

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship October 6, 2024

World Communion 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

"He Reigns w/ Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Furler arr. Olstad

***The Call to Worship**

As we gather this morning, we remember our sisters and brothers around the world:

From above and below the equator, from every time zone around the globe, Christ invites us all to join this Holy Feast.

As today's sunlight inches across land and sea, Christians gather to celebrate their place in God's family.

All are invited and all are welcome. Come feast at God's table!

*** Hymn**

"The Church's One Foundation"

272 v1-4

The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ our Lord;
we are his new creation
by water and the Word;
from heaven he came and sought us
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought us,
and for our life he died.

Called forth from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth;
our charter of salvation:
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name professing
and at one table fed,
to one hope always pressing,
by Christ's own Spirit led.

And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.
Though with a scornful wonder
the world sees us oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, "How long?"

Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of our war,
we wait the consummation
of peace forevermore,
till with the vision glorious
our longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the Church at rest.

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

Majestic God, your realm encompasses the universe, the earth, and our community. All creation declares your glory. May we unite with our kin around the world in celebrating you and the connections we share. As we gather in your name, may we remember those we join in faith, hope, and worship on every continent representing every tradition. May we declare in spirit and in truth...one bread, one body...the church striving to be the body of Christ. Amen.

Special Music

"Let Us Talents & Tongues Employ"

Ellingboe

Time for the Child

Rev Katie Jo Bielke

"We Are the Church"

Refrain: I am the church! You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!

The church is not a building,
the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place,
the church is a people. [Refrain]

We're many kinds of people,
with many kinds of faces,
all colors and all ages, too,
from all times and places. [Refrain]

Sometimes the church is marching,
sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding,
always it's learning. [Refrain]

And when the people gather,
there's singing and there's praying,
there's laughing and there's crying
sometimes, all of it saying: [Refrain]

"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: Mark 10:2-16

² Some, testing him, asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³ He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴ They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵ But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶ But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷ 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ¹⁰ Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹ He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, ¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

Jesus Blesses Little Children

¹³ People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

* Hymn

"I Come with Joy"

#420

I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends

The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.

Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world,
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

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

"In This Very Room"

Harris

*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 all creation, breathe your life-giving breath upon these gifts that they might be a blessing to all people. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table, you who are scattered and torn.

Here we find hope.

Come to the table, you who are scared and lonely.

Here we find love.

Come to the table, you who are tired and tense.

Here we find rest for our souls, and food for our journey.

Come to the table, you who are lost and are searching.

Here we discover guidance, and light for our darkness.

Come to the table, you who are happy or sad.

Here our lives are embraced by God's grace.

Telling the Story

Blessing the Elements

Sharing the Meal (*the wafers in the middle of the bread trays are gluten free*)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*In Unison*)

Still-speaking God, you give us food from heaven to strengthen our love and deepen our connections; grant, we pray, that through our works of justice and acts of lovingkindness, the light of your Good News will shine in all our lives, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	"One Bread, One Body"	#393
One bread, one body, one Lord of all One cup of blessing which we bless And we, though many, throughout the Earth We are one body in this one Lord Gentile or Jew Servant or free Woman or man No more One bread, one body, one Lord of all One cup of blessing which we bless And we, though many, throughout the Earth We are one body in this one Lord Many the gifts, many the works One in the Lord Of all	One bread, one body, one Lord of all One cup of blessing which we bless And we, though many, throughout the Earth We are one body in this one Lord We are one body in this one Lord Grain for the fields scattered and grown, gathered to one, for all.	

Benediction

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
Liturgist: **Merilee Dauster**
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Steve Hawkinson**
Communion Service:
Carolyn Golfin & Judy Dierberg
Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**

Chancel Choir: **Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Jeanne Buchner, Don Duperrett, Mary Jane Duperrett, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Pisoni, Helen Stortz, Evelyn Weber**
Songleaders: **Kathy & Mike Scherr**

Announcements

We pray for

Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Kevin Beatty, Donna Dollgener, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina 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 **El Salvador** this week

10/13/24 Service

Liturgist: **Carolyn Golfin**
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Steve Hawkinson**

10/20/24 Service

Liturgist: **Danielle Dolan**
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Steve Hawkinson**
Special Music: **Violinist**

10/27/24 Service

Liturgist: **Jane Lindberg**
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Steve Hawkinson**
Special Music: **Choir & Handbells**



TODAY

In 2024, the **Neighbors in Need** theme is "Mental Health Justice For All!" This year's focus is on Mental Health Justice. Please take a special envelope from the pews or use the QR code to donate with your mobile phone.



Neighbors in Need

One-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.



Animal Blessing Donate

A representative from the Open Door Animal Sanctuary will be here to say a few words **NEXT WEEK** on the 13th. Please bring in any of the following donations to help the Sanctuary.
Use the QRCode to see their wish list.



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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RSVP Day Trip HERRMANN



RSVP MEDICARE Made Easy



RSVP TABLE FELLOWSHIP



RSVP STEMME FARM



Volunteer for GHSP

... Looking Ahead

Sun	10/6	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Sat	10/12		Rev Katie Jo's (milestone) birthday
Sat	10/12		Festival of Sharing <i>(please RSVP to help in the Narthex)</i>
Sun	10/13	10:00 AM	Pet Blessing, Outdoor Service at the Pavilion
Sun	10/13	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
Mon	10/14	1:00 PM	Exec Council
Mon	10/14		Columbus Day (office closed)
Tue	10/15	10:00 AM	Book Group 'The Lincoln Highway' by Amor Towles.
Wed	10/16	9:00 AM	Day trip to Hermann, MO <i>(please RSVP in the Narthex or QR below)</i>
Thu	10/17	6:30 PM	Scam Awareness Presentation by Chesterfield Police Dept
Fri	10/18	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
Fri	10/18	6:00 PM	Circle of Concern Trivia Night <i>(please RSVP in the Narthex)</i>
Sun	10/20	11:00 AM	Medicare Made Easy Ted Gottlieb <i>(please RSVP Narthex or QR)</i>
Mon	10/21	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	10/22	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night
Thu	10/24	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship at Mimi's Cafe <i>(please RSVP Narthex or QR code)</i>
Sat	10/26	10:00 AM	Stemme Farm Picnic Setup <i>(please volunteer)</i>
Sun	10/27	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	10/27	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	10/27	5:00 PM	Stemme Farm Picnic <i>(please RSVP in the Narthex or QR below)</i>
Fri	11/1	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter Nov bdays
Sat	11/2		Gateway Housing Service Project
Sun	11/3	12:00 AM	Daylight Savings Time Ends

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

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



online giving