

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship

October 8, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WE GET READY FOR THE WORD

Prayer of Preparation

Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting. In the slums we are the light of God's kindness to the poor. To children, to the poor, to all who suffer and are lonely, give always a happy smile—give them not only your care, but also your heart.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Welcome and Announcements

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

* Passing of the Peace

"Peace be with you!"

Prelude

Spirit of the Living God

Iverson

*Call to Worship

One: We come from the East, the West, the South, and the North into this sacred time to worship the living God who walks with us.

ALL: O, God, we worship you for who you are, for loving and granting us your grace.

One: We lift our hands in praise to you and open our hearts to worship you in the fullness of who we are.

ALL: Let us worship the Lord our God with joyful and thankful hearts. Amen!

* Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Loving God, we ask that You bless our time together, that we may hear Your words and apply them to our lives so that You will be honored and glorified. Allow your Holy Spirit to move through us so our faith grows and bears fruit. Amen!

*Hymn

"The Earth is Yours"

tune # 274

The earth is yours, O God,
and we are tenants here.
May we be ready every day,
with joy, when you appear.

We seek to be the church,
Christ's body on this earth,
Continuing the work of One
whose love proclaims our worth.

Come, reign among us here,
equipping us to serve,
That we may bear the fruit of love
and give without reserve.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confesion (*In Unison*)

O God, we bow before you to confess that we need forgiveness. We have failed you and your people many times and have neglected to do your will and love our neighbor as ourselves. We seek your wisdom and ask that your Holy Spirit create a pure heart that moves us to do what is right. We ask that your love overflow in us so we can live out our faith as a new creation to serve you and your people. Help us to strive towards a more just and kinder world for all. Amen!

Words of Grace

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Special Music

Bring Forth the Kingdom of God

Haugen

Time for the Child in us All

Pastor Lisa

Scripture: Psalm 19:1, 7-14

One: Here ends the reading. May God add blessings to the reading and hearing of the scriptures.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message

*Hymn	<i>"Rain Down"</i>	
	<i>(Refrain)</i>	
	Rain down, rain down. Rain down your love on your people. Rain down, rain down Rain down your love, God of life.	God of creation, we long for your truth; You are the water of life that we thirst, Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts, all of our hope lies in you. <i>(Refrain)</i>
	Faithful and true is the word of our God. All of God's works are so worthy of trust. God's mercy falls on the just and the right; full of God's love is the earth. <i>(Refrain)</i>	

* 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.

Response: (*"Rain Down" refrain*)

Rain down, rain down.
Rain down your love on your people.
Rain down, rain down
Rain down your love, God of life.

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.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, we give thanks for each gift given. Bless them and multiply them so that others will be blessed, and your love will be shared worldwide. Amen!

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	"How Firm a Foundation"	#618 verses 1, 2, 5
"How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent word! What more can be said than to you God has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? "Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand. "The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"		

Benediction

Postlude

The Heavens Declare thy Glory, Lord

Watts

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Preaching: **Pastor Lisa Hart**
Director of Music: Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Mark Strothmann**
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Steve Hawkinson**
Chancel Choir: **Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Jeanne Buchner, Don Duperrett, Mary Jane Duperrett, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Pisoni, Helen Stortz, Evelyn Weber**
Song leader / Soloist: **Carol Young**

Announcements

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

We pray for **Ava Baumann, June Evers, Elizabeth Hart, Bill Lubbin, Jeannie Rucker, Barbara Tretter, and Paul Van Driest**. Please let us know your prayer concerns

10/15/23 Service Liturgist: Mary Polt Usher Team: John Bartelt Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship & Lockup: Steve Hawkinson	10/22/23 Service Liturgist: Warren Stemme Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship & Lockup: Steve Hawkinson
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A Look Ahead

10/8		ECC Fundraiser begins
10/9	8:00 AM	Columbus Day (<i>office closed</i>)
10/12 & 13	9:00 AM	ECC Picture Day
10/15	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
10/15	1:00 PM	Pet Blessing (<i>pavilion</i>)
10/15	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
10/16	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
10/22	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
10/22	5:00 PM	Stemme Farm Picnic & Hayride (<i>please rsvp</i>)
10/23	6:00 PM	Last Day for ECC Fundraiser
10/23	6:00 PM	Visioning Committee
10/24	6:00 PM	Interfaith Partnership Annual Dinner
10/24	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
10/28	8:00 AM	Pumpkin Run Chesterfield (<i>please volunteer</i>)
10/29	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
10/29	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting (<i>library</i>)
10/30	9:00 AM	ECC Halloween Parade
10/31	12:00 AM	Halloween
10/31	9:00 AM	ECC Halloween Parade
11/1		All Saints Day
11/4	11:00 AM	Shirley Carmack's Funeral & Reception
11/5	12:00 AM	Daylight Savings Time ends
11/5	12:00 AM	Global Ministries pray for Brazil
11/5	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
11/5	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting (<i>library</i>)
11/6	1:30 PM	Personnel Committee Meeting (<i>zoom</i>)
11/8 & 9	12:00 AM	ECC Parent/Teacher

more at <https://www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org/fellowship> Please check your News Notes/Website for specific information around upcoming activities

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

St. John's United Church of Christ

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