

St. John's United Church of Christ

10 A.M. Worship Nov 23, 2025
Twenty Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time
TotenFest

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

"Come, Ye Thankful People Come"

Elvey arr. Smith/Hustad

*The Call to Worship

Mysterious God, creating cosmos, universe, and planets; joining atom to atom, molecule to molecule,

In the energy of life, we praise you!

Compassionate God, revealing your freeing presence to Moses, your justice to Amos, your parental love to Jesus,

In the lives of your faithful ones, we know you!

Faith-community God, gathering your people in hope, sustaining them in hardship, calling them in loving action,

Through the life of this fellowship, we serve you!

* Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

#715

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom the world rejoices,
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us full of grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
our Father and our Mother,
to Christ and to the One
who binds us to each other,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

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

With all the saints of every time and place we come to worship you, God Most High. We praise your glory and rejoice in the wisdom you reveal to us. Enlighten us once more in this time of adoration and blessing. Fill us with hope, even when conditions around us seem only to hurt and destroy. Help us to do good and show mercy, expecting nothing in return. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All	<i>"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"</i>	Pastor Katie Jo
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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	<i>"Simple Gifts"</i>	arr. Stephenson
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WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Salutation

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Thanksgiving and Encouragement

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. 6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11 For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, 12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. 13 Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

**For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
their strength and solace in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, the one true light. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We live and struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the conflict long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia, alleluia!**

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 or mail. We are grateful for your support.)

Offertory*"For the Beauty of the Earth"***arr. Ingram*****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*)

**Creator God, take these gifts as seeds of trust, planted in hope and watered with gratitude.
Even when our faith feels small, you multiply our offering into acts of healing, welcome,
and justice. So, increase not only our faith, Lord, but also our willingness to serve—with
humility, joy, and confidence that you are at work through every generous act. Amen.**

Totenfest

**For all the Saints who have gone before us,
God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith.
For all the Saints who were beloved to us,
God, we give thanks for our loved ones who have passed on.
For all the Saints who have left us too soon,
God, we mourn their passing, and they remain in our hearts.
For all the Saints who have exemplified the faithful life,
God, may we learn from their ways and follow You.
On this day, we remember all those who are in our hearts.**

Naming of the Honored Dead

David Robert Dauster 3/23/25
Cherrie Messina 10/26/25
Jane Stieger 10/28/25

Remembrance Prayer *(In Unison)*

God, we remember those who have passed through this life, especially those who died this past year. We celebrate their life and commemorate their blessed memory. We pray for those who mourn, who grieve not only the passing of loved ones, but the passing of the year. Help us to remember that our measure of days is in Your hand, and that You will surely welcome us into our everlasting, heavenly home. In Your mercy and peace we pray, Amen.

Welcoming the New Life Among Us

Ross Martin Scherr 4/13/25
Parents: Alex and Kolby Scherr
Grandparents: Kathy & Mike Scherr

Amelia Rose Mendoza 5/17/2025
Parents: Sarah and Juan Mendoza
Grandparents: Kevin and Kathy Rizzo
Great Grandparent: Joyce Rizzo & Margie Pauls

Rhys Hopper 07/2025
Parents: Nathan & Haley Hopper
Grandparent: Lisa Jones
Great Grandparent: Shirley Carmac

Wesley James Dannegger 9/26/25
Parents: Trevor & Emily Dannegger
Grandparents: Dean & Jean Goldenstein
Great Grandparent: Jan Ittner

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn

"Pass It On"

#477

It only takes a spark to get a fire going
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love Once you've experienced it
You spread God's love to ev'ryone you want to pass it on

What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing the flowers start their blooming
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it
You want to sing it's fresh like spring you want to pass it on

I wish for you my friend this happiness that I've found
On God you can depend it matters not where you're bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top I want my world to know
The Lord of love has come to me I want to pass it on

Benediction

Pastor: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
 Director of Music: **Ruth Notch**
 Liturgist: **Helen Stortz**
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellowship/Lockup: **Jim Pisoni**
 Piano Organ Duet: **Ellen Brandon & Ruth Notch**
 Handbells: **Pastor Katie Jo Bielke, Jan Boehm, Lee Difani, Barb Nichols, Scott Nichols, Chris Norton, Ruth Notch, Jim Pisoni**

Our Tri-Family Thanksgiving dinner will be served following service.
All are welcome.
 Please join us downstairs in fellowship hall if you're available.

Announcements

We pray for: **Tyler Ackerman, Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Andy Kissel, Anita Paz, Melanie Spangler and Carol Tindira.**
 Please let us know your prayer concerns. Private prayer concerns speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke.

Global Ministries request that we pray with **Lesotho** this week

11/30/25 Service Liturgist: Lynn Potts Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Jim Pisoni Special Music: Choir & Vocalist	Children's Program 12/7/25 Service Liturgist: Danielle Dolan Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Carol Tindira	12/14/25 Service Liturgist: Jan Ittner Usher Team: Jim Pisoni Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Carol Tindira Special Music: Piano Duet
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The Angel Tree is loaded with ornaments for the Hope Chest for the children at Every Child's Hope. Please take one, or more, and purchase a new item noted on the ornament. Please **return** the unwrapped gift to Church by Sunday, **November 30, 2025** with the ornament (optional) attached.

... Looking Ahead

Sun	11/23	11:30 AM	Tri-Thanksgiving Meal (join us)
	11/24 – 12/8		ECC Butter Braid Fundraiser
Sun	11/30	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
Sun	11/30	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
Sun	11/30	10:00 AM	First Sunday of Advent
Sun	11/30	10:00 AM	Christmas Fund Offering
Sun	11/30	10:00 AM	Angel tree gifts due
Sun	11/30	11:00 AM	Hanging of the Greens
Mon	12/1/25	10:00 AM	Voices of Advent Study
Tue	12/2/25	all day	Giving Tuesday
Wed	12/3/25	8:00 AM	Bimonthly Newsletter
Thu	12/4/25	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Fri	12/5/25	7:30 PM	Holiday Concert Purser Center
Sat	12/6/25	9:00 AM	Cookies with Santa at the Carousel
Sun	12/7/25	10:00 AM	Children's Christmas Program
Sun	12/7/25	10:00 AM	Second Sunday of Advent
Sun	12/7/25	All day	Communion Sunday



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

Council Meeting Bullet Points:

- Dec 7 No Rehearsal Children's Program
- Dec 12 Caroling and Camp Fire
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Services at 4 & 7 PM

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

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stjohnsuccconlive@gmail.com
www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org

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

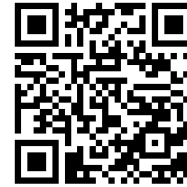
ECC Butter Braid Fundraiser



Amazon Book Wish List



Offering



EVERY CHILD'S HOPE

Hope Chest – SUGGESTED GIFT SHOP ITEMS
(NEW ITEMS ONLY, PLEASE!)



HIGHEST NEEDS are highlighted! Men's Items: Aftershave Body Care Gift Sets Car Wash Supplies Cologne Gloves Hats House Slippers Neck Ties Scarves Shaving Cream Sports Hats Stocking Hats Sunglasses Tool Kits Wallets Watches Electronics: *Nothing w/ Camera or Internet Accessibility! Auxiliary Cords DVD/BlueRay Earbuds & Headphones Handheld Games Headphones MP3 Players Portable DVD Player Speakers USB Chargers	Sports: Baseballs/Bat/Glove Basketballs Fishing Gear/Pole Footballs Gym Bags Gloves Hockey Puck/Stick Jump Ropes Kick Balls Resistance Bands Rubber Bases Skip-It Soccer Balls Softballs/Bat Tennis Balls/Racket Volleyballs Yoga Mats Teacher's Items: Body Care Gift Sets Blankets/Throws (fleece) Book Bag or Travel Bag Candles/Melt Warmer Small Kitchen Appliance Travel Tumbler Cups Baby/Toddler Items: Baby/Toddler Toys Bibs & Burp Cloths Board Books Educational/Learning Toys	Jewelry: *Men's & Women's *In Box if Possible! Bracelets Earrings Jewelry Sets Necklaces (Dressy) Watches Wristbands Wrapping: Bows Clothing Gift Boxes Gift Bags Scotch Tape Tags Tissue Paper Miscellaneous: DVD/BlueRay Dishes/Pots/Utensils Flashlight Hanging Clothes Organizer Money Banks Small Kitchen Appliances Travel Tumblers/Cups Water Bottles Books: *No Violence *Sensitive Topics All Ages/Levels	Women's Items: Blow Dryer Body Care Gift Sets Curling Iron Fanny Packs Hairbrushes Headbands Leggings/Tights Make-up Nail Polish Perfume Ponytail Holders/Barrettes Purses Sunglasses Wallets Crafts: Backpack/Craft Bag Canvas Chalk Clay Easel Friendship Bracelet Kits Kinetic Sand Models Model Sets Origami Paper/Sets Paint & Paint Brushes Paint-Sy-Number Sets Play-dough Rainbow Loom & Supplies Rock Painting Kit	Toys: *Nothing Sharp! *No Toy Guns! *No Stuffed Animals! Action Figures Barbies Blocks Comic Books Dolls Educational Toys Hot Wheel Cars Legos Nerf Balls Paddle Balls Toy Dishes & Toy Food Please Search Amazon for ECH's Amazon Gift List CONTACT: Sarah Deweese w/ questions & to SCHEDULE DROP OFF! 314-506-7399 -OR- 314-568-0596 sarah@everychildshope.org	Items we do NOT need at this time (have plenty!): Albums or Frames Blankets Board Games Bubbles Card Games Clothes Colored Pencils Coloring Books Cookbooks Crayons Flash Cards Frisbees Journals Kites Markers Mugs Puzzles Scarves Scrapbook Kits Scribble Pads Slime-making Kits Socks Stationery Stickers Stuffed Animals Trinkets Word Search/Find
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