

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

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

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

arr. Hobby

***The Call to Worship**

The stone has been rolled away!

Christ is Risen!

The tomb is found empty!

Christ is Risen!

The angel has told us, "He is not here."

Christ is Risen!

Hope lives!

Christ is Risen!

Love wins!

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

*** Hymn**

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

#216

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation join to say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious king; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ was led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

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

O God, we thank you for sending Jesus to proclaim your peace, and that you are God of all. We give you thanks that the forces of evil could destroy neither him nor your peace. We gather to worship you and to proclaim that we are your Easter people. By your Holy Spirit help us preach your peace by the way we live, in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

Rev. Katie Jo Bielke

Special Music

"An Easter Call to Praise"

Vulpius arr. Nordmeyer

Call to Confession.

Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

We tremble, Mighty God, before your awesome power to bring good from evil, new life from death. We have done things our own way, putting ourselves first and sometimes trying to be God. We have rejected the way of Jesus, because self-giving love seems so impractical and dangerous. O God, we want to live more faithful lives, for our old behavior is unfulfilling, and there is no peace inside us or around us. Help us, God, and deliver us from our own evil. Amen.

Words of Grace

God swallows up death, wipes away tears, and takes away our reproach. We shall not die, but live to recount the deeds of God. Let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation, for it comes to each one who is open to receiving the gift. Praise God! Alleluia! Amen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: Mark 16:1-8 & Acts 10:34-43

Mark 16:1-8

The Resurrection of Jesus

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" 4 When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. 6 But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." 8 So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Intermediate Ending of Mark

[[And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation. Amen.]]

Acts 10:34-43

Gentiles Hear the Good News

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. 36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39 We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, 40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

* Hymn

"Thine is the Glory"

#218

Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes
where thy body lay.

[Refrain:]
Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing.
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting. (*Refrain*)

No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life!
Life is nought without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love.
Bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. (*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

"Thine is the Glory"

Handel are. 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*)

God of Hosts, we rejoice in the privilege of sharing in your work among us. May these offerings witness to all Jesus said and did, both as we gather for inspiration and growth and as we extend helping hands around the world. Amen.

GATHERING AT THE TABLE

The Invitation

We celebrate you today, Jesus, because you have made it clear that death does not have the last word; because you have filled us again with hope and faith; because you have given us a vision of new possibilities, new realities, and new ways of being.

Open our minds to believe what we cannot explain;

Open our hearts to hope for what we cannot see;

Open our lives to live and to love in the midst of death and despair;

Let resurrection happen again in us today.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

So now, as Jesus encouraged us, we choose to remember so that we too can truly live.

Telling the Story

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*In Unison*)

God of Resurrection, we have eaten, we have drunk, we have tasted your goodness. We give you thanks for the new life we know in the Spirit of Jesus, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion—oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and risen life that never ends. In Christ's name we pray. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	"He Lives!"	#226
I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today; I know that He is living, whatever others say; I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer, And just the time I need Him, He's always near. REFRAIN He lives, he lives Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart!	In all the world around me I see His loving care, And tho' my heart grows weary I never will despair; I know that He is leading through all the stormy blast, The day of His appearing will come at last. (Refrain) Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King! The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find, None other is so loving, so good and kind. (Refrain)	

Benediction

Postlude

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Please join us after service for our
Easter Egg Hunt!!

Preaching: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Mark Strothman**
Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellow & Lockup: **Jan Boehm**
Children's Time: **Rev. Katie Jo**

Choir: **Meher Arora, Mary Bowers, Ellen Brandon, Rich Brandon, Jeanne Buchner, Don Duperett, Mary Jane Duperett, Carolyn Golfin, Susie Pisoni, Helen Stortz, Evelyn Weber.**

Handbells: **Erin Armstrong, Norma Armstrong, Jan Boehm, Lee Difani, Barb Nichols, Ruth Notch, Scott Nichols, Jim Pisoni**

Announcements

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

We pray for **Richard Camp, June Evers, Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina, Kathy Scherr, Barbara Tretter** and **Gloria Vaclavik** Please let us know your prayer concerns

04/07/24 Service

Liturgist: **David Leech**
Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellow & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**
Children's Time: **Rev. Katie Jo**
Special Music: **Handbells**

04/14/24 Service

Liturgist: **Susie Pisoni**
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellow & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**
Children's Time: **Rev. Brandon**
Special Music: **Choir**

04/21/24 Service

Liturgist: **Carolyn Golfin**
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellow & Lockup: **Lynn Potts**
Children's Time: **Open**
Special Music: **Flautist**

