

CONTACTS

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

PROGRAM

	LOCATION	TIME
Coffee Fellowship Time	Fellowship Hall (L.L.)	9:00 a.m.
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 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	Dr. 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
Kyle Taylor	Church President	859-394-5256
David Stamm	Church Vice President	859-322-2426
Pat Goins	Church Secretary	859-250-2830
Vickie Kennedy	Church Treasurer	859-653-2630 text or call

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.	



September 8, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Thought for the Day before Worship

*Almighty God, giver of lights,
steady the variations of your light within us; chase away the shadows of our sin.
Overcome our darkness with the light and peace of your Son,
Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. Amen.*

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome

Prelude

"Psalm Prelude"

(Gordon Young)

Tower Bell

Introit

Holy God, we praise Your name;
Lord of all, we bow before You.
All on earth Your scepter claim;
all in heav'n above adore You.
Infinite, Your vast domain;
everlasting is Your reign.

*Call to Worship

Let us be quick to hear the word of truth God will speak to us in this time of Worship.

We seek the implanted word of God, which is able to save our souls.

Then come, let us Worship and bow down in praise of the God of truth.

We seek to hear God's Word, and having heard, to be doers of the Word.

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

Let us Worship our God!!

*Hymn #243

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" (St. George's Windsor)

***Prayer of Adoration & Confession**

O Lord, our God, giver of every good and perfect gift; we recognize you as the source of all good and the redeemer of all that was lost.

We praise you for the Spirit which has entered our lives in many ways.

We praise you for the Son, giving us a perfect sacrifice. Lord God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, praise be to you for all good gifts we receive from you.

God of all mercies, we confess our fearful hearts.

- We are afraid of rejection, even though you accept sinners.
- We are afraid of the unknown, in spite of your trustworthiness.
- We are afraid of death, even though we have a little faith.

In your mercy, O God, forgive our spiritual blindness that keeps us from listening to your call, and our lameness that cripples our walk in faith. Come and save us. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord and Savior and the great physician. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

Hear the Good News! God has chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom God has promised to those who love him. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

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.

(Creatorex)

From the Poetry of the Old Testament: Proverbs 22:1-2

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the LORD is the maker of them all.

From the New Testament Letters to the Entire Church: James 2:1-10

My brothers and sisters, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here in a good place, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit by my footstool,” have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Kyle Taylor

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Choral Director: Dr. Dobin Park

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Laura Haas & Tom Williams

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net A-722754

This Week

Sunday, September 8:	10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Monday, September 9:	7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting
Tuesday, September 10:	7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
Wednesday, September 11:	12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch
Thursday, September 12:	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Food Pantry 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Yoga Class-Fellowship Hall 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, September 14:	9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
Sunday, September 15:	10:00 a.m. Worship Service

✚ ✚

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

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 at the pulpit are provided by the Haas family.

"God be with you, because if God's with you and with us,
somewhere still we will be together." In loving memory of Roger
Haas, our Dad, Granddaddy, and Friend.



Flowers at the baptismal font are in honor and celebration of
Jill Maly's birthday today and her daughter
Lexi Carmony's birthday on September 9th.
Happy Birthday Jill & Lexi!!



From Barb & Mike Boyers

Open flower dates are September 29th
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.



BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8TH

September 8th: Vickie Kennedy



WELCOME BACK CHANCEL CHOIR

We are happy to welcome our Chancel Choir back to worship this morning. We look forward to your inspirational music during worship this season.

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

Anthem

"Great, Great Morning"

(Joseph M. Martin)

My Lord, what a morning when the stars begin to fall.
It will be a great, great morning; it will come without a warning
when we hear that trumpet sound.

Though we may not know the hour, we know Christ will come in power
and His trumpet blast will shake the ground.

All the saints will rise and be taken to the skies.
They will meet King Jesus in the air.

In-a that great getting up morning; fare thee well.

It's gonna be a getting up morning,

Great day, the righteous marching, great day!

I'll fly away, O glory! I'll fly away, in the morning,

When I die, Hallelujah, by and by.

In the twinkling of an eye, we will mount up to the sky.

Alleluia, we shall all be changed.

It will be a great, great morning, it will come without a warning.

O I will fly, I'll fly away.

From the Gospels: Mark 7:24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Sermon

"Ephphatha, Be Opened"

Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

***Affirmation of Faith - from The Confession of 1967 – Presbyterian Church USA**
We believe that God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation.
The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community
in which we are reconciled to God and to one another.
The Spirit enables us to receive forgiveness as we forgive one another
and to enjoy the peace of God as we make peace among ourselves.
We believe that in spite of our sin, the Holy Spirit gives us power to become
representatives of Jesus Christ and to proclaim the good news of reconciliation to all.

***Hymn #61** *“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”* (Wellesley)

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

Psalm 143:1

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord,
in - cline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. A - men.

WORDS: Psalm 143:1
MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

HEAR OUR PRAYER
irr.

Offertory Invitation

We would not steal for ourselves what God has entrusted to us for the benefit of our world neighbors. We would not claim as our own what God has loaned to us for our management in this lifetime. Therefore, we bring our offerings in joyful trust and obedient service.

Offertory

“How Can I Keep From Singing?”

(Craig Courtney)

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night He giveth.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am His! How can I keep from singing?

*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

O God, you have sent your Son, Jesus, to do all things well. He opened the eyes of the blind and the ears of the deaf. Open our hearts to be channels of your grace and our hands to be instruments of ministry, for your honor and glory. Accept these gifts we present to you today and our lives in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Hymn #422**

“Amazing Grace!”

(New Britain)

***Benediction (done responsively)**

The hand of God has touched us, and we have known forgiveness and healing.

We cannot help but share our experiences and proclaim the joy we are feeling.
We have heard anew the testimony of God's Word and we have been moved to keep God's commandments.

We have received the insight we have sought. God's promises have steadied our footsteps.

We have been empowered as doers of the Word and not hearers only.

Let us act our faith! Go forth with God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Choral Response**

Postlude

“Allegro Maestoso”

(Flor Peeters)