

# St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship

June 29, 2025

*Third Sunday Ordinary Time*

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 | "Percussive Praise" | Okoro |
|---------|---------------------|-------|

### \*The Call to Worship

The way of our God is holy.

**Holy One, we seek your presence in our midst.**

The way of our God is wondrous.

**Wondrous God, we marvel at your works and marvelous deeds.**

The way of our God is awesome.

**Awesome God, we call out to you in hope.**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| * Hymn                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | "Gather Us In"                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | #284 |
| Here in this place the new light is streaming<br>Shadows of doubt are vanished away.<br>See in this space our fears and our<br>dreamings,<br>Brought here to you in the light of this day.<br>Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;<br>Gather us in; our spirits inflame.<br>Call to us now, and we shall awaken;<br>We shall arise at the sound of our name.<br><br>We are the young, our lives are a mystery;<br>We are the old, who yearn for your face.<br>We have been sung throughout all of history,<br>Called to be light to the whole human race.<br>Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;<br>Gather us in, the proud and the strong;<br>Give us a heart so meek and so lowly;<br>Give us the courage to enter the song. | Here we receive new life in the waters;<br>Here we receive the bread of new birth;<br>Here you shall call your sons and your<br>daughters,<br>Call us anew to be salt for the earth.<br>Give us to drink the wine of compassion,<br>Give us to eat the bread that is you;<br>Nourish us well and teach us to fashion<br>Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.<br><br>Not just in buildings, small and confining,<br>Not in some heaven light years away,<br>Here in this place the new light is shining;<br>Now is God present, and now is the day.<br>Gather us in and hold us forever;<br>Gather us in and make us your own;<br>Gather us in, all peoples together,<br>Fire of love in our flesh and our bone. |      |

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

Liberating One, we keep you before us. Our souls rejoice and our hearts are gladdened.

Our very beings find safety and security in your presence. We approach you with thanksgiving and anticipation. Enliven us to be your people in the world. Embolden us to live in freedom. Empower us to be your good news. Stand up in us and show us the path of life. 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.**

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**Scriptures: Galatians 5: 1, 13-25, Luke 9: 51-62**

**5** <sup>1</sup> For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. <sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

#### **The Works of the Flesh**

<sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

#### **The Fruit of the Spirit**

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

### **Luke 9:51-62**

#### **A Samaritan Village Refuses to Receive Jesus**

<sup>51</sup> When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, <sup>53</sup> but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" <sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then they went on to another village.

#### **Would-Be Followers of Jesus**

<sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." <sup>59</sup> To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." <sup>60</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup> Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." <sup>62</sup> And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## The Message

| * Hymn                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | # 241 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <p>Holy Spirit, Truth divine,<br/>dawn upon this soul of mine.<br/>Voice of God, and inward Light,<br/>wake my spirit, clear my sight.</p> <p>Holy Spirit, Love divine,<br/>glow within this heart of mine.<br/>Kindle every high desire;<br/>purify me with your fire.</p> <p>Holy Spirit, Pow'r divine,<br/>fill and nerve this will of mine.<br/>Boldly may I always live,<br/>bravely serve and gladly give.</p> | <p>Holy Spirit, Peace divine,<br/>still this restless heart of mine.<br/>Speak to calm this tossing sea,<br/>grant me your tranquility.</p> <p>Holy Spirit, Joy divine,<br/>gladden now this heart of mine.<br/>In the desert ways I sing,<br/>spring, O living Water, spring!</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 | "Immortal, Invisible" | arr. Childers |
|-----------|-----------------------|---------------|

## \*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)*

Giver of Gifts, receive the resources we bring. May they bless our community and our world. May bonds of scarcity be broken as we meet the needs around us with the gifts that you have first given to us. May we be gladdened by giving and rejoice in generosity. Amen.

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

\* Hymn

*"Lead On, O King Eternal"*

#632

Lead on, O King eternal,  
the day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
thy tents shall be our home;  
through days of preparation  
thy grace has made us strong;  
and now, O King eternal,  
we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal,  
till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper  
the sweet amen of peace;  
for not with swords loud clashing,  
nor roll of stirring drums;  
with deeds of love and mercy  
the heavenly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal,  
we follow, not with fears,  
for gladness breaks like morning  
where'er thy face appears;  
thy cross is lifted o'er us,  
we journey in its light;  
the crown awaits the conquest;  
lead on, O God of might.