... Looking Ahead

March/April

3/31 11:00 AM
4/5 8:00 AM
4/7 10:00 AM
4/7 11:00 AM
4/7
4/8 4:30 PM
4/12 5:30 PM
4/14
4/14
4/15 6:30 PM
4/17 10:30 AM
4/18 6:00 PM
4/19 8:00 AM
4/21 11:00 AM
4/21
4/22
4/23 6:30 PM
4/25 6:00 PM
4/28 9:15 AM
4/28 11:00 AM
4/28

Collecting for Loaves and Fishes

Easter Egg Hunt
Biweekly Newsletter
Communion Sunday
Senior Ministry Meeting
Global Ministries Pray for Lesotho
Christian Education Committee
Wine Tasting
Global Ministries Pray for Puerto Rico
Name Tag order forms due.
Council Meeting
Donald Danforth Plant Science Center Tour
ECC Art Show
Biweekly Newsletter
Earth Day Movie following services
Global Ministries Pray for Lebanon/Syria
Earth Day
Bunko Women's Fellowship
Table Fellowship at TBD
Loaves & Fishes
Mission Meeting
Global Ministries Pray for Korea

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

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

During March, we plan to collect much-needed shelter supplies. Please help us by donating urgently needed supplies beginning **March 17 and ending April 8**. Those needs are:

Diapers 3t and up
Unscented Sanitary
Allergy Meds for Adults
Cold Meds for Children
Cold Meds for Adults

Baby Wipes
Laundry Soap
Napkins
Lotion

Multi Surface Cleaner
Unscented Tampons
Lysol
Tylenol
Deodorant



Use the QR code to see our registry

**Wine Tasting Friday April 12, 5pm in the Community Room \$12 per person
Friends and family welcome!**

Due to the number of tastings per bottle, we will reserve in groups of 12 participants. Once there are 12 paid reservations, a "wait list" will be created for an additional 12 participants. Please contact Lynn Potts now to reserve your spot! LPotts14@gmail.com

Donald Danforth Plant Science Center Tour April 17 at 10:30 am followed by **lunch in our cafe**. Sign in at 10:20 am Tours generally last one hour and are fairly walking intensive (stairs, ramps, walkways). Participants must be 18 years or older. Photography is permitted in the public areas but NOT ALLOWED in labs, core facilities or greenhouses. Please do not bring food or drink, other than bottled water. Sign up in the Narthex or ONLINE.

MOVIE DAY AT ST. JOHN'S!

The Mission Team cordially invites you to a **movie** to be **shown after service on Earth Day Sunday, April 21**. Just **join us downstairs** for snacks and a showing of "**Common Ground**". The film will center around how regenerating the world's soils has the potential to rapidly stabilize Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies. The invitation is open to all, so **ask your friends and neighbors to join us!** RSVP on sign-up sheet in the Narthex

NAMETAGS

With the arrival of **Pastor Katie Jo** and her first service on March 10, we are reminding everyone to try and remember **to wear your nametag** at church! Orders due **April 14**.

What's Your Name?

Our member nurture team is excited to announce the designing of our new magnetic St. John's name tags! You don't want to miss the chance to order one.

Cost is \$15 each

*****Please let us know if you need an alternate backing for those with pacemakers**

Questions: Please see Lee Difani, or Jan Boehm

Name Displayed: _____

Alternate Backing: YES / NO (If you have a pace maker)

**15370 Olive Blvd. Chesterfield MO 63017 (636) 532-0540
stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org**

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



*The Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary today
were given to the Glory of God ...*

In Honor of my family given by Jan Boehm.

In Memory of Dorothy & Roy Steiner, Pearl & George Hill, John Boehm given by Jan Boehm.

In Memory of Leonard and LaVerne Haas given by Charlie and Marjorie Neubert.

In Memory of Michael Hart given by Monica Hart & Brian Spahr.

In Celebration of the arrival of Pastor Katie Jo given by Helen Stortz and Richard Camp.

In Celebration of a new grandchild given by Helen Stortz and Richard Camp.

In Celebration of family and friends given by Todd and Norma Armstrong.

In Honor of our family given by Ken and Jackie Ruff.

In Celebration of our family given by Mel and Ruth Kohl.

In Memory of my mother June Ackerman given by Barb Ackerman.

In Memory of my sister Dara Ackerman given by Barb Ackerman.

In Celebration of our mother Arland Stemme given by the Stemme Family.

In Memory of George Tindira given by Carol Tindira.

In Memory of Hugo Paz given by Anita Paz.

In Celebration of our family given by Dean and Jean Goldenstein.

In Memory of loved ones given by Dean and Jean Goldenstein.

Please feel free to take you lilies after the service.