

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship

Sep 27, 2026

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

"I Worship You, Almighty God"

Hayes

*The Call to Worship

Come, let us worship God who provides for us.

Even though we whine and complain, God hears our cries.

Lift your voices in praise, for God has come to comfort you.

Thanks be to God who forgives and heals our wounded souls.

Come, celebrate God's steadfast love.

Open our hearts, O Lord, and let us truly listen to your words.

*** Hymn**

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

#709

**Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for a blest abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou mayest smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, while such a river
ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.**

**Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing forth that God is near!
Thus deriving from our banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe we feed upon the manna
which God gives them when they pray.**

* Gathering Prayer *(In Unison)*

O God, your love and grace are all sufficient for all the world's deep needs. Open our minds and hearts this day to receive with gratitude the gifts you have given – gratitude enough to be compelled to live as your witnesses, your instruments for grace and forgiveness, for justice and peace in our world. 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.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Matthew 21:23-32

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" 24 Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' 26 But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." 27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29 He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
 pilgrim through this barren land;
 I am weak, but thou art mighty;
 hold me with thy powerful hand.
 bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
 feed me till I want no more;
 feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
 whence the healing waters flow.
 let the fire and cloudy pillar
 lead me all my journey through.
 strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
 be thou still my strength and shield;
 be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
 bid my anxious fears subside;
 bear me through the swelling current;
 land me safe on Canaan's side.
 songs of praises, songs of praises,
 I will ever give to thee;
 I will ever give to thee.**

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.

And 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 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

*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)*

O God, put these gifts, and our time and talents, to work in your vineyard. Grant to us the capacity to move beyond good intentions to give ourselves completely to the purposes of your realm. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	"Trust and Obey"	#556
When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word, what a glory he sheds on our way! While we do his good will, he abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey. [Refrain:] Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey. Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share, but our toil he will richly repay; not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross, but is blest if we trust and obey. [Refrain]	But we never can prove the delights of his love until all on the altar we lay; for the favor he shows and the joy he bestows are for them who will trust and obey. [Refrain] Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet, or we'll walk by his side in the way; what he says we will do, where he sends we will go-- never fear, only trust and obey. [Refrain]	

Benediction

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*The rose on the altar this Sunday celebrates the birth of **Benson Robert Jones** on September 16. Benson's **parents** are Josh and Amanda. His proud **great-grandmother** is Grace Busch, and his proud **grandparent** is Jeanne Buchner.*

Pastor: Rev. Katie Jo Bielke
Director of Music: Ruth Notch
Liturgist: Danielle Dolan
Usher Team: Larry Sontag
Technology: Steve Hawkinson
Fellowship/Lockup: Laura Ayers
Handbells: Norma Armstrong, Pastor Katie Jo Bielke, Lee Difani,
Barb Nichols, Scott Nichols, Ruth Notch, Jim Pisoni

Announcements

Please pray for
Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Mike Kelly,
Josh Kennedy and Family, Danny Mueller, Anita Paz and Kathy Sellenriek.
 Please let us know your prayer concerns. Private prayer concerns speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke.

10/04/26 Service Liturgist: Todd Armstrong Usher Team: John Bartelt Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Carol Tindira Special Music: Violin	10/11/26 Service Pet Blessing Liturgist: Jan Ittner Usher Team: John Bartelt Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Laura Dierberg Ayers	10/18/26 Service Liturgist: Mary Polt Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Chris Norton Special Music: Piano Duet
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... Looking Ahead

Sun	9/27	11:00 AM	Crop Walk (donate here >>)
Sun	9/27	2:00 PM	The KinShift Concert
Tue	9/29	10:00 AM	Book Club "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See
Wed	9/30	5:00 PM	Nominations for Council are due
Thu	10/1	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Sat	10/3		Bimonthly Newsletter (subscribe)
Sun	10/4	10:00 AM	Family Worship Sunday with Communion
Sun	10/4	10:00 AM	Neighbors in Need Offering (donate with qrcode below)
Mon	10/5		Last day Festival of Sharing
Sat	10/10		GHSP Build (volunteer using qrcode below)
Sat	10/10		Festival of Sharing Drop Off
Sun	10/11	10:00 AM	Pet Blessing (at the pavilion)
Sun	10/11	11:00 AM	Adopt a Highway (volunteer using qrcode below)
Mon	10/12	1:00 PM	Exec Council Mtg
Mon	10/12		Columbus Day Office Closed



Crop Walk

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

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



Sun, 9/27 11:00 AM
Crop Hunger Walk



Sun, 9/27 2:00 PM
The KinShift Concert
Information



Tue, 9/29 10:00 AM
Book Club
"Lady Tan's Circle of Women"
by Lisa See



Sun 10/4 10:00 AM
Neighbors in Need



Sat, 10/10 9:00 AM
Gateway Housing Service
Project



Sun, 10/11 11:00 AM
Adopt a Highway



Sat, 11/14 8:00 AM
Habitat for Humanity



4th Tue of the Month, 6:30 PM
Women's Game Night



4th Thu of the month 5:30 pm
Table Fellowship



The Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for the Church Council. There will be nomination forms available in church, online and outside the office. You may turn them into the offering plate, Jan Boehm, Phil Difani, the office or mail them in.



We are livestreaming Sunday morning services. 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

15370 Olive Blvd.

Chesterfield MO 63017

(636) 532-0540

stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com

www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org

October 2026



We are pulling together for Ronald McDonald House Charities! Drop your aluminum tabs into the bins to help families staying near hospitalized children.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Family Worship Sunday with Communion NEIGHBORS z NEED 11 Pet Blessing JOSEPH PROGRAM	5 Last day to bring in Sharefest Sharefest 12 1 pm Exc Cncl Mtg Office of the President Today	6 Festival of Shanties 13 JOSEPH PROGRAM	7 14	1 11 am Sr Min Mtg Senior Ministry 8 15	2 16	3 Worship 10 GHSP GATEWAY HOUSING SERVICE PROJECT GSHP Build Sharefest Drop Off 17 Worship
18 Alzheimer's "Brain Health"	19 6 pm Council Meeting Council Meeting	20	21	22 Fellowship Circle 7 5:30 pm Table	23	24
25 Loaves & Fishes 9:30 am Mission Meeting 5 pm Stemme Church Picnic	26 Mission Church Picnic	27 Book Club 10 am Book Club "The Lion Women of Tehran" by Marjan Kamali 6:30 pm Women's Game Night	28 Crack Night Out	29	30 10 am ECC Parade ECC Parade	31 Halloween Halloween