

# St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship Aug 4, 2024  
*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ringling 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

*"Sicilienne"*

Faure

**\*The Call to Worship**

With patience and love, we come as one family.

**We are one body of Christ, united in God.**

Come! Speak of truth, truth told in love.

**We gather to listen, and to share our stories.**

We are God's children, parts of Christ's purpose.

**We rejoice in our gifts, and we thank God for this grace.**

Come! Now is the time to worship.

**\* Hymn**

*"Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"*

**#241 vs 1-3**

Holy Spirit, Truth divine,  
dawn upon this soul of mine.  
Voice of God, and inward Light,  
wake my spirit, clear my sight.

Holy Spirit, Love divine,  
glow within this heart of mine.  
Kindle every high desire;  
purify me with your fire.

Holy Spirit, Pow'r divine,  
fill and nerve this will of mine.  
Boldly may I always live,  
bravely serve and gladly give.

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

By the riches of your glory, strengthen us. By the power of your word and work, transform us.  
By the wisdom of your counsel, teach us. Direct our thoughts and actions, O God, lest our  
eyes deceive us and immediate self-interest betray. Be our Deliverer, surrounding us with love  
that is eternal and joy that is complete. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

Rev Katie Jo Bielke

Special Music

*"Ashoken Farewell"*

Ungar

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**Scriptures: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a**

6 When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. 27 When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

**Nathan Condemns David**

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, 12 1 and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. 2 The rich man had very many flocks and herds, 3 but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. 4 Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." 5 Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; 6 he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

7 Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; 8 I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. 9 Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. 10 Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. 11 Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight. 12 For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and in broad daylight." 13 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan said to David, "Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

* Hymn	<i>"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"</i>	#73
<p><b>There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.</b></p> <p><b>There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good! There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.</b></p>		<p><b>For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.</b></p> <p><b>If our love were but more simple, we would rest upon God's word; and our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord.</b></p>

**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**

*"Change My Heart/Lord, Be Glorified"*

**Espinosa arr. Wilson**

**\*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 grace, transform our gifts into the work of ministry. Transform our lives into your presence in the world. Through these gifts, may we grow in the knowledge of Christ and be strengthened in the unity of faith. Transform these gifts into the bread of life so that in our giving others may be fed. In your loving and nurturing name, we pray. Amen.**

**COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Table**

**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)*

**Eternal God, we thank you for your presence in this holy feast. May we know the presence of Jesus among us. Take us from this table, raised and restored, ready not to be served but to serve, in the power of the Spirit. Amen.**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

**\* Hymn**

*"Let Us Break Bread Together"*

**#425**

**Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees.**

**[Refrain:]**

**When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**[Refrain]**

**Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees.**

**[Refrain]**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**  
 Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**  
 Liturgist: **Mike Kelly**  
 Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Ken Ruff**  
 Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**  
 Communion Service: **Donna Switzer & Mary Polt**

## *Announcements*

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

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

<b>08/11/24 Service</b>	<b>08/18/24 Service</b>	<b>08/25/24 Service</b>
Liturgist: <b>Mike Kelly</b> Usher Team: <b>Ken Ruff</b> Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b> Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Ken Ruff</b> Special Music: <b>Harp</b>	Liturgist: <b>Mark Strothman</b> Usher Team: <b>Larry Sontag</b> Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b> Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Ken Ruff</b> Special Music: <b>Duets</b>	Liturgist: <b>Susie Pisoni</b> Usher Team: <b>John Bartelt</b> Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b> Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Ken Ruff</b> Special Music: <b>Violin, Voice &amp; Harp</b>

### *... Looking Ahead*

8/4	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
<b>8/9</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Biweekly Newsletter</b> ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
8/11	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
8/12	1:00 PM	Exec Council
<b>8/15</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Book Group reading "Code Name Sapphire" by Pam Jenoff</b>
<b>8/18</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Back Pack Blessing</b>
<b>8/18</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Speaker Superintendent for Rockwood Schools</b>
8/19	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
<b>8/22</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Table Fellowship at Sapore Italian Café, Kirkwood</b> <a href="#">RSVP</a>
<b>8/23</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Biweekly Newsletter</b> ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
<b>8/25</b>	<b>9:20 AM</b>	<b>Loaves &amp; Fishes</b>
8/25	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
<b>8/27</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Bunko Women's Fellowship</b>
<b>9/1</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>
9/1	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
9/2		Labor Day (office closed)
<b>9/6</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Biweekly Newsletter</b> ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> )
<b>9/8</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Rally Day</b>

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

The **Sontag** and **Messina family's** want to **thank** all of the SJUCC membership family who came out to Cherie's fundraiser on July 20th, or donated to her cancer fund. The fundraiser was a wonderful success, we estimated around 400+ people came and graciously supported Cherie and the kids. We are so, so blessed!

Many thanks for your generosity and prayers! Gods bless SJUCC and its members for all you do for our church, congregation and general community!

P.S. There are only 30 of the 100 Aruba Villa raffle tickets left. Please see Larry for details if interested.  
 Most sincerely, **Larry, Angie, Cherie, Catherine, Andrew and Abby**



WOW!! What a GREAT summer! We had so much fun during our summer camp this year. Highlights of July included; a Red, White, and Blue Bomb Pop party, water day with sprinklers, and a mini child directed car wash. Our returning Rainbow class enjoyed Medieval Week and Ocean explorations. Our younger students celebrated the end of the camp with mouse, pig, cat, and moose as they made and created delectable treats!

We are now busy making preparations for next school year that begins September 3rd. We still have openings available if you know anyone who is looking.

Laura Renth, Director St. John's ECC

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



online giving



Stained Glass Window Fund