

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship

July 13, 2025

Fifth 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	"This is My Father's World"	arr. Page
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*The Call to Worship

"Because we come from everywhere, we all come from away."

How is it that a world so exquisitely connected through technology, can at the same time feel so **disconnected**

isolated

conflicted

within its heart? May the Spirit of this place compel us toward

compassion

curiosity

generosity.

May the Spirit of this place offer a way when there seems no way,

a home when there seems no home.

"Because we come from everywhere, we all come from away."

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

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

O Holy One, hold our beating hearts and yearning souls during this time together. May the power of your unconditional love, like fire, open us to new possibilities of being Jesus in our world. It is in the light of our Christ we pray. Amen, and Amen..

Special Music	"Jesus Our Vision"	arr. Page
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Children's Time	"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"	Rev Betsy Happel
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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: Matthew 25:31-40; John 15:12-13

Matthew 25:31-40

"Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

"Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

"Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.'

John 15:12-13

This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

The Message

* Hymn	<i>"Peace I Leave With You My Friend"</i>	
[Refrain] Peace I leave with you, my friends: Shalom my peace, in all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends, I give to you, so you can give to others, too. To share God's love is why I came, To show God's kindness to the world Go now my friends and do the same, Until I come again... [Refrain]	Take my hand and be at peace, The spirit of our love I send; And with this love you will be free, Until I come again... [Refrain] With this love you all will know, That loneliness is at an end, Rejoice my people though I go For I will come again... [Refrain]	

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

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

arr. Raney

***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 loving God, with gratitude we offer these gifts, that they may serve you and your purposes in the world. Light our pathway forward. Amen

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** Hymn**

"Pass It On"

477

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love Once you've experienced it
You spread God's love to ev'ryone you want to pass it on**

**What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing the flowers start their blooming
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it
You want to sing it's fresh like spring you want to pass it on**

**I wish for you my friend this happiness that I've found
On God you can depend it matters not where you're bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top I want my world to know
The Lord of love has come to me I want to pass it on**

Benediction

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Preaching: **Rev Betsy Happel**

Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**

Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**

Liturgist: **Jan Ittner**

Usher Team: **Phil Difani**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**

Flautist: **Jennifer Adams** Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**
 Handbells: **Norma Armstrong, Jan Boehm, Lee Difani, Barb Nichols, Scott Nichols, Christine Norton, Ruth Notch**
 Chancel Choir: **Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Jeanne Buchner, Don Duperrett, Mary Jane Duperrett, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Pisoni, Evelyn Weber**

Announcements

We pray for: **Tyler Ackerman, 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 **France** this week

A big **thank you** to all the volunteers who helped with the **Chesterfield Chamber concert parking** for the first 4 concerts! We handed out over 400 concert schedules which also had information about the church and preschool. The Chamber also provides signage and mentions St. John's UCC as a sponsor at all concerts. This is a great opportunity to increase our exposure to the community. The concerts are free to all; volunteers and sponsors make this possible. **Thanks to Carol Tindira, Ruth Notch, Larry Sontag, Diane Nemec, Kathy & Mike Scherr, Susie & Jim Pisoni, Ken & Jackie Ruff, Monica Hart and Brian Spahr.**

The **Marilyn Norton Scholarship Fund** was established to honor SJECC's founding director, Marilyn Norton, and it is used to provide assistance to families in need with help in covering the cost of preschool tuition.

If you would **like to make a donation** to the Fund, please **contact Laura Hewgley or John Bartelt**. Gifts can be made **payable to SJECC** and please **note** they are for the **Marilyn Norton Scholarship Fund**.

Coffee with Reverend Dollgener

Will not be meeting over the next 2 weeks.

Needed: Postcards from all over.

In VBS we are taking a Road Trip with God, so we are looking for postcards from all over to hang on our bulletin board. Please **ask friends and family** from out of town to send postcards by July 14 to St. John's UCC 15370 Olive Blvd Chesterfield, MO 63017.

VBS and PBJ

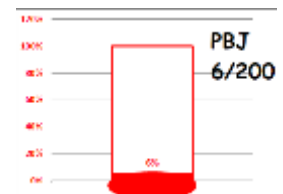
We will again be having a **Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive** this year during VBS. Bring in jars of peanut butter and jelly to donate to Circle of Concern. Feel free to drop them in the Narthex, office or the bin out front. **July 7th through the 26th.**



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

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Chesterfield MO 63017
(636) 532-0540
stjohnsuccconlive@gmail.com
www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org

07/20/25 Service
 Liturgist: **Jane Lindberg**
 Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup:
Laura Dierberg Ayers
 Special Music: **Vocalist**

07/27/25 Service
 Liturgist: **Merilee Dauster**
 Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
 Special Music: **VBS kids**

08/03/25 Service
 Liturgist: **Lynn Potts**
 Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Monica Hart**
 Special Music: **VBS kids**

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

... Looking Ahead

Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive

Sun	7/13	11:00 AM	Christian Education Mtg
Mon	7/14	1:00 PM	Exec Council Mtg
Wed	7/16	6:00 PM	VBS Training
Thu	7/17	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter (subscribe)
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	10:00 AM	VBS Sunday
Tue	7/29	10:00 AM	Book Club "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger
Tue	7/29	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollenger
Thu	7/31	10:00 AM	Coffee with Rev. Dollenger

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

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