



June 4, 2023  
10:00 a.m.  
Trinity Sunday



**Thoughts of Preparation**

When I found God, I lost religion. – *Anthony Douglas Williams, Inside the Divine Pattern*

\*All who are able are welcome to stand

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

*“Break Thou the Bread of Life” (Sherwin/Whitworth)*

**Tower Bell**

**\*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 8, Genesis 1)**

“O Lord, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens.”

**We gather to praise you! “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”**

“O Lord, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens.”

**We gather to celebrate you! “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”**

And God saw that it was good...”

**We gather to celebrate our God. “O Lord, our Lord, the majesty of your name fills the earth!**

Your glory is higher than the heavens.”

**We gather to worship you! “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”**

And God saw that it was very good...”

**We gather to worship our God! All praise, honor, majesty and power belongs to our Creating God—Who is LOVE! Amen**

**\*Hymn #24**

*“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets” (Hymn To Joy)*

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

Ever present God, source and ground of all that exists, present and active everywhere in the universe...the gift is life.

**Open to us those doors so that we can see the way to embrace life’s possibilities with positive energy.**

Help us to find that inner release and that outer confirmation to live life fully;

**to live life as connectedness with your divine Spirit, with nature and with all other people.** (Silence)

This gift of life has provided us with many excellent experiences, and a range of possibilities is before us every day.

**May we have an attitude of openness and trust in you that draws us forward and to the best possibilities.**

May we be graced with an awareness that we must get on with being who we are as fully as we can,

**as unflinchingly as we can, as accurately as we can.**

This day, let us also take time to look around, to look:

**beyond our selves, beyond words and roles, beyond past hurts and future worries...to embrace those who are hurting,**

those who suffer the erosions of time or the inflictions of illness,

**those who struggle to break free from unhealthy patterns of behavior or to heal crippled relationships.**

And may we be prompted to be more expansive and more inclusive as we accept our responsibility to make your Reality visible,

**In our loves, in the way we see the world and each other, and through growing and gracious generosity.** (Silence)

Creator God of all that is, ever was, and ever will be,

**This is our prayer. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

*(Creatorex)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Scripture Lesson – Genesis 1:1-2:4a [Common English Bible]**

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God’s wind swept over the waters— God said, “Let there be light.” And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

God said, “Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other.” God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way. God named the dome Sky.



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

**CONTACTS**

Phone 859-431-1818  
Email stjohsucc@stjohsuccnewport.org  
Website www.stjohsuccnewport.org  
Facebook St. John’s United Church of Christ–Newport, KY

**PROGRAM**

Coffee Fellowship Time Fellowship Hall (L.L.) 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Sanctuary 10:00 a.m.  
Infant, Toddler, Preschool & School Age Child Care South Hallway 9:30 a.m.

**CHURCH STAFF**

**POSITION**

Settled Pastor  
Pastor of Visitation  
Director Of Music/Organist  
Associate Director of Music  
Office Administrator  
Director of Communication & Outreach  
Financial Administrator

**PERSON**

Barry Bordenkircher  
John Robson  
Michael Sullivan  
Dobin Park  
Kelli Taylor  
Kyle Taylor  
Chris Baker

**CONTACT**

Revbarryb@stjohsuccnewport.org  
Jmarrobson@gmail.com  
Michael.Sullivan@stjohsuccnewport.org  
Pianist0587@gmail.com  
Kelli.Taylor@stjohsuccnewport.org  
Kyle.Taylor@stjohsuccnewport.org  
Financialadmin@stjohsuccnewport.org

**CHURCH LEADERS**

**PERSON**

Jan Knepshield  
Carol Fickenscher  
Carolyn Garriott  
Chuck Hawkins

**POSITION**

Church President  
Church Vice President  
Church Secretary  
Church Treasurer

**CONTACT**

(H) 859-261-2567 (C) 859-912-2563  
(H) 859-635-4638  
(C) 859-801-0067  
Hawkins@NKU.EDU

**Church Office Hours**

Monday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Closed  
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Thursday Closed  
Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Calls will be answered off-site on days when the office is closed.

## **Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning**

Preaching Today: Barry Bordenkircher

Liturgist: Dr. Charles Hawkins

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Bertie Jo Tuerpe & David Stamm

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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### **This Week**

- Sunday, June 4:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Communion Sunday  
11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. East Row Garden Tour
- Monday, June 5:** 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, June 6:** 6:30 p.m. East Row Historic Foundation Meeting  
7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
- Thursday, June 8:** 9:00 a.m.-Noon Food Pantry
- Saturday, June 10:** 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
- Sunday, June 11:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

There was evening and there was morning: the second day.

