

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship Aug 25, 2024

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ringing 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

"Wayfaring Stranger"

Ebeling

***The Call to Worship**

As we gather in this sacred moment for a sacred purpose,
let us make the most of our time together.

We have come to worship the Lord our God.

As we sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
let us make the most of our time together.

We have come to worship the Lord our God.

As we respond to the melody in our hearts,
let us make the most of our time together.

We have come to worship the Lord our God.

* Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

#86

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

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

Holy God, we come together in your presence to offer worship, thanksgiving, and praise. We remember your covenant and acknowledge your abiding presence. Envelop us in your glory, strengthen us to confront the weariness of the world, challenge us to spread the good news, and empower us to be the church you have created us to be. Amen.

Special Music

"Amazing Grace"

Newton

Time for the Child in us All

Rev Katie Jo Bielke

Baptism of Charlotte Lynn Sash

Welcome

Vows of the Family

***Vows of the Congregation** *(In Unison)*

We, the members of St. John's United Church of Christ, receive this child as a new individual in Christ. We offer her our understanding and support as she explores life. We enfold this family in our love, seeking together to grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and all people. We join with this family in telling the gospel in our midst so that this child may live with us for Christ. Amen.

Children's vow

Prayer of Consecration

We are a people of and from water; we are born in water and carried in water. When the world was created, God's Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep, when Moses led the people of Israel to freedom, God parted the Sea and made a way for them. Jesus's ministry is marked by his own baptism in the River Jordan, and his affirmation to the Samaritan Woman at the Well that He is Living Water. Water is the symbol of all creation's deep connection with God. Let us pray...

All: May our Creator's unconditional love stir in this water. May the courage of our Savior's extravagant hospitality flow through this water. May the joy of our Spirit's abundant life pour into this water and into your soul. Amen.

Act of Baptism

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(In Unison)*

Glorious Creator God, we give you thanks for the life of this child, and we give thanks to celebrate with this family a milestone of their journey. Fill the life of this child with grace and the love and power of your Holy Spirit. Bless the life of this family with many joys as they begin their journeys to explore faith, discipleship and love. Amen.

Presentation of Charlotte Sash

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scriptures: 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

10 Then David slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of David. 11 The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. 12 So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his kingdom was firmly established.

3 Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. 4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. 5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." 6 And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. 7 And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. 8 And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. 9 Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. 11 God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, 12 I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you. 13 I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. 14 If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

* Hymn	<i>"Take Time to Be Holy"</i>		#572
<p>Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord; abide in him always, and feed on his word. Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak, forgetting in nothing God's blessing to seek.</p>		<p>Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide, and run not before him, whatever betide; in joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord, and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.</p>	
<p>Take time to be holy, the world rushes on; spend much time in secret with Jesus alone. By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be; thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.</p>		<p>Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul, each thought and each motive beneath his control; thus led by his spirit to fountains of love, thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.</p>	

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

"I Saw the Light"

Williams

***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)**

In faith and gratitude we return these gifts to you, O God, that they may proclaim the mystery of your love and glorify the gospel. May hearts and lives be drawn to you by the witness our offerings will make in this community of faith and among all people you call us to serve. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** Hymn**

"Be Thou My Vision"

#595

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won,
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Benediction

Postlude

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Unfortunately, Dr. Curtis Cain had to cancel for this weekend.
He has had a death in the family and will be out of town.
Please keep him and his family in your prayers during this time.

Pastor: Rev. Katie Jo Bielke
Director of Music Ministry: Ruth Notch
Liturgist: Susie Pisoni
Usher Team: John Bartelt
Technology: Steve Hawkinson
Fellowship/Lockup: Ken Ruff
Fiddle/Harp/Vocals: Veronica Mary Agnes

Announcements

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

<p style="text-align: center;">09/01/24 Service Liturgist: Craig Bielke Usher Team: Phil Difani Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Monica Hart Special Music: Flute Communion Service: Helen Stortz & Mary Jane Duperrett</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">09/08/24 Service Liturgist: Carol Tindira Usher Team: Ken Ruff Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Monica Hart Special Music: Violin</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">09/15/24 Service Liturgist: Todd Armstrong Usher Team: Jim Pisoni Technology: Steve Hawkinson Fellowship/Lockup: Monica Hart</p>
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We pray for
Donna Dollgener, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina and Gloria Vaclavik. Please let us know your prayer concerns
 If you have private prayer concern please speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke.

Our next **book group** is going to be on **September 17 at 10am.** We are going to discuss
“American Dirt” by Jeanine Cummins.



... Looking Ahead

8/25	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
8/27	6:30 PM	Women's Fellowship
9/1	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Zambia
9/1	10:00 AM	Communion Sunday
9/1	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
9/2		Labor Day (<i>office closed</i>)
9/3	9 am	ECC School Starts
9/6	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)
9/8	10:00 AM	Rally Day
9/8	10:00 AM	Global Ministries Pray for Hungary
9/8	11:00 AM	Christian Education Committee
9/9	1:00 PM	Exec Council

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

We are looking for a **volunteer** to do **Altar flowers** a couple of times a year. If you are interested please contact Jan Boehm or the office 636-532-0540 or StJohnsUccOnOlive@gmail.com

<p style="text-align: center;">Join us on Sundays</p> <p>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</p>	<p>15370 Olive Blvd. Chesterfield MO 63017</p> <p>(636) 532-0540 stjohnsuccconolive@gmail.com www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org</p>
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 online giving	 Stained Glass Window Fund
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