

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship

July 27, 2025

VBS Celebration Sunday

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	"Road Trip"	Wilson
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***The Call to Worship**

Young or old, questioning or confident, wherever we are.

God is with us on our journey.

When we get distracted or make a wrong turn,

God is with us when we go off course.

When we feel like shouting good news from a mountain top,

God is with us when we're joyful.

When we feel sad like we're down in a valley.

God is with us when we're lonely.

No matter if we are in the north, east, south or west,

God is with us near and far.

* Hymn	"God is Here"	#280
God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, fount, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.	Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the Gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive; we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!	

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

God, as we journey through life, we give thanks that you are always with us. Walking beside us, supporting us, guiding us, encouraging us, forgiving us and loving us. May we feel your joy and be inspired to share it with others through our kind words and loving actions. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

VBS Message

Kids Sing

**“God’s with Us on the Journey”
“Jesus Loves Me”**

Scripture - Exodus 13:17-22

17 When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer, for God thought, “If the people face war, they may change their minds and return to Egypt.” 18 So God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness bordering the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt prepared for battle. 19 And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph, who had required a solemn oath of the Israelites, saying, “God will surely come to you, and then you must carry my bones with you from here.” 20 They set out from Succoth and camped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. 21 The Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. 22 Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

Scripture - Zacchaeus (VBS video day 4)

Kids Sing

“Zacchaeus”

Scripture - Acts 18:1-11

18 After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. 2 There he found a Jew named Aquila from Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, 3 and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. 4 Every Sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with proclaiming the word, testifying to the Jews that the Messiah was Jesus. 6 When they opposed and reviled him, in protest he shook the dust from his clothes and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the gentiles.” 7 Then he left the synagogue and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God; his house was next door to the synagogue. 8 Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household, and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul became believers and were baptized. 9 One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent, 10 for I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people.” 11 He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Kids Sing

**“Hallelu, Hallelujah Praise Ye the Lord”
“Shine a Light”**

* Hymn	"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!"	#545
He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught! Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me. [Refrain:] He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me; his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.		Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine; by waters still, oe'r troubled sea, since 'tis thy hand that leadeth me. [Refrain] And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the victory's won, e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God thro' Jordan leadeth me. [Refrain]

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	<i>"VBS Slide Show"</i>
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*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*)

Our God, may the gifts we bring of time, talent, and treasure be used and magnified for the benefit of your beloved. Thank you, Holy One, for enabling us to join in your kingdom come on earth. Amen

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	<i>"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"</i>	# 434
God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain:] Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.	God be with you till we meet again; unseen wings, protecting, hide you, daily manna still provide you: God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain] God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you, put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain] God be with you till we meet again; keep love's banner floating o'er you, smite death's threatening wave before you: God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]	

Benediction

Postlude

"Road Trip"

Wilson

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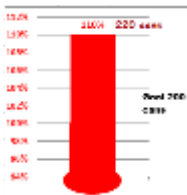
Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
Special Music: **VBS kids**

Announcements

We pray for: **Tyler Ackerman, Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Cherie Messina, Anita Paz, Heidi Roberson, Melanie Spangler and the Wilhelm family**

Please let us know your prayer concerns. Private prayer concerns speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke

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



VBS and PBJ

THANK YOU to all who have contributed to the **Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive** this year during VBS. We are at 220 jars and counting...!!



Our school is **fundraising with Mabel's Labels!** If you're not familiar with Mabel's Labels, they are **personalized, durable, waterproof labels** for everything from shoes, clothing tags, water bottles and backpacks.

To support our fundraiser, visit **campaigns.mabelslabels.com** and **select St. John's Early Childhood Center (Chesterfield)**. You can pick out whatever labels or product you want and it will ship for free directly to your house! Thank you for supporting us!

08/03/25 Service

Liturgist: **Lynn Potts**
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Monica Hart**
Special Music: **Flautist**
Communion Service:
Donna Switzer & Mary Polt

08/10/25 Service

Liturgist: **Danielle Dolan**
Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Monica Hart**
Special Music: **Trumpet**

08/17/25 Service

Liturgist: **Todd Armstrong**
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Monica Hart**
Special Music: **Violin**

Sign up for Activities easily using your mobile phone and the QR codes below

Subscribe Newsletter



Women's Game Night



June 24th

Table Fellowship



June 26th

... Looking Ahead

Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive

Sun	7/27	11:00 AM	VBS Cool Car Cruise in & Ice Cream Truck
Tue	7/29	10:00 AM	Book Club "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger
Tue	7/29	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollgener
Thu	7/31	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollgener
Sun	8/3	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter
Sun	8/3	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	8/3	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
Sun	8/3	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Tue	8/5	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollgener
Wed	8/6	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting (all are welcome)
Thu	8/7	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollgener
Sat	8/9	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
Sun	8/10	11:00 AM	Christian Education Mtg
Mon	8/11	1:00 PM	Exec Council Mtg
Tue	8/12	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollgener
Thu	8/14	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollgener
Sun	8/17	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter (subscribe using the QR code below)
Sun	8/17	10:00 AM	Blessing of the Backpacks
Mon	8/18	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	8/19	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollgener

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

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

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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