

# St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship      April 6, 2025

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

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

*"The Timeless Cannon"*

Pachelbel arr. Eithun

## \*The Call to Worship

Come to sit at the feet of Jesus, to worship and hear God's message for you.

**We count everything else as loss because knowing Jesus is worth so much more.**

God has done great things for us, and is doing a new thing among us now.

**We come, not because we are righteous, but because our faith compels us to stand with Christ.**

The power of Christ's resurrection is ours to proclaim and to share.

**Forgetting what lies behind, we press toward the goal of the upward call of God in Jesus Christ.**

## \* Hymn

*"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"*

#6

Sing praise to God who reigns above,  
the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love,  
the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled  
and every faithless murmur stilled:  
to God all praise and glory!

Our God is never far away,  
but through all grief distressing,  
an ever present help and stay,  
our peace and joy and blessing.  
As with a mother's tender hand  
God gently leads the chosen band;  
to God all praise and glory!

Then all my gladsome way along  
I sing aloud your praises  
that all may hear the grateful song  
my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,  
both soul and body take your part;  
to God all praise and glory!

Let all who name Christ's holy name  
give God all praise and glory;  
let all who own God's power proclaim  
aloud the wondrous story!  
Cast each false idol from its throne,  
for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone;  
to God all praise and glory!

## \*Invitation to Confession

## \* Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

O God, we confess that too often we have made decisions based on what would make us comfortable or bring us stability. You have promised to never let go of us, so give us courage to trust and follow you into the great unknown. Amen.

**\*Words of Grace**

Let go of your fears. God has forgiven you and offered to you God’s healing love. Accept this free gift and know that you are forgiven and loved.

**Children’s Time**

*“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”*

**Pastor Katie Jo**

**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**

*“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

**Mason arr. Kauffmann**

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

**Scriptures: John 12:1-8**

**Mary Anoints Jesus**

**12** Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’s feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” <sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

**\* Hymn**

*“O, How I Love Jesus”*

**#99**

**There is a name I love to hear,  
I love to speak its worth;  
it sounds like music in my ear,  
the sweetest name on earth.**

**Refrain:**

**O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
because he first loved me!**

**It tells me of a Savior's love,  
who died to set me free;  
it tells me of his precious blood,  
the sinner's perfect plea. (Refrain)**

**It tells of one whose loving heart  
can feel my deepest woe,  
who in my sorrow bears a part  
that none can bear below. (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**

**\*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 Lord, we bring our gifts to you, and offer them as symbols of sacrifice and service. We seek to share the story of suffering love that fulfills and conquers death. Bless these gifts and all who give; use our wealth, our time, our abilities for the good of all your people. Amen.**

COMMUNION

**Invitation**

**Remembering the Story**

**Blessing the Elements**

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

**Prayer of Thanksgiving *(In Unison)***

**Beloved One, if we grow weary in love, may this meal live on as a reminder of what sustains us. In seeking the flourishing you intend for us, our neighbors, and this planet, keep our hearts tender, our spirits alive, and our senses attuned to the beauty that surrounds us. With gratitude for your abiding presence, we pray. Amen.**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

**\*Hymn**

*"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"*

**# 518**

**This is a day of new beginnings,  
time to remember and move on,  
time to believe what love is bringing,  
laying to rest the pain that's gone.**

**For by the life and death of Jesus,  
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,  
can make for us a world of difference,  
as faith and hope are born again.**

**Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,  
step from the past and leave behind  
our disappointment, guilt and grieving,  
seeking new paths, and sure to find.**

**In faith we gather round the table  
to taste and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings;  
our God is making all things new.**

**Benediction**

Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**  
 Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**  
 Liturgist: **Warren Stemme**  
 Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Karen & Dan Rocchio**  
 Communion Service: **Carolyn Golfin & Judy Dierberg**  
 Handbells: **Norma Armstrong, Pastor Katie Jo Bielke, Jan Boehm, Lee Difani, Barb Nichols, Scott Nichols, Christine Norton, Ruth Notch, Jim Pisoni**

## *Announcements*

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

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

Please pick up an invitation in the narthex and share it with a friend or neighbor.

