

# St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship

Sep 20, 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

*"For the Beauty of the Earth"*

Rutter

### \*The Call to Worship

My friends, we are called to lives of prayerful awareness of ourselves, of our community, and of the world.

**We gather to praise the living God, who hears and answers the outpouring of our prayers.**

May we be awakened to the voice of Christ who calls us to faithfulness.

**May our faith be seen in using God's resources and resourcefulness in serving the world.**

### \* Hymn

*"Gather Us In"*

#284

Here in this place the new light is streaming  
Shadows of doubt are vanished away.  
See in this space our fears and our  
dreamings,

Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;

Gather us in; our spirits inflame.

Call to us now, and we shall awaken;

We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery;

We are the old, who yearn for your face.

We have been sung throughout all of history,

Called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;

Gather us in, the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart so meek and so lowly;

Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we receive new life in the waters;  
Here we receive the bread of new birth;  
Here you shall call your sons and your  
daughters,

Call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,

Give us to eat the bread that is you;

Nourish us well and teach us to fashion

Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not just in buildings, small and confining,

Not in some heaven light years away,

Here in this place the new light is shining;

Now is God present, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever;

Gather us in and make us your own;

Gather us in, all peoples together,

Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

### \* Gathering Prayer *(In Unison)*

Gracious God, whose ways are not our ways, we seek your truth. Let your word become so much a part of us that our lives proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Grant us opportunities to share good news and gratitude to respond generously to all who seek our help. 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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**Scriptures: Matthew 20:1-16****The Laborers in the Vineyard**

20 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. 5 When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. 6 And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' 8 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' 9 When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. 10 Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. 11 And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14 Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

**One:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

**Message****Pastor Katie Jo***"Give Thanks"***#528**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son**

**and now let the weak say, "I am strong" Let the poor say "I am rich";  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son**

**and now let the weak say, "I am strong" Let the poor say "I am rich";  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.**

**Give thanks!**

**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

*"Canticle of the Turning"*

Cooney arr. Hayes

### \*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)*

Generous God, our lives are renewed as we remember your goodness. You have made us in your image and placed in our hearts the memory of your love made flesh in Jesus Christ. That memory calls us to give and to embrace your world as we offer these gifts. May our lives invested through these offerings bring your goodness to our community. Amen.

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

### \* Hymn

*"Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"*

#461

Lord, whose love in humble service  
Bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken,  
offered mercy's perfect deed:  
We, your servants, bring the worship  
Not of voice alone, but heart;  
Consecrating to Your purpose  
Every gift which You impart.

Still Your children wander homeless;  
Still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom;  
Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As O Lord your deep compassion  
Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love your Spirit kindles  
Still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision,  
Till your love's revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness  
Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens  
Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving  
Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service,  
Forth in your dear name we go  
To the child, the youth, the aged,  
Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope an health, good will and comfort,  
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
That your servants, Lord, in freedom  
May Your mercy know and live.

## Benediction

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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: **Chris Norton**

Vocalist: **Meher Arora**

Choir: **Meher Arora, Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Jeanne Buchner, Don Duperrett, Mary Jane Duperret, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Pisoni, Helen Stortz, Evelyn Weber**

## *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.

**09/27/26 Service**

Liturgist: **Danielle Dolan**  
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Laura Ayers**  
Special Music: **Handbells**

**10/04/26 Service**

Liturgist: **Todd Armstrong**  
Usher Team: **John Bartelt**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Carol Tindira**  
Special Music: **Handbells**

**10/11/26 Service**

Liturgist: **Jan Ittner**  
Usher Team: **John Bartelt**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Carol Tindira**  
Special Music: **Handbells**

*... Looking Ahead*

|                           |                                                           |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mon 9/21 6:00 PM</b>   | <b>Council Meeting</b>                                    |
| <b>Tue 9/22 6:30 PM</b>   | <b>Women's Game Night (Join Us)</b>                       |
| <b>Thu 9/24 5:30 PM</b>   | <b>Table Fellowship Mia Sorella</b>                       |
| <b>Sun 9/27 9:15 AM</b>   | <b>Loaves &amp; Fishes</b>                                |
| <b>Sun 9/27 9:30 AM</b>   | <b>Mission Meeting</b>                                    |
| <b>Sun 9/27 11:00 AM</b>  | <b>Crop Walk (donate here &gt;&gt;)</b>                   |
| <b>Sun 9/27 2:00 PM</b>   | <b>The KinShift Concert</b>                               |
| <b>Tue 9/29 10:00 AM</b>  | <b>Book Club "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See</b> |
| <b>Wed 9/30 5:00 PM</b>   | <b>Nominations for Council are due</b>                    |
| <b>Thu 10/1 11:00 AM</b>  | <b>Senior Ministry Meeting</b>                            |
| <b>Sat 10/3</b>           | <b>Bimonthly Newsletter</b>                               |
| <b>Sun 10/4 10:00 AM</b>  | <b>Family Worship Sunday with Communion</b>               |
| <b>Mon 10/5</b>           | <b>Last day Festival of Sharing</b>                       |
| <b>Sat 10/10</b>          | <b>Festival of Sharing Drop Off</b>                       |
| <b>Sun 10/11 10:00 AM</b> | <b>Pet Blessing</b>                                       |
| <b>Sun 10/11 11:00 AM</b> | <b>Adopt a Highway</b>                                    |
| <b>Mon 10/12 1:00 PM</b>  | <b>Exec Council Mtg</b>                                   |



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 2:00 PM**  
**Crop Hunger Walk**



**4<sup>th</sup> Tue of the Month, 6:30 PM**  
**Women's Game Night**



**4<sup>th</sup> Thu of the month 5:30 pm**  
**Table Fellowship**



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



**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**



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](mailto:stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com)

[www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org](http://www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org)



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

## September 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                          | Monday                                                                                                            | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                  | Wednesday | Thursday                                                                                                                           | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 20<br>                                                                                                        | 21<br><br>6 pm Council Meeting | 22<br><br>6:30 pm Women's Game Night                                  | 23        | 24<br><br>5:30 pm Table Fellowship Mia Sorella | 25     | 26       |
| 27<br>9:15 am Loaves & Fishes / Mission Mtg<br>11 Crop Hunger Walk & Picnic<br>2 pm The Kinshift Concert<br> | 28<br>                         | 29<br><br>10 am Book Club<br>"Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See | 30        |                                                                                                                                    |        |          |