

CONTACTS

Phone	859-431-1818
Email	stjohnsucc@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Website	www.stjohnsuccnewport.org
Facebook	St. John's United Church of Christ–Newport, KY

PROGRAM

PROGRAM	LOCATION	TIME
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	PERSON	CONTACT
Pastor of Visitation	John Robson	Jmarrobson@gmail.com
Director Of Music/Organist	Michael Sullivan	Michael.Sullivan@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Associate Director of Music	Dobin Park	Pianist0587@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Kelli Taylor	Kelli.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Director of Communication & Outreach	Kyle Taylor	Kyle.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Financial Administrator	Chris Baker	Financialadmin@stjohnsuccnewport.org

CHURCH LEADERS

PERSON	POSITION	CONTACT
Jan Knepshield	Church President	(H) 859-261-2567 (C) 859-912-2563
Carol Fickenscher	Church Vice President	(H) 859-635-4638
Carolyn Garriott	Church Secretary	(C) 859-801-0067
Chuck Hawkins	Church Treasurer	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.	



July 23, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Jesus Loves Me”

(Mary McDonald)

Tower Bell

*Responsive Call to Worship

God's steadfast love extends beyond the farthest star, yet that love is also present among us.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

God's saving acts were experienced by our ancestors, and God continues to act in our own day.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits.

God's concern is for all creation, for all worlds, yet that care draws us close in these moments.

The whole creation is filled with eager longing; bless the Lord, all who live in hope.

*Hymn #96

“O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing”

(Azmon)

*Prayer of Adoration & Confession

O God, we have pursued futile plans, without seeking your guidance. We have resisted the way you would have us go. We demand proofs before we will believe, yet close our eyes to your wonders on every hand. We do not seek the leaven of your word and Spirit to expand our lives and make them attractive and useful. O Holy One, we need a new vision and the self-discipline to embrace your realm here and now. Help Us!

[Silence is kept]

***Words of Assurance**

As parents long to extend forgiveness and offer a more abundant life to their children, so God has pity on us when we realize our offenses. When we come before God in awe and amazement, we find God to be merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. God redeems us from the depths to which we have sunk and removes our transgressions from us.

Our lives are made new in the realm of God. 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 – Psalm 86:11-17 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Teach me your way, O Lord,
that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.
For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.
O God, the insolent rise up against me;
a band of ruffians seeks my life,
and they do not set you before them.
But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.
Turn to me and be gracious to me;
give your strength to your servant;
save the child of your maidservant.
Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,
because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.



Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Rev. David Schwab

Liturgist: Laura Haas

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Darlene Knepshield

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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This Week

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sunday, July 23: | 10:00 a.m. Worship Service |
| Monday, July 24: | 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting |
| Tuesday, July 25: | 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting |
| Saturday, July 29: | 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting |
| Sunday, July 30: | 10:00 a.m. Worship Service |

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 John Robson to contact you.

In Our Prayers

Joan Berkemeyer, Norma Biery, Judy Eads, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Donna & Phil Hamilton, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Carol & Henry Marksberry, Char Scholl, Bill Seibert, Bruce Shay, Family of Robert Slater, Ed Von Strohe, Bonnie Walter, Wendy Watts, John & Peggy Westlund

Continued Prayerful Support

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

Homebound Member of the Week

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

Her address is:

Norma Biery
Munro House
3034 Riggs Avenue Apt. 204
Erlanger, KY 41018

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.

Solo

“He’s Always Been Faithful”

(Jaeyoon Choi - soloist)

Morning by morning, I wake up to find
the power and comfort of God’s hand in mine.
Season by season I watch Him, amazed,
In awe of the mystery of His perfect ways.
All I have need of His hand will provide,
He’s always been faithful to me.

I can’t remember a trial or pain He did not recycle to bring me gain.
I cant remember one single regret in serving God only
And trusting His hand.
All I have need of His hand will provide. He’s always faithful to me.

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with Thee; iThou changest not,
Thy compassions they fail not; as Thou has been Thou forever will be.
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.

This is my anthem, this is my song, the theme of the stories
I’ve heard for so long. God has been faithful, He will be again.
His loving compassion, it knows no end.
All I have need of His hand will provide.
He’s always been faithful to me.

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.**

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Today’s Message “The Weeds and Wheat Together” Rev. David Schwab

*Hymn #358 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (Beecher)

Offertory Invitation

Who will lead God’s children to their promised land? Surely it will be those who have begun to live in the realm of God, who know God’s mercy and remember God’s benefits. To the extent that our offerings are generous, the church can be the yeast of God in a needy world.

Offertory “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)” (Arr. Joel Raney)

Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I’m found,
Was blind but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved:
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I’ve been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns;
Unending love, amazing grace.

*Doxology (Old 100th)

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

*Prayer of Dedication [Unison]
We bless you, O God, and remember your steadfast love and mercy. We have heard your challenge to us on behalf of our sisters and brothers who are oppressed. With these resources, we would minister to people who suffer in cruel surroundings. With our personal efforts, we would make way for your glorious reign among us. Bless our offerings of self and substance to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*Hymn #51 “How Great Thou Art”

*Benediction

Postlude “Postlude on Italian Hymn” (Albin Whitworth)



This morning we welcome the Rev. David Schwab back to our pulpit. Rev. Schwab has served several congregations in the greater Cincinnati area including Lakeview UCC and Zion Church in Norwood. Dave served as interim pastor for us several years ago and we are so pleased to welcome him back!

We thank Jaeyoon Choi for providing beautiful music for our worship service this morning.

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GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD!