

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship June 16, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

arr. Rutter

*The Call to Worship

God is the sower, planting seeds;

May the seeds God has planted grow and blossom in us!

God is the gatherer at harvest-time;

God sees our potential, and uses it for the Beloved Community.

God is the one who encourages us to grow;

God desires for us to build the reign of God on earth, as it is in heaven.

Come, worship God, by living faithfully into God's desires for us;

Bear spiritual fruit, flourish in God's love, and grow!

* Hymn

"This Is My Father's World"

#59

This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas
God's hands the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the flowers bright,
declare their Maker's praise.
Our God has made this world
and shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear God pass,
who speaks to me everywhere.

Our God has made this world:
oh, let us ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
God trusts us with this world,
to keep it clean and fair.
All earth and trees, the skies and seas,
God's creatures everywhere.

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

Let the light of your word shine into the darkness of our world, illuminating our choices, enlightening our actions, and empowering our service. Melt the hardness of our hearts, expanding our compassion and enlarging the circle of our concern. We listen for your voice of peace and await knowledge of your glory in the face of Christ. Amen.

Time for the Child in us All

Pastor Katie Jo Bielke

Special Music

"O Love of God, How Strong and True"

Helvey

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

34 Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. 35 Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

David Anointed as King

16 The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." 2 Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." 4 Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" 5 He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

6 When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." 7 But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." 8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." 9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." 10 Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." 11 Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." 12 He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be --
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

Like a mother you enfold me,
hold my life within your own,
feed me with your very body,
form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father you protect me,
teach me the discerning eye,
hoist me up upon your shoulder,
let me see the world from high.

Friend and lover, in your closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
in your promise is my comfort,
in your presence I may rest.

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be --
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

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*"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"***arr. Bonds*****Doxology** *(In Unison)*

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 God, make our sacrifices of thanksgiving and grateful response into instruments of your purposes for we would be consecrated, along with our gifts. Remember all our offerings with your favor, that they may serve your purpose for your creation. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

#464

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail thy ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy righteous goal,
lest we miss thy righteous goal.

Set our feet on lofty places;
fill our lives that we may be
strengthened with all Christ-like graces
pledges to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail our call from thee,
lest we fail our call from thee.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

Benediction

Postlude

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Preaching: **Rev. Katie Jo Bielke**
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Warren Stemme**
Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Karen Rocchio**
Soloist: **Meher Arora**

Announcements

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

06/23/24 Service

Liturgist: **Amanda Jones**
Usher Team: **Phil Difani**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Karen Rocchio**
Special Music: **Flautist**

06/30/24 Service

Liturgist: **Lynn Potts**
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship & Lockup: **Karen Rocchio**
Special Music: **Clarinet**

07/07/24 Service

Liturgist: **Danny Mueller**
Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellowship/Lockup: **Rosemarie Spray**

We pray for
**Donna Dollgener, Rev. Dwyane Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart,
Cherie Messina, Kathy Scherr and Gloria Vaclavik**
Please let us know your prayer concerns

... Looking Ahead

6/16	4:30 PM	Ronald McDonald House Volunteering (RSVP)
6/17	6:00 PM	Council Meeting
6/23		Global Ministries Pray for Philippines
6/23	10:00 AM	Reverend Dwayne Dollgener's 65th Ordination Celebration
6/23	11:00 AM	Church Picnic (rsvp)
6/25	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
6/27	6:00 PM	Table Fellowship at Mia Sorella Restaurant
6/28	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)
6/30	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
6/30		Global Ministries Pray for Sri Lanka
6/30	11:00 AM	New Members Class (open to all who are interested)
6/30	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
7/2	10:00 AM	Book Club "Before We Were Yours"
7/4		Independence Day (office closed)
7/7	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
7/7	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
7/7	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
7/7		Global Ministries Pray for Kenya
7/8	1:00 PM	Exec Council
7/12	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)
7/13	9:00 AM	Decorating St. John's for VBS (many hands make a light load)
7/14	10:00 AM	New Member Sunday

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

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

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



online giving



Stained Glass Window Fund

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