritual

***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)*

God of Hosts, receive our gifts and create new miracles in our church and the world. Unite us in a faith that sees beyond the mustard seed contributions of today to the mighty plant that gives support, protection, and peace. Bring your realm among us and within each one, we pray. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Telling the Story

Blessing the Elements

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(In Unison)*

God, by the bread of heaven and the cup of life, you make us one body. Bind us together by your spirit that we might live into your hopes for us, a community centered in Christ and rich in compassion, commitment, courage, and care. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	<i>"Out of the Depths"</i>	#510
<p>Out of the depths, O God, we call to you. Wounds of the past remain, affecting all we do. Facing our lives, we need your love so much. Here in this community, heal us by your touch.</p> <p>Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak. Breaking the silences, the searing truth we seek. Safe among friends, our grief and rage we share. Here in this community, hold us in your care.</p>	<p>God of the loving heart, we praise your name. Dance through our lives and loves; anoint with Spirit flame. Your light illumines each familiar face. Here in this community, meet us with your grace.</p>	

Benediction

Postlude

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
 Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
 Liturgist: **Danny Mueller**
 Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Rosemarie Spray**
 Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**
 Songleaders: **Kathy & Mike Scherr**

Announcements

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

<p>07/14/24 Service Liturgist: Kathy Scherr Usher Team: Larry Sontag Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Rosemarie Spray Special Music: Meher, Solo</p>	<p>07/21/24 Service Liturgist: Helen Stortz Usher Team: John Bartelt Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Rosemarie Spray Special Music: VBS kids</p>	<p>07/28/24 Service Liturgist: Mary Polt Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Rosemarie Spray Special Music: Handbells</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

7/7	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
7/7		Global Ministries Pray for Sri Lanka
7/8	1:00 PM	Exec Council
7/12	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)
7/13	9:00 AM	Decorating St. John's for VBS (many hands make a light load)
7/14	10:00 AM	New Member Sunday
7/14	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Kenya
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 Argentina
7/23	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
7/25	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship at EdgeWild Chesterfield (rsvp)
7/26	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)

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 give them a quick start by bring in jars of peanut butter and jelly before VBS begins. Feel free to drop them in the Narthex or church office or the bin out front.



Summer Camp is in full swing! Campers hung out with Pete the Cat. They made mice footprints and created artwork using foam sponges. We also finished our Monster week where we read stories about not so scary monsters!. Check out of Facebook page to see the photos. This week we are celebrating with ice cold Bomb Pops and showing off our red, white, and blue. We still have openings for fall, please spread the word if you know someone looking for a great school with a phenomenal group of teachers. We wish you all a great rest of the summer!!

Laura Renth

St. John's ECC

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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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online giving



Stained Glass Window Fund