



November 5, 2023  
10:00 a.m.  
**Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**All Saints Day**



*Thought for the Day before Worship*  
*No matter how alone you might feel,*  
*Never forget you are a part of the Communion of Saints.*

\*All who are able are welcome to stand

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

*“God’s Time Is Best”*

*(J. S. Bach)*

**Tower Bell**

**Introit**

If you will trust in God to guide you,  
and hope in God through all your ways.  
God will give strength, what-e’er betide you,  
And bear you through the evil days.  
Who trusts in God’s unchanging love  
Builds on the rock that will not move.

**\*Call to Worship**

You let us bless the Lord at all times.

**We boast in the grace of our Lord.**

Let us praise the name of the Lord,

**With heart and voice.**

Listen to the Lord who delivers us;

**Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

Look to the Lord who hears our cries,

**And deliver us from all our fears.**

Happy and blessed are they who trust in the Lord.

**Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.**

The Lord redeems the life of his servants.

**Bless the Lord!**

Let us Worship our God!!

**\*Hymn #84**

*“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”*

*(St. Anne)*

**\*Prayer of Adoration & Confession**

**Eternal God of blessing and mercy, we praise you for your surprising and surpassing generosity to us and our world. Keep our hearts and minds fixed on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the lamb who is our shepherd. Make us strong in the hope and promise that one day all will be made right around your throne. May your word that one day there will be no more hunger, thirst, tears, or suffering give us courage to live generous and merciful lives now. Bless us as we serve and keep our faith centered on you during times of struggle.**

**Most merciful God, we confess to you that many things in life tear us away from you. Too often our hearts are set on our own plans and desires, and we think we are self-sufficient. Too often we give in to pride and selfishness instead of walking humbly and faithfully with you. Too often we lack the courage and faith to endure hardship and even persecution for your sake and the sake of our neighbor. Forgive us, God, and create in us hearts that are centered in you and are ready to do your good will. Create in us hearts that show mercy to others whatever the cost. Remind us of the good news that none of those who take refuge in you will be condemned. Let your Spirit proclaim to us that the lamb is our shepherd and leads us to springs of the water of life. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the Good News! Sisters and brothers, John reminds us how we are the children of God. When the great revelation occurs we shall know ourselves as created in that divine image. As Christ sits at God’s right hand and intercedes on our behalf, we have the hope that we are purified through such loving testimony and may dwell in the assurance of the pardon that God gives us in Christ. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

**\*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.**

**From the Revelation of John: Revelation 7:9-17**

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

**CONTACTS**

Phone 859-431-1818  
Email [stjohnsucc@stjohnsuccnewport.org](mailto:stjohnsucc@stjohnsuccnewport.org)  
Website [www.stjohnsuccnewport.org](http://www.stjohnsuccnewport.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**

**PERSON**

**CONTACT**

Designated Pastor J. Martin Westermeyer Shaman4@zoomtown.com  
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.

**Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning**

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Laura Haas

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: David Stamm & Bertie Jo Tuerpe

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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**This Week**

- Sunday, November 5:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Communion Sunday/  
All Saints Day
- Monday, November 6:** 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, November 7:** 6:30 p.m. East Row Historic Foundation Meeting  
7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
- Wednesday, November 8:** Noon-2:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch
- Thursday, November 9:** 9:00 a.m. –Noon Food Pantry  
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday, November 11:** 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
- Sunday, November 12:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, or the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

**From the Letters to the Entire Church: 1 John 3:1-3**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

**Anthem**

*“In My Father’s House”*  
(Soloist-Aaron McKone)

*(Lani Smith)*

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.  
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.  
In my Father’s house are many mansions.  
If it were not so I would have told you;  
I go to prepare a place for you.

These are the words He spoke in love to you and me.  
This is the promise He made, from death to set us free.  
He said that He would come again And with Him we would go,  
And where He went and the way He went,  
We would surely know.

These are the words He spoke to help us find our way.  
This is the bond that He gave to hold us through the day.  
The thoughts He shares with us this night shall evermore remain, to comfort us, and to guide us on, and our hope sustain.



GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD!

### **From the Gospels: Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Sermon** “Saints by the Grace of God” Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

**\*Hymn** “*I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*” (Grand Isle)  
(see next page)

### **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**

**And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings,**

**Bear you on the breath of dawn,**

**Make you to shine like the sun,**

**And hold you in the palm of God’s hand.**

### **Stewardship Moment**

Laura Haas

### **Offertory Invitation**

We have been issued the invitation and the means to be generous, whether in material things or in the capacity to care. All of us have received, and all of us have something to give. Our offerings are a symbol of our intent to please God and to realize in and through the church the community God intends.

### **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 Marty or Pastor John Robson to contact you.

### **In Our Prayers**

Joan Berkemeyer, Norma Biery, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Mary Haas, Donna & Phil Hamilton, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Carol & Henry Marksberry, Bill Seibert, Bruce Shay, Ed Von Strohe, Bonnie Walter, & Wendy Watts

### **Continued Prayerful Support**

Homebound members.

Those in assisted living and nursing homes.

Church Leadership Team, Ministry Teams, and all our church leaders.

Designated Pastor Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Pastor of Visitation John Robson

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

Our homebound member of the week is Norma Biery. Norma’s birthday is Wednesday, November 8th. 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 Apt. 204

3034 Riggs Avenue

Erlanger, KY 41018

### **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.

**GIFTS TO THE MANGER COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MINISTRY**  
**Washington United Church of Christ**  
**513-541-7757**

Sunday, December 10, we will provide up to 100 area families with gift items and some basic necessities. We hope to give each child (about 350) an outfit, socks, underwear, gloves, hat and a few toys. Each family will receive a food box.

The Christ child was born in poverty and gifted by the magi. What better way to celebrate his birth than to do the same for these children of God!

**PLEASE SEE OUR NEEDS below.**

**MONETARY DONATIONS ARE NEEDED AND APPRECIATED.** We will do the shopping! Please send to: Christmas Ministry, Washington UCC, 2950 Sidney Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45225

**UNDERWEAR:** We need girls' sizes small to large and women's sizes small to XL. We need boys sizes 2-3, 4-5 and small and men's sizes small to XL.

**SOCKS:** We need girls ankle socks sizes 4-10 (colors) and 9-11 (white and colors), and boys sizes 6-9, toddlers, and men's large.

**INFANTS:** No need. Need toddler boys 2T to 5T.

**CLOTHING: Girls:** We need girls' sizes 5, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16 and Junior 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 and women small, medium, large, XL. We prefer sweatpants and tops.

**CLOTHING: Boys:** We need boy's outfits in sizes 5-6, 12-14, 14-16, medium and large, then men's size sweatpants/shirts in sizes M, L, XL

**GLOVES/MITTENS and HATS:** All sizes

**TOYS:** We need toys for all ages. Suggestions: art/craft/jewelry making kits, basketball, football, soccer ball, Legos, ethnic baby dolls, Barbie dolls, Barbie doll clothes, cars, trucks, action figures, Play Doh, games, hand held games, toys.

For teens: Bath and beauty, makeup kits, Xbox, Play Station Network, Roblux gift cards.

**SPECIAL REQUEST:** We request no violent games or toys, no wrapping of gifts.

# I Sing a Song of the Saints of God 730

1 I sing a song of the saints of God, pa - tient and  
2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God's love  
3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past; there are hun - dreds of  
brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and  
made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right, for Je - sus'  
thou - sands still; the world is bright with the joy - ous  
died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a  
sake, the whole of their good lives long. And one was a  
saints who love to do Je - sus' will. You can meet them in  
doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a shep - herd - ess  
sol - dier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a  
school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in  
on the green: they were all of them saints of  
fierce wild beast: and there's not an - y rea - son,  
shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just  
God, and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.  
no, not the least, why I should - n't be one too.  
folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

Despite the quaintness of some of the language in this text, it has an important message to communicate about the down-to-earth ordinariness of the holy people of God at all times and places. The tune name honors the island in Vermont's Lake Champlain where the composer lived.

## Offertory

*“Pie Jesu”* (Andrew Lloyd Webber)  
(Soloists-Jisoo Bae & Isabel Lee)

|                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Pie Jesu                 | Blessed Jesus, Lord Our God,   |
| Qui tollis peccata mundi | Grant to them eternal rest.    |
| Dona eis requiem         | O Grant them Lord eternal rest |
| Agnus Dei                | rest with Thee forever Lord    |
| Qui tollis peccata mundi |                                |
| Dona eis requiem         |                                |

## \*Doxology

*(Lasst Uns Erfreuen)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## \*Prayer of Dedication

**Thank you, Lord, for those daily things we need and for the gift of your own dear Son, Jesus Christ. Give us thankful hearts that count your many blessings to us and your world. Give us a spirit of gratitude that opens us up to sharing blessings with others. Help each of us and your whole church to live in the humble spirit of mercy so that we may seek your will and care for our neighbors with generosity. Lead us to be about care, concern and justice on behalf of others, even when it brings us struggle and conflict. Amen.**

## Communion

*Today we are celebrating the Lord's Supper. We believe in an OPEN Table.*

*ALL persons who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior  
are encouraged to participate in the Sacrament.*

## †AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED (unison)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one holy universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## CHRISTMAS COLLECTION 2023

This year we will continue to collect for Washington UCC through its “Gifts to the Manger Program.” But, we also would like to include this year collecting for the local community through the Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission for the Newport Head Start Preschool Program and their “Christmas Giving Tree”.