God said, “Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear.” And that’s what happened. God named the dry land Earth, and he named the gathered waters Seas. God saw how good it was. God said, “Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth.” And that’s what happened. The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the third day.

God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years. They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth.” And that’s what happened. God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was.

There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.

God said, “Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky.” God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. God saw how good it was. Then God blessed them: “Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.

God said, “Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife.” And that’s what happened. God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was. Then God said, “Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth.”

God created humanity in God’s own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground.” Then God said, “I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground—to everything that breathes—I give all the green grasses for food.” And that’s what happened. God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation. This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**Solo**

*“Not Too Far From Here”*

*(Lacy/Siler)*

(Jean Nutgrass - soloist)

Somebody's down to their last dime, somebody's running out of time, not too far from here.  
Somebody's got nowhere else to go, somebody needs a little hope,  
not too far from here.

And I may not know their name, but I'm praying just the same  
that You'll use me Lord to wipe away the tears,  
'cause somebody's crying not too far from here.

Somebody's troubled and confused, somebody's got nothing left to lose, not too far from here.  
Somebody's forgotten how to trust, and somebody's dying for love,  
not too far from here. It may be a stranger's face,

but I'm praying for Your grace, to move in me and take away the fear. 'Cause somebody's hurting, not too far  
from here.

Help me, Lord, not to turn away from pain.  
Help me not to rest while those around me weep.  
Give me Your strength and compassion,  
when somebody finds the road of life too steep.

Somebody's troubled and confused, somebody's got nothing left to lose, not too far from here.  
Somebody's forgotten how to trust, and somebody's dying for love,  
not too far from here.

Now I'm letting down my guard, and I'm opening my heart.  
Help me speak Your love to every needful ear.  
Someone is waiting, not too far from here.

**“The Chosen” — Update**

**Gathering Together in Prayer**

**Joys & Concerns – Silent Prayer – Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Response**

**Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,**

**Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.**

**Scripture Lesson – Matthew 28:16-20 [The Message]**

Meanwhile, the eleven disciples were on their way to Galilee, headed for the mountain Jesus had set for their reunion. The moment they saw him they worshiped him. Some, though, held back, not sure about worship, about risking themselves totally.

### **Hearing Assistance**

We have wireless receivers for the hearing impaired which you may obtain from an usher.

### **Pastoral Care Notice**

If a pastoral care need arises, please contact the church office at (859) 431-1818 and we will get a message to Pastor Barry or John Robson to contact you. You can also call, text or email Barry at:  
Revbarryb@stjohnsuccnewport.org  
Cell Phone: (513) 317-8146

### **In Our Prayers**

Norma Biery, Judy Eads, Elise Faller, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Donna & Phil Hamilton, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Carol & Henry Marksberry, Shirley Rice, Char Scholl, Bill Seibert, Bruce Shay, Ed Von Strohe, Bonnie Walter, Wendy Watts, John & Peggy Westlund

### **Continued Prayerful Support**

Homebound members.  
Those in assisted living and nursing homes.  
Rev. Barry Bordenkircher  
Church Leadership Team, Ministry Teams, and all our church leaders.

### **Homebound Member of the Week**

Our homebound member of the week is Pam Maloney. Take a moment this week to send her a card or give her a call as we celebrate Pam as our member of the week!

Her address is:

Pam Maloney

Parkside Manor

317 Oddville Pike #B

Cynthiana KY 41031

### **Infant, Toddler, Preschool and School Age Child Care is Available on Sunday Mornings**

We have childcare workers available for our infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school age children. Children can be dropped off starting at 9:30 a.m. downstairs in the Youth Room. You can ask any usher for assistance or information about this program.

### **Children’s Activity Bags**

Activity bags for the children are located at each entrance of the church. Feel free to pick up a bag for your child (children) to work on during the worship service. When the service is done just drop the bags off at each exit so that we may replenish the bags for the following week.

### **Audio Recordings of Our Sunday Services**

Did you miss a Sunday service or would like to hear one over again? You can get a CD audio recording of any service each week down on the table located at the North Lobby entrance. The recordings are separated by date so just look for the service you want to hear and take it home.

## Welcome!

Welcome to this house of prayer and worship!

