

# St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship July 28, 2024

*Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ringing of the Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

*(Please note the \* indicates when you should stand.)*

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Peace be with you

**And also with you**

Prelude

*"Praise Him! Praise Him!"*

Allen arr. Burroughs

**\*The Call to Worship**

Give thanks to God and call on God's name.

**Sing to God; sing praises to God!**

Make known God's deeds among the people.

**Sing to God; sing praises to God!**

Seek God's presence and God's strength.

**Let us sing praises to God, for God is faithful.**

**\* Hymn**

*"We Gather Together"*

#276

We gather together to ask for God's blessing,  
to turn to a wisdom surpassing our own  
the pow'rs that oppress us now cease to distress us.  
O God, be present with us, and make your will known.

Beside us to guide us, O God, we perceive you  
ordaining, maintaining the power of life  
Yes, yours be the glory; let all tell the story  
Our God, be ever with us, in gladness and strife.

May all sing your praises, Redeemer triumphant,  
defend us, befriend us, whatever may be.  
May your congregation escape tribulation.  
Your name be praised forever, O God make us free!

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

Most Holy God, we await the touch of your Spirit with eagerness. We ask that you enter the lives of each one of us today, refreshing and renewing and healing us with the power of your loving Spirit, that we may live with purpose and enthusiasm and courage after the manner of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

*"What I Have in My Heart"*

Lorin W Cope

Special Music

*"Joyful Rhythm"*

McChesney

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**Scriptures: Ephesians 3: 14 – 21 & John 6: 1-21**

### **Ephesians 3:14-21**

#### **Prayer for the Readers**

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit <sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup> I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

### **John 6: 1-21**

#### **Feeding the Five Thousand**

**6** After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup> Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup> When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

<sup>15</sup> When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

#### **Jesus Walks on the Water**

<sup>16</sup> When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup> got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup> The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup> When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup> But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." <sup>21</sup> Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

**ALL:** **Thanks be to God.**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
 joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
 fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
 all thy faithful mercies crown;  
 Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
 pure, unbounded love thou art;  
 visit us with thy salvation,  
 enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
 let us all thy life receive;  
 suddenly return and never,  
 nevermore thy temples leave.  
 Thee we would be always blessing,  
 serve thee as thy hosts above,  
 pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
 glory in thy perfect love.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
 into every troubled breast;  
 let us all in thee inherit,  
 let us find the promised rest;  
 take away the love of sinning,  
 alpha and omega be;  
 end of faith, as its beginning,  
 set our hearts at liberty.

Finish then thy new creation,  
 pure and spotless let us be;  
 let us see thy great salvation  
 perfectly restored in thee;  
 changed from glory into glory,  
 till in heaven we take our place,  
 till we cast our crowns before thee,  
 lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**Message**

**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**

“Watercolors”

Eithum

**\*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, you have given us the joyous privilege of moving from fearful withholding to giving with abandon and trust. Thank you for helping us overcome our doubts and selfishness so we can participate in your mission of transforming this world to your kingdom. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

\* Hymn

*"I Love to Tell the Story"*

#480

I love to tell the story  
of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory,  
of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story  
because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings  
as nothing else can do.

[Refrain:]

I love to tell the story,  
'twill be my theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story  
'tis pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it,  
more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story,  
for some have never heard  
the message of salvation  
from God's own holy word. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story,  
for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting  
to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory,  
I sing the new, new song,  
'twill be the old, old story  
that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

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Preaching: **Lorin W Cope**  
Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**  
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**  
Liturgist: **Mary Polt**  
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Rosemarie Spray**  
Special Music: **Handbells**

Handbells: **Erin Armstrong, Norma Armstrong, Jan Boehm, Lee Difani, Barb Nichols, Scott Nichols, Ruth Notch, Jim Pisoni**

*Announcements*

**Global Ministries** requests that we pray with **Marshall Islands** this week

**08/04/24 Service**  
Liturgist: **Mike Kelly**  
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Ken Ruff**  
Special Music: **Flute**  
Communion Service:  
**Donna Switzer & Mary Polt**

**08/11/24 Service**  
Liturgist: **Mike Kelly**  
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Ken Ruff**  
Special Music: **Harp**

**08/18/24 Service**  
Liturgist: **Mark Strothman**  
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**  
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
Fellowship/Lockup: **Ken Ruff**  
Special Music: **Duets**

We pray for  
**Donna Dollgener, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart, David Leech, Cherie Messina**  
**and Gloria Vaclavik.** Please let us know your prayer concerns  
If you have private prayer concern please speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke

Thanks to all who donated PB&J last week during VBS Camp Firelight.  
 We collected 71 jars of jelly and 128 jars of peanut butter for a total of 199 jars!  
 Our goal of 100 jars was blown out of the water!!!  
 Circle of Concern will benefit from your generosity

*... Looking Ahead*

7/28	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
7/28	9:20 AM	<a href="#">Loaves &amp; Fishes</a>
7/31	3:00 PM	Movie " <a href="#">Gifted Hands</a> " and Ice Cream Social.
8/4	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
8/4	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
8/9	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
8/11	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
8/12	1:00 PM	Exec Council
8/15	10:00 AM	Book Group reading "Code Name Sapphire" by Pam Jenoff
8/18	10:00 AM	Back Pack Blessing
8/18	11:00 AM	Speaker Superintendent for Rockwood Schools
8/19	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
8/22	6:00 PM	Table Fellowship at TBD
8/23	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
8/25	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
8/25	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
8/27	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
9/1	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
9/1	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
9/2		Labor Day (office closed)
9/6	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
9/8	10:00 AM	Rally Day

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 in Fellowship Hall  
 10:00 a.m. – Sunday School  
 10:00 a.m. – Worship  
 In-Person, Facebook Live, or Virtual

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online giving



Stained Glass Window Fund