There will be two trees with ornaments listing items needed for each family, child or adult. The trees will be located in both narthexes where you will be able to get the list of items needed.

We are asking that you return the gifts you purchase to the same tree or label the bags when you return them to the church. There will also be lists available in the narthex and in the bulletin.

The deadline for returning the purchased items will be Sunday, December 3, 2023. That will give both programs time to process items and have available for distribution during the week of December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thanking you in advance for your generosity and sharing with others!!

**See next page for listing of Christmas items needed**

## **LUNCH BUNCH**

**Wednesday, November 8th**  
Noon-2:00pm  
Bring your own lunch  
Drinks and dessert provided

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## **MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY**

There has been interest by some individuals about joining the congregation of St. John's UCC. If you or someone you are acquainted with might be one of these persons, please contact the Church Office or Pastor Marty. We would like to schedule a Member Sunday in the near future, but Pastor Marty wants to be sure to offer this opportunity to all. We hope to hear from you soon!

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## **2024 Leadership Team**

Congratulations to the 2024 Leadership Team members. They will begin their term in office effective January 1, 2024.

Your new officers are:

**President:** Kyle Taylor  
**Vice-President:** David Stamm  
**Secretary:** Pat Goins  
**Treasurer:** Vickie Kennedy  
**Past President:** Laura Haas

Thank you to the 2023 Leadership Team for your hard work and dedication during this past year.

## **Invitation**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

### **Consecration of the Elements**

### **Partaking of the Lord's Supper**

*Communion is Open to ALL: saint and sinner, lost and found, believer and seeker.*

*We partake of the bread together to symbolize our unity & community as God's people.*

*We shall partake of the cup individually to symbolize our solitariness*

*as we each stand alone before our God*

### **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)**

**Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love; that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

## **RESPONDING TO GOD IN FAITH, DEED & MEMORY**

*All Saints' Day, November 1, was originally a celebration of all the known and unknown saints in the Roman Catholic Church. In many Protestant traditions, including the parent denominations of the United Church of Christ, all the people of God are understood to be saints, following the New Testament usage of the word. On All Saints' Sunday, the living saints remember all the saints of our church that have died, especially in the last year.*

When the cherished ties are broken, and the chain of love is shattered, only trust and the strength of faith can lighten the heaviness of the heart. The Psalmist said that in his affliction he learned the law of God. And in truth, grief is a great teacher, when it sends us back to serve and bless the living.

**We learn how to counsel and comfort those who, like ourselves, are bowed with sorrow. We learn to keep silence in their presence, and when a word will assure them of our love and concern.**

Thus, even when they are gone, the departed are with us, moving us to live as, in their highest moments, they themselves wished to live.

**We remember them now; they live in our hearts; they are an abiding presence.**

We celebrate the gift of life, and remember those members and friends of St. John's United Church of Christ who entered the Church Triumphant in the last 12 months. Their names will be read and the bell tolled in loving memory.

## Reading of Names

Betty Kiddy November 8, 2022  
Marjorie Fuldner November 15, 2022  
Lavon Wescott November 26, 2022  
Leslie Ann Webster December 1, 2022  
Donna Yeager December 15, 2022  
Rosemary Chenu December 23, 2022  
Cheryl Bordenkircher December 23, 2022  
Bruce Poinsette Jr. December 29, 2022  
Harold Gadd January 4, 2023  
Robert Walters March 4, 2023  
Gregg Runge March 12, 2023  
Bette Kendrick April 24, 2023  
Tom Swope June 19, 2023  
Robert Slater June 27, 2023  
Lisa Bersot July 15, 2023  
Roger Haas September 7, 2023  
Edna Haverkamp September 8, 2023  
Katherine Daley September 9, 2023  
Charlotte Scholl October 3, 2023  
John Breyer October 21, 2023  
Corinda Gerding October 24, 2023  
Anissa Harris

In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them.

**In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of Winter, we remember them.**

In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

**In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of Summer, we remember them.**

In the rustling of Autumn, we remember them.

**In the beginning of the year, and when it ends, we remember them.**

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

**So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.**

## \*Hymn #529

*"For All the Saints"*  
(vs. 1, 2, 5 & 6)

*(Sine Nomine)*

## \*Benediction

## \*Choral Response

## \*Postlude

*"O God Our Help In Ages Past"*

*(Gordon Young)*

Trash receptacles are located at each exit for disposal of communion cups.



## 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 In Loving Memory of  
Rob Hawkins

November 12, 1967 to November 5, 2020

Open flower dates are November 12th, 19th, & 26th  
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