**04/13/25 Service**  
 Liturgist: **Carolyn Golfin**  
 Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Lynn Potts**  
 Special Music: **Violin**

**04/20/25 Service**  
 Liturgist: **Amanda Jones**  
 Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Lynn Potts**  
 Special Music: **Handbells & Choir**

**4/27/25 Service**  
 Liturgist: **Danny Mueller**  
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**  
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**  
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Lynn Potts**  
 Special Music: **Flute**

Current Needs in *Circle of Concern's* Food Pantry (updated 3/14/2025).

Dinner Helpers	Pasta Sauce	Canned Fruit	Condiments
Snacks (8-12 servings/package)	Size 5 and 6 Diapers	Baby wipes	

**Altar Flowers**

You may purchase flowers for the altar for \$40. This is a nice way to commemorate a birthday or anniversary, a new member of the family or a celebration like the end of school or retirement. We will print the information in the bulletin and you are free to bring the flowers home with you after services. Please contact the office to arrange. 636-532-0540

**SPRING CLEANUP**

Let's get our church grounds ready for Palm Sunday and Easter! If you can, please join us on Saturday, April 12th from 9:00 am to noon to help spruce up our planting beds and grounds! We will be raking leaves, pulling out weeds, trimming some bushes, picking up limbs, etc. Any amount of time is appreciated. Snacks and drinks provided! For more info, you may contact Warren Stemme at [warren.stemme@gmail.com](mailto:warren.stemme@gmail.com), or by cell at 314-614-8897.

*... Looking Ahead*

<b>Sun</b>	<b>4/6</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>
Sun	4/6	11:00 AM	Christian Education
<b>Mon</b>	<b>4/7</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Lenten Study</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>4/9</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Bellefontaine cemetery tour (limit 10)</b>
Wed	4/9	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due EOD
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4/13</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4/13</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>General Synod Volunteer information session</b>
Mon	4/14	1:00 PM	Exec Council Mtg
<b>Thu</b>	<b>4/17</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Bimonthly Newsletter</b>
<b>Thu</b>	<b>4/17</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday Meal &amp; Service</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>4/18</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Good Friday Service</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4/20</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Easter</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4/20</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Easter Egg Hunt (please rsvp)</b>
Mon	4/21	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
<b>Tue</b>	<b>4/22</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Women's Game Night rsvp (<a href="#">link</a>)</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>4/23</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Book Group "All the colors of the Dark" Chris Whitaker</b>
<b>Thu</b>	<b>4/24</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Table Fellowship (<a href="#">rsvp</a>)</b>
Fri	4/25	5:30 PM	Trivia Night
Sat	4/26	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due EOD
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4/27</b>	<b>9:20 AM</b>	<b>Loaves &amp; Fishes</b>
Sun	4/27	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
<b>Thu</b>	<b>5/1</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>Movie "Ultimate Love"</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>5/3</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Bimonthly Newsletter</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>5/4</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>5/7</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Senior Ministry Meeting</b>

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



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

15370 Olive Blvd.  
 Chesterfield MO 63017  
 (636) 532-0540  
 stjohsuccconolive@gmail.com  
 www.stjohsuccchesterfield.org

Sign up for Activities easily using your mobile phone and the QR codes below

VBS 7/21 – 7/25



Volunteer Now

Butter braids fundraiser ECC



thru Apr 7

Lenten Study



Monday 10 AM

Bellefontaine Cemetery Tour



Apr 9

Maundy Thu Meal



Apr 17

Easter Egg Hunt



Apr 20

Women's Game Night



Apr 22

Table Fellowship



Apr 24

## April 2025

 Lily Orders Due End of March		1	2	3	4	5 ECC Fundraiser due Apr 7
6 Study 10 am	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Gn Synod Info mtg	14	15	16 ECC Art Show	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Feel free to take a copy of the calendar from the Narthex for your home.