

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship February 2, 2025

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

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

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Branbury arr. Parks

*The Call to Worship

The Spirit of God is upon us.

We are called to be God's people.

The Spirit of God is upon us.

We are called to be the body of Christ.

Come let us worship God, who binds us together in love and service.

We gather to celebrate God's all-embracing love.

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*)

Gracious God, we come as we are – distracted and weary, hopeful and open, but we know that you accept us and are ever mindful of our cares and joys. Still in us now the many voices that clamor for attention, that we might center ourselves upon you. Speak to us in word and melody and quiet, that we may be renewed in our faith and strengthened for your service. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

Pastor Katie Jo

“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.**

Special Music

“What Beautiful Name”

Fielding arr. Brown

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Scriptures: Luke 4:14-21

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

14 Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

Lord, whose love in humble service
 Bore the weight of human need,
 Who upon the cross, forsaken,
 offered mercy’s perfect deed:
 We, your servants, bring the worship
 Not of voice alone, but heart;
 Consecrating to Your purpose
 Every gift which You impart.

As we worship, grant us vision,
 Till your love’s revealing light
 In its height and depth and greatness
 Dawns upon our quickened sight,
 Making known the needs and burdens
 Your compassion bids us bear,
 Stirring us to tireless striving
 Your abundant life to share.

Still Your children wander homeless;
 Still the hungry cry for bread;
 Still the captives long for freedom;
 Still in grief we mourn our dead.
 As O Lord your deep compassion
 Healed the sick and freed the soul,
 Use the love your Spirit kindles
 Still to save and make us whole.

Called by worship to your service,
 Forth in your dear name we go
 To the child, the youth, the aged,
 Love in living deeds to show;
 Hope an health, good will and comfort,
 Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
 That your servants, Lord, in freedom
 May Your mercy know and live.

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

“O For A Thousand Tongues”

arr. Campbell

***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)**

Accept these gifts, O God. Use them to the greatest good they can accomplish here in our midst and far beyond our individual reach. We present them in thanksgiving for all you have given us and in gratitude for the privilege of sharing in your work. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation

Remembering the Story

Blessing the Elements

Sharing the Meal (*the gluten free wafers are on a separate tray*)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

Hymn	<i>"Let Us Break Bread Together"</i>	#425
<p>Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Refrain:] When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me</p>	<p>Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Refrain]</p> <p>Let us praise God together on our knees; Let us praise God together on our knees.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[Refrain]</p>	

Benediction

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Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
 Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**
 Liturgist: **Carol Tindira**
 Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Jan Boehm**
 Communion Service: **Carolyn Golfin & Judy Dierberg**
 Violinist: **Hannah Frey**

Announcements

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

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

<p>02/09/25 Service Liturgist: Todd Armstrong Usher Team: Larry Sontag Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Jan Boehm Special Music: Flute</p>	<p>02/16/25 Service Liturgist: Jan Ittner Usher Team: John Bartelt Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Jan Boehm Special Music: Chancel Choir</p>	<p>02/23/25 Service Liturgist: Jane Lindberg Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Jan Boehm</p>
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online giving



St. John's News & Events

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

... Looking Ahead

Mon	2/3 & 2/17	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter
Sat	2/8	3:00 PM	Everybody's Big Birthday Bash
Sun	2/9	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due EOD for the 17th
Wed	2/19	10:00 AM	Book Group "Beartown"
Sun	2/23	3:00 PM	Pastor Katie Joe Bielke's Installation
Thu	2/20	10:30 AM	Tour of Clark Branch Library Geneology
Sun	2/23	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	2/23	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	2/23	3:00 PM	Pastor Katie Joe Bielke's Installation
Tue	2/25	6:30 PM	Women's Game Night
Wed	2/26	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due EOD for the 3rd
Thu	2/27	5:30 PM	Table Fellowship

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

Everybody's Birthday Bash



RSVP

Table Fellowship



RSVP

Women's Game Night



RSVP

Geneology Tour



RSVP

California Wildfires



Donate

Pastor Katie Jo's Installation



RSVP