### Benediction

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Preaching: **Rev. Dr. Mary Schaller Blaufuss**

Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**

Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**

Liturgist: **Carol Tindira**

Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Warren Stemme**

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

## *Announcements*

We pray for: **Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Cherie Messina, Anita Paz, Heidi Roberson, Melanie Spangler and Gloria Vaclavik.**

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

**Global Ministries** requests that we pray with **Hong Kong** this week

Please let Lynn Potts know if you are **available** on **Tuesday July 1 5:00-7:00pm** to **help** with **Faust Park concert parking**. We **need** at least **1 more volunteer**, please! St. John's is receiving sponsorship recognition in exchange for volunteering.

**Stay to enjoy the concert** which starts at 7:00! You may bring food & drinks or purchase there. [LPotts14@gmail.com](mailto:LPotts14@gmail.com); 314-494-4940

### VBS and PBJ

We will again be having a **Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive** this year during **VBS**. Bring in jars of peanut butter and jelly to donate to Circle of Concern. Feel free to drop them in the Narthex, office or the bin out front. **July 7th through the 26<sup>th</sup>**.

## ... Looking Ahead

|     |      |          |                                                    |
|-----|------|----------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Sun | 6/29 | 9:15 AM  | Loaves & Fishes                                    |
| Sun | 6/29 | 11:00 AM | Mission Meeting                                    |
| Wed | 7/2  | 11:00 AM | Senior Ministry Meeting                            |
| Thu | 7/3  | 8:00 AM  | Bimonthly Newsletter ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> ) |
| Sun | 7/6  | 10:00 AM | Communion Sunday                                   |
| Wed | 7/9  | 5:00 PM  | Newsletter Articles Due                            |
| Fri | 7/11 | 8:00 AM  | General Synod is July 11-15                        |
| Sun | 7/13 | 11:00 AM | Christian Education Mtg                            |
| Mon | 7/14 | 1:00 PM  | Exec Council Mtg                                   |
| Thu | 7/17 | 8:00 AM  | Bimonthly Newsletter ( <a href="#">subscribe</a> ) |
| Sun | 7/20 | 11:00 AM | VBS Decorating Sunday                              |
| Mon | 7/21 | 9:00 AM  | VBS                                                |
| Mon | 7/21 | 6:00 PM  | Council Meeting                                    |
| Tue | 7/22 | 9:00 AM  | VBS                                                |
| Tue | 7/22 | 6:30 PM  | Women's Game Night                                 |
| Wed | 7/23 | 9:00 AM  | VBS                                                |
| Thu | 7/24 | 9:00 AM  | VBS                                                |
| Thu | 7/24 | 5:30 PM  | Table Fellowship                                   |
| Fri | 7/25 | 9:00 AM  | VBS                                                |
| Sat | 7/26 | 5:00 PM  | Newsletter Articles Due                            |
| Sun | 7/27 | 9:15 AM  | Loaves & Fishes (may be moved to Aug 3)            |
| Sun | 7/27 | 10:00 AM | VBS Sunday                                         |
| Sun | 7/27 | 11:00 AM | Mission Meeting (may be moved to Aug 3)            |
| Tue | 7/29 | 10:00 AM | Book Club "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger |

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

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



online giving



News & Events

### 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)

### 07/06/25 Service

Liturgist: **Todd Armstrong**  
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**  
 Communion Service:  
**Carolyn Golfin & Judy Dierberg**

### 07/13/25 Service

Liturgist: **Jan Ittner**  
 Usher Team: **Phil Difani**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup:  
**Laura Dierberg Ayers**  
 Special Music: **Flute, Choir & Handbells**

### 07/20/25 Service

Liturgist: **Jane Lindberg**  
 Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup:  
**Laura Dierberg Ayers**  
 Special Music: **Vocalist**

**Sign up for Activities easily using your mobile phone and the QR codes below**

**Subscribe Newsletter**



**Women's Game Night**



**June 24th**

**Table Fellowship**



**June 26th**

**Altar Flowers**



**VBS 7/21 – 7/25 Volunteer**



**VBS July 21 – 25, 2025**



**Registration**