

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship January 19, 2025

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

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

"Thy Word"

Smith/Grant

*The Call to Worship

Come, to remember who you are and whose you are.

God in Christ, has named us all "Beloved."

Yes, here and now, God's love is being poured out anew.

May this motion of the Holy One, shape our hearts and minds.

May it brighten the Epiphany light in us and the whole creation.

And may it shape our words and work into good news for the world!

Hymn

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

#75

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;

In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;

You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

*Gathering Prayer *(In Unison)*

Lord of Hope and Light, in the midst of Darkness you offered light to people who lived in fear. Today that light comes to us as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Open our hearts this day and remind us that you have marked us as people of hope and light. Prepare us to serve you by serving your world. AMEN.

Time for the Child in us All

Pastor Katie Jo

"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

"The Gift of Love"

Hopson arr. Kallman

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Baptism of Jesus

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

*** Hymn**

"Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God"

**Praise and thanksgiving be to God our maker,
source of all blessings, prodigal creator.
Baptized and made your own, now we come before you,
while we adore you.**

**Not our own holiness, nor that we have striven
brings us the peace which you, O Christ, have given.
Baptized and set apart, strengthen us, O Savior,
with grace and favor.**

**Come, Holy Spirit, come in visitation;
you are the truth, our hope, and our salvation.
Baptize with joy and pow'r, give, O Dove descending,
life never ending.**

**Praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
one Lord, one faith, one source of ev'ry merit.
Here now renew your church through this water given;
grant peace from heaven.**

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

"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

arr. Lanier

***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*)

Thank you, God of Love, for the promise of this season. We are grateful for the generosity aroused in us by Christ's coming into the world. May these gifts represent a new spirit of joyous sharing among us, for the sake of all your children everywhere. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

Hymn

"Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed"

#378 vs 1,3-4

**Wonder of wonders here revealed
God's covenant with us is sealed
And long before we know or pray
God's love enfolds us every day**

**Here in this sacrament we see
God's grace unbound for all for me
May we respond with joyful praise
In loving service all our days**

**Our vows of faith we now renew
Stretch wide our sights to global view
And claim with Christians far and near
A larger family held dear**

Benediction

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Pastor: Rev. Katie Jo Bielke
Director of Music: Ruth Notch
Liturgist: Susie Pisoni
Usher Team: Phil Difani
Technology: Steve Hawkinson
Fellowship/Lockup: Helen Stortz
Clarinet: Rebecca Hill

Announcements

We pray for
**Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener,
 Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina, Mark Strothmann and Gloria Vaclavik.**
 Please let us know your prayer concerns.
 If you have private prayer concerns please speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke

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

<p style="text-align: center;">01/26/25 Service Liturgist: Laura Ayers Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Helen Stortz Special Music: Handbells</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">02/02/25 Service Liturgist: Carol Tindra Usher Team: Jim Pisoni Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Jan Boehm Special Music: Violin</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">02/09/25 Service Liturgist: Todd Armstrong Usher Team: Larry Sontag Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Jan Boehm Special Music: Flute</p>
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... Looking Ahead

Sun	1/19/25	11:00 AM	Budget Cafe
Tue	1/21/25	10:00 AM	Book Club "The God of the Woods"
Thu	1/23/25	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship
Sun	1/26/25	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	1/26/25	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting canceled for January
Sun	1/26/25	11:00 AM	Annual Meeting
Sun	1/26/25	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due EOD
Tue	1/28/25	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night
Sun	2/2	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
Mon	2/3 & 2/17	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter
Sat	2/8	3:00 PM	Everybody's Big Birthday Bash
Sun	2/9	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due EOD for the 17th
Wed	2/19	10:00 AM	Book Group "Beartown"
Sun	2/23	3:00 PM	Pastor Katie Joe Bielke's Installation

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



online giving



St. John's News & Events

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
stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com
www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org

Everybody's Birthday Bash



Table Fellowship



Women's Game Night