We pray that your experience of worship will deepen your faith and prepare you for the week ahead. We believe God's Spirit is present in our listening to the Word and our response of discipleship. In our greeting of one another we sense the presence of Christ.

May you know His grace and peace today!

**Please sign the guest register when it comes to your seat.**



Flowers in church today are provided by the Sanctuary Flower Fund.

If you or anyone you know would benefit from the beauty and joy of the arrangement, please feel free to take them.

Open flower dates are June 11th, 18th & 25th

To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

## East Row Garden Tour

St. John's United Church of Christ is proud to be partnering with the East Row for their East Row Garden Tour. The Garden Tour will be taking place today, Sunday, June 4th from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Music, food, vendor booths, and of course the lovely garden tour are sure to make for a wonderful start to the summer. Tickets can be purchased the day of the tour at one of the vendor booths here at St. John's.

## Graduate Recognition 2023

During worship on Sunday, June 18th St. John's will be recognizing the graduates in our midst. Please join us as we honor these hard working graduates and celebrate their accomplishments. Congratulations to the class of 2023!

Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

## Today's Message

*"Awe, Grace, Goodness – and Us"* Rev. Barry Bordenkircher

## Offertory Invitation

Giving is an act of faith. We believe that what we have to offer makes a difference in this world. But more than that, we believe in the One who is behind our giving—and who "made" this world. Let our gifts honor both the Creator and the Creation!

## Offertory

*"Communion Hymn"*

*(Mary Pickens)*

Hungry and thirsty, Lord I come to Thee,  
Here, lowly kneeling, Thy sacred feast before,  
Strengthen my spirit, with Thy food divine,  
As now Thou feeds me  
With the bread and wine.

Come to me Savior, in this holy hour,  
Shed Thou upon me, all Thy wondrous love,  
That I may ever dwell within Thy light,  
And come before Thee stainless, pure and white

Jesus my Savior, look with loving eye  
As from my heart I make this humble cry.  
Give of Thyself, dear Lord, that I may be  
Filled with Thy grace, throughout eternity. Amen.

## \*Doxology

*(Old 100<sup>th</sup>)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen**

## \*Unison Prayer of Dedication

**God of love and peace, you created the vast universe! Open our eyes to see the reflection of your image in each person and in all creation! By your Spirit, inspire us to contribute to the flourishing of people, creatures, and the environment that you made to be very good indeed. Use these gifts and offerings to support missions of hope and shared love, near and far. We pray through our faithful Brother, Friend, and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*Gathering at the Lord's Table– Holy Communion**

**Invitation**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

**Seraphic Hymn**

The Church is Christ's body, he is its head. He takes his place in heaven at your right hand, where we worship you with all of your creation, singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, Rul - er Al - might - y;

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry be to you, O God.

Bless - ed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of God.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

**Sharing The Bread and Fruit of the Vine**

**We Prepare to Go Back Into the World**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Lord God of all creation, as Your Son, when He had fed the multitude, instructed the disciples to gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost, so gather us, whom You have fed in this holy sacrament, fill us with love for Your living world, and refresh us and the whole creation to serve and praise You forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we offer You our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of Your Spirit to live and work to Your praise and glory. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn #581**

*“Called as Partners in Christ's Service”*

*(Beecher)*

**\*Responsive Benediction**

Praise God, all you people of the earth.

**Blessed be God forever!**

From the rising of the sun to its setting

**Blessed be God forever!**

As high as the tree soaring above the forest

As beautiful as the river flowing through many lands

As rich as the ecosystems of an abundant earth

As close as the smallest creature on the ground

**So good is the God of all Creation**

**Blessed be God forever! Amen!**

**Postlude**

*“Voluntary in G”*

*(John Stanley)*

We thank Jean Nutgrass for providing beautiful music for our worship service this morning.



**GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD**

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**



**WORSHIP NOTES**

Today's CALL TO WORSHIP is Copyright © 2013 Joan Stott in 'The Timeless Psalms' RCL Psalms Year C; used with permission-adapted. The PRAYER OF ADORATION is by the Rev. Rex A. E. Hunt, from his website ([www.rexaehuntprogressivelgy.com/ever-present-god2](http://www.rexaehuntprogressivelgy.com/ever-present-god2)) - adapted. The offertory DEDICATION is from Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren in Glen Arm, Maryland. Today's COMMUNION liturgy is adapted from the UK's *A Rocha Eco-Church program, and its "Green Communion" service.*