

# St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship      October 13, 2024

*Blessing of the Animals*

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

## 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

* Hymn	"All Creatures of Our God and King"	#22 vs 1-3
All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia, Alleluia! O burning sun with golden beam, O silver moon with softer gleam:  [Refrain] O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!	O rushing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heav'n along, O praise God, Alleluia! O rising morn, in praise rejoice, you lights of evening find a voice: [refrain]  O flowing water, pure and clear, make music for your God to hear, Alleluia, Alleluia! O blazing fire who lights the night, providing warmth, enhancing sight. [refrain]	

## \*The Call to Worship

*("The Calling of the Creatures" by Ian W. Riddell)*

Come hoof and trunk and tail and horn and paw and wing and claw;

**Come bird and reptile, mammal born all full of nature's law.**

Bring bark and crow and ribbit, too and silent stare and hiss;

**Bring purr and trill and warble, too and voice no ear can miss.**

We gather here each life and all to celebrate and sing

**to honor creature large and small 'Tis holiness we bring.**

Time for the Child

Rev Katie Jo Bielke

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## Scriptures: Psalm 104:10-25

10 You make springs gush forth in the valleys;

they flow between the hills,

11 giving drink to every wild animal;

the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;

they sing among the branches.

13 From your lofty abode you water the mountains;

the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

- 14 You cause the grass to grow for the cattle  
and plants for people to cultivate,  
to bring forth food from the earth
- 15 and wine to gladden the human heart,  
oil to make the face shine  
and bread to strengthen the human heart.
- 16 The trees of the field are watered abundantly,  
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
- 17 In them the birds build their nests;  
the stork has its home in the fir trees.
- 18 The high mountains are for the wild goats;  
the rocks are a refuge for the coney.
- 19 You have made the moon to mark the seasons;  
the sun knows its time for setting.
- 20 You make darkness, and it is night,  
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.
- 21 The young lions roar for their prey,  
seeking their food from God.
- 22 When the sun rises, they withdraw  
and lie down in their dens.
- 23 People go out to their work  
and to their labor until the evening.
- 24 O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.
- 25 There is the sea, great and wide;  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great..

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## Message

### Pastoral Prayer

Gracious God, you created the earth and all that is in it and proclaimed it good. All this belongs to you, and yet we harm your creation. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to be champions of all those who suffer, so that we may be channels of your goodness.

**Hear us, O Lord!**

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of the prophets who remind us of your true purpose and for those special people who minister with tenderness to all living beings.

**Hear us, O Lord!**

We give you thanks, O God, for animals who live in our homes, on farms, in the wild, and in havens of refuge. Make us ever aware of our stewardship of creation, and help us to be faithful in caring for all you have created.

**Hear us, O Lord!**

We pray today for animals who are mistreated in any way... for those who are tortured, deserted, abused, exploited and used for unnecessary experimentation, and for any whose lives are spent in extreme confinement. Help us to stop abuse in any form. Open our mouths to the defense of the defenseless, and above all, open our lives to your ways.

**Hear us, O Lord!**

We ask forgiveness for the part we have all played in systems that employ violence and promote hardness of heart.

**Hear us, O Lord!**

We remember before you our companion animals who have died. We remember at this time also, those animals who are lost or separated from their owners.

**Hear us, O Lord!**

**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.**

**Mission Moment - Open Door Animal Sanctuary**

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

\* **Hymn**

*"All Things Bright and Beautiful"*

**#61**

**Refrain:**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful:  
in love God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors,  
and made their tiny wings. [refrain]**

**The purple-headed mountain,  
the river running by,  
the sunset and the morning  
that brightens up the sky. [refrain]**

**The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden,  
God made them every one. [refrain]**

**Benediction**

**Individual Animal Blessings**

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**Pastor: Rev. Katie Jo Bielke  
Liturgist: Lynn Potts  
Usher Team: Ken Ruff  
Technology: Steve Hawkinson  
Fellowship/Lockup: Steve Hawkinson  
Songleaders: Kathy & Mike Scherr**

***Announcements***

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.

**Global Ministries** requests that we pray with **The Democratic Republic of Congo** this week

<p><b>10/20/24 Service</b>          Liturgist: <b>Danielle Dolan</b>          Usher Team: <b>Ken Ruff</b>          Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b>          Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b>          Special Music: <b>Violinist</b></p>	<p><b>10/27/24 Service</b>          Liturgist: <b>Jane Lindberg</b>          Usher Team: <b>Larry Sontag</b>          Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b>          Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b>          Special Music: <b>Choir &amp; Handbells</b></p>	<p><b>11/3/24 Service</b>          Liturgist: <b>Ellen Brandon</b>          Usher Team: <b>John Bartelt</b>          Technology: <b>Steve Hawkinson</b>          Fellowship/Lockup: <b>Carol Tindira</b>          Special Music: <b>x</b></p>
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<p><b>Join us on Sundays</b>          9:00 a.m. - <b>Fellowship</b> in Fellowship Hall          10:00 a.m. – <b>Sunday School</b>          10:00 a.m. – <b>Worship</b>          In-Person, Facebook Live, or Virtual</p>	<p><b>15370 Olive Blvd. Chesterfield MO 63017</b>   <b>(636) 532-0540</b>  <b><a href="mailto:stjohnsuccnonlive@gmail.com">stjohnsuccnonlive@gmail.com</a></b>  <b><a href="http://www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org">www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org</a></b></p>
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*... Looking Ahead*

Sun 10/13	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
Mon 10/14	1:00 PM	Exec Council
Mon 10/14		Columbus Day (office closed)
<b>Tue 10/15</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Book Group 'The Lincoln Highway' by Amor Towles.</b>
<b>Wed 10/16</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Day trip to Hermann, MO</b> (please RSVP in the Narthex or QR below)
<b>Thu 10/17</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Scam Awareness Presentation by Chesterfield Police Dept</b>
Fri 10/18	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
<b>Fri 10/18</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Circle of Concern Trivia Night</b> (please RSVP in the Narthex)
<b>Sun 10/20</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Medicare Made Easy Ted Gottlieb</b> (please RSVP Narthex or QR)
Mon 10/21	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
<b>Tue 10/22</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Women's Game Night</b>
<b>Thu 10/24</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Table Fellowship at Mimi's Cafe</b> (please RSVP Narthex or QR code)
<b>Sat 10/26</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Stemme Farm Picnic Setup</b> (please volunteer)
<b>Sun 10/27</b>	<b>9:20 AM</b>	<b>Loaves &amp; Fishes</b>
Sun 10/27	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
<b>Sun 10/27</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Stemme Farm Picnic</b> (please RSVP in the Narthex or QR below)
Fri 11/1	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
<b>Sat 11/2</b>		<b>Gateway Housing Service Project</b> (please RSVP Narthex or QR)
<b>Sun 11/3</b>	<b>12:00 AM</b>	<b>Daylight Savings Time Ends</b>

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



RSVP Day Trip HERRMANN



RSVP MEDICARE Made Easy



RSVP TABLE FELLOWSHIP



RSVP STEMME FARM



Volunteer for GHSP



online giving