

# St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship      Jan 25, 2026  
*Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

## Ringing 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

*"God Is So Good/Jesus Loves Me!"*

arr. Stephenson

### \*The Call to Worship

Come together, people of God, out of the gloom and shadow of a troubled world.

**We come with joy to the great light that God has given us in Jesus Christ.**

Come away, people of God, from the jealous rivalries that mar your days.

**We come in sorrowful repentance to confront and overcome all that divides us.**

Come to worship, people of God, leaving behind all else that compels your attention.

**We come to refocus our priorities and to become more alert to God's action among us.**

Amen.

\* Hymn

*"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"*

#453

Called as partners in Christ's service  
Called to ministries of grace  
We respond with deep commitment  
Fresh new lines of faith to trace  
May we learn the art of sharing  
Side by side and friend with friend  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfil God's chosen end

Christ's example Christ's inspiring  
Christ's clear call to work and worth  
Let us follow never faltering  
Reconciling folk on earth  
Men and women richer poorer  
All God's people young and old  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission  
In a small or global sense  
Help us bear each other's burdens  
Breaking down each wall or fence  
Words of comfort words of vision  
Words of challenge said with care  
Bring new power and strength for action  
Make us colleagues free and fair

So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow  
With a calm that conquers strife  
Make us partners in our living  
Our compassion to increase  
Messengers of faith thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace

### \*Gathering Prayer (In Unison)

O God, source of all goodness, your grace comes fresh every morning. We praise you for your never-failing love that satisfies our needs and shows us the way to follow. We rejoice in your constant care, for you are faithful in love for all people, offering the world salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*“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

*“1st Movement from Suite for Handbells”*

Helman

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**Scriptures: Matthew 4:12-23****Jesus Begins His Ministry in Galilee**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
 on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—  
<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness  
 have seen a great light,  
 and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
 light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

**Jesus Calls the First Disciples**

<sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

**Jesus Ministers to Crowds of People**

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

\* Hymn

*“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”*

# 344

I have decided to follow Jesus,  
 I have decided to follow Jesus,  
 I have decided to follow Jesus--  
 no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me,  
 the world behind me, the cross before me,  
 the world behind me, the cross before me--  
 no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow,  
 though none go with me, I still will follow,  
 though none go with me, I still will follow,  
 no turning back, no turning back.

Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
 Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
 Will you decide now to follow Jesus?  
 No turning back, no turning back.

**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 or mail. We are grateful for your support.)*

**Offertory**

**\*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)**

O God, what can we offer in thanksgiving for the gift of light and life and love we have received from you and from your Beloved Community? We bring to you our all: our resources, our energy, our time, our very selves to answer your call and to follow.

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

**\* Hymn**

**"Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult"**

**#337 vs 1-3,5**

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild restless sea,  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth,  
saying, "Christian, follow me".

Long ago apostles heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home, and toil, and kindred,  
leaving all for his dear sake.

Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store;  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, "Christian, love me more."

Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,  
Savior, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience,  
serve and love thee best of all.

**Benediction**

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**Pastor: Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**

**Director of Music: Ruth Notch**

**Liturgist: Susie Pisoni**

**Usher Team: Larry Sontag**

**Technology: Steve Hawkinson**

**Fellowship/Lockup: Steve Hawkinson**

**Handbells: Pastor Katie Jo Bielke, Jan Boehm, Lee Difani, Barb Nichols,  
Scott Nichols, Chris Norton, Ruth Notch, Jim Pisoni**

**Lydia's House shopping list can be located on the table in the Narthex**

## Announcements

**Tyler Ackerman, Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Andy Kissel,  
Danny Mueller, Anita Paz and Melanie Spangler.**

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

<b>02/01/26 Service</b> Liturgist: <b>Mary Polt</b> Usher Team: <b>John Bartelt</b> Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b> Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Jan Boehm</b> Special Music: <b>Flautist</b>	<b>02/08/26 Service</b> Liturgist: <b>Craig Bielke</b> Usher Team: <b>Phil Difani</b> Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b> Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Jan Boehm</b>	<b>02/15/26 Service</b> Liturgist: <b>Kathy Scherr</b> Usher Team: <b>Ken Ruff</b> Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b> Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Jan Boehm</b> Special Music: <b>Combined St. John's UCC Choir</b>
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**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**

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**www.stjohnsucchesterfield.org**

### *... Looking Ahead*

Sun	01/25/26	11:00 AM	Annual Meeting after service
Tue	01/27/26	6:30 pm	Women's Game Night
Sun	02/01/26	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
Tue	02/03/26		Bimonthly Newsletter ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
Thu	02/05/26	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Mon	02/16/26		Presidents Day (office closed)
Mon	02/16/26	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	02/17/26		Bimonthly Newsletter ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
Tue	02/17/26	10:00 AM	Book Club "The Only Woman in the Room" by Marie Benedict
Wed	02/18/26	6:00 PM	Ash Wed Service
Sun	02/22/26	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	02/22/26	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	02/22/26	4:00 PM	Ronald McDonald House Dinner ( <a href="#">link</a> )
Tue	02/24/26	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night ( <a href="#">link</a> )
Wed	02/25/26	6:00 PM	Lenten Study

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

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

*...Save the Date: VBS July 13-17th*

We are livestreaming Sunday morning services. You can join us live or watch the YouTube later.

<b>Facebook:</b> Find the livestream here: 	<b>YouTube:</b> View the video here: 	<b>Website:</b> Find more Info here: 	<b>Offering</b> 
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**Sign up for the following fun activities:** Using your phone and the QR code

 Sun, 2/22 4 pm Ronald McDonald House	 Thu, 2/26 5:30 pm Table Fellowship	 Tue, 01/27 6:30 PM Women's Game Night
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# February 2026

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

**1 pm Ex Chcl Mtg**

**2 pm Newsletter**

**3 pm Senior Ministry**

**4 pm Presidents Day**

**5 pm Office Closed**

**6 pm Council Mtg**

**11 am Sr Min Mtg**

**11 am Mission mtg**

**11 am Lenten Study**

**11 am Valentine's Day**

**11 am Ronald McDonald House**

**11 pm Lenten Study**

**12 pm Book Club**

**13 pm Girls Night Out**

**14 pm Table Fellowship**

**15 pm Ash Wednesday**

**16 pm Presidents Day**

**17 pm Newsletter**

**18 pm Book Club**

**19 pm Lenten Study**

**20 pm Lenten Study**

**21 pm Lenten Study**

**22 pm Lenten Study**

**23 pm Lenten Study**

**24 pm Lenten Study**

**25 pm Lenten Study**

**26 pm Lenten Study**

**27 pm Lenten Study**

**28 pm Lenten Study**

