

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship September 15, 2024

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ringing 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

"Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him"

Blake

***The Call to Worship**

The heavens shout of God's glory!

There is so much beauty in this earth and in the heavens!

Day by day we are reminded of God's creative love.

Day by day we are blessed with large and small visions of God's glory.

Come, let us praise the God of creation.

Let us sing and shout our praises of thanksgiving and joy to God. AMEN.

*** Hymn**

"Morning has Broken"

#53

Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the word

Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day

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

God of wisdom and truth, speak to us now. Inspire us with your word. Speak clearly to our hearts, that we may walk in your ways and live in your love. In the name of Christ, our Messiah, we pray. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

Rev Katie Jo Bielke

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Mark 8:27-38

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

27 Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" 28 And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." 29 He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." 30 And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. 32 He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

34 He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. 36 For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? 37 Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 38 Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

* Hymn	"Lift High the Cross"	#108
Refrain: Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.	Each newborn servant of the Crucified bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died. (Refrain)	
Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign. The hosts of God in unity combine. (Refrain)	O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, your death has brought us life eternally. (Refrain)	
	So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the crucified for victory. (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

"Holy Gifts We Offer"

Southbridge

***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)*

As we share our bread, open our ears and hearts to learn to live by faith, not sight. Free us from our tendency to be possessive and protective, that we may experience the freedom and joy of giving. May faith and works together fill our lives with meaning and purpose. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** Hymn**

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

#726 vs 1-4

in Glory to God Hymnal

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Benediction

Postlude

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
Liturgist: **Todd Armstrong**
Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Monica Hart**
Organist: **Evelyn Weber**
Songleaders: **Kathy & Mike Scherr**

Announcements

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

09/22/24 Service
Liturgist: **Jan Ittner**
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Monica Hart**
Special Music: **Piano Duets**

09/29/24 Service
Liturgist: **Rev. Dr. Rich Brandon**
Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Monica Hart**
Special Music: **Handbells**

10/06/24 Service
Liturgist: **Merilee Dauster**
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Steve Hawkinson**
Special Music: **x**

We pray for
Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Kevin Beatty, Donna Dollgener, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina and Gloria Vaclavik. Please let us know your prayer concerns
If you have private prayer concerns please speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke.

... Looking Ahead

9/16	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
9/17	10:00 AM	Book Group Reading "American Dirt" by Jeanine Cummins.
9/17	5:30 PM	SJECC Board meeting
9/19	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship at Ya Ya's (please RSVP in the Narthex)
9/20	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
9/24	6:30 PM	Women's Fellowship
9/29	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
9/29	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
9/29	2:00 PM	Crop Walk
9/29	4:30 PM	Ronald McDonald House (please RSVP in the Narthex)
10/4	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
10/6	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
10/6	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
10/9		Day trip to Hermann, MO
10/12		Festival of Sharing
10/13	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Democratic Republic of Congo
10/13	10:00 AM	Pet Blessing & Outdoor service at the Pavilion
10/13	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
10/14	1:00 PM	Exec Council
10/14		Columbus Day (office closed)

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

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

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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online giving

The ECC is running a fundraiser over the next few weeks. Find order forms in the Narthex.
 If you have any questions contact Amanda Jones amanda122jones@gmail.com



Want to put your cooking and serving skills to use for a good cause?
 Then help us prepare and serve a meal to Ronald McDonald House families! Rsvp in Narthex or QR code to the right. >>

Date: **Sunday, Sept 29**

Time: **4:30 to 7:30 pm**

Place: **300 Ronald McDonald House Lane, 63141**

Questions? **Contact Monica Hart or Susie Pisoni**



RSVP Ronald McDonald House