



November 10, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Thought for the Day before Worship

“We always attract into our lives whatever we think about most, believe in most strongly, expect on the deepest level, and imagine most vividly.”
– Shakti Gawain, *Reflections in the Light*

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome

Prelude

Fanfare and Meditation on “America” (Murray Bradshaw)

Tower Bell

Introit

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can feel the brush of angel wings,
I see glory on each face,
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

***Call to Worship**

It is not enough to gather in this sanctuary made by human hands,
Because God is calling us to make all the world a holy sanctuary.

We come in to be strengthened to go out,

So that, at the end of time, all creation will be ready to be born again, whole and glorious.

We have gathered to be refreshed, to be led from night to never-ending day.

Fill us with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise to you, Almighty God.

Let us Worship our God, the God of the Ages!!

***Hymn #728**

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” (National Hymn)

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

God, who makes all things new, make us new persons. May your power evidenced in creation be as powerful in recreating us. May your power we see in the changing of the seasons, change us. May your power we witness in the gift of each new day make this a new day for us. May your power we celebrate in the raising of Jesus Christ from the grave raise us to new life.

O God, we tend to give up too easily. We put down periods where you put down a comma. We close the book before the last chapter has ever been written. We think the curtain has come down to end the play, but it is only intermission. We worry about doors that are closing, rather than walking through those that are opening. We see “exit” signs over passageways where you have put “entrance.”

Forgive us for doubting that you can bring something new out of the old. Let there be no person, no experience, no situation, no problem on which we give up until you have finished working your renewing power.

In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

Hear the Good News in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we learn that God’s love has no bounds. In Christ we are forgiven and empowered to begin anew. Thanks be to God! 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.**

(Greateorex)

Old Testament: Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do.” She said to her, “All that you say I will do.”

So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin, and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.



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.	

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: Vickie Grey Kennedy

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

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This Week

Sunday, November 10: 10:00am Worship Service/Blessing of the
Thanksgiving Baskets

Monday, November 11: 7:00pm AA & Al-Anon Meeting

Tuesday, November 12: 7:00pm NA Meeting

Wednesday, November 13: 12:00pm-2:00pm Lunch Bunch

Thursday, November 14: 9:00 am-12:00pm Food Pantry
3:00pm-4:00pm Yoga Class-Fellowship Hall
7:00pm-9:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, November 16: 9:00am AA Meeting
9:00am Leadership Team Meeting

Sunday, November 17: 10:00am Worship Service/Stewardship Sunday

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

Psalm 127:1-5

Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the Lord guards the city,
the guard keeps watch in vain.
It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil,
for he gives sleep to his beloved.
Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb a reward.
Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the sons of one's youth.
Happy is the man who has
his quiver full of them.
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Anthem

“A Prayer for Our Time” (Joseph Martin)

Our God, to Thee we pray. Heal our nation, Lord, today.
God of mercy, grant us courage. Give us peace.

When evil draws its angry sword and seeks to sever freedom's cord,
when death and darkness shake our faith in God's unfailing pow'r to save,
Eternal Father, ever be our courage in the time of need.

When war is waged by faceless foes who battle peace with fiery blows,
when storms of hate and fear assail, our Father's mighty arm prevails,
Eternal Father, ever be our refuge in the time of need.

There is no tyrant who can stand against our sure Defender's hand
No threat or danger can defeat the strong and righteous Prince of Peace
Eternal Father, ever be our fortress in the time of need. Amen.



Gospel Reading: Mark 12:38-44

As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Sermon

“A Tribute to the Veteran”

Vickie Grey Kennedy

***Affirmation of Faith:** Psalm 91 - Assurance of God’s Protection

**You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.”**

**For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence;
he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
You will not fear the terror of the night,
or the arrow that flies by day,
or the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.**

**A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.
You will only look with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.
Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,
no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.
For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.**

**On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.
Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.
With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.**

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

Judy Adams, Joan Berkemeyer, Norma Biery, Yvonne Daniels, Betty Jo Haas, Phil Hamilton, Marilyn Hanson, Melvin Hanson, Betty Hasse, Rona Hater, Chuck Hawkins, Gayle McAtee, Carol Schoulthies, Ed Von Strohe, Bonnie Walter, Marty Westermeyer & Family of Peggy Westlund

Weekly Prayer List for Northern Kentucky UCC Cluster

St. John UCC; Bellevue
Allen Fluent, Interim

St. John’s UCC; Newport
Marty Westermeyer, Interim

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 Peggy Eckert. Take a moment this week to send her a card or give her a call as we celebrate Peggy as our member of the week!

Her address is:

Peggy Eckert
The Barrington of Ft. Thomas
940 Highland Avenue
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075

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.

Online Video Worship Services

You can view our online video Sunday worship services through our church website: www.stjohnsuccnewport.org, our Church’s Facebook Page or YouTube Channel (just search our church’s name on Facebook/YouTube) and through the Constant Contact weekly email, (just click the online worship button at the bottom of the page). Hope you enjoy the services!



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



Sunday, December 15, 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. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the church at 513-541-7757.

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, Roblox gift cards.

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

Deadline for gifts is Sunday, December 1, 2024

***Hymn #688**

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

(Schumann)

***Blessing of Thanksgiving Baskets**

As we gather today, we are grateful for what we have and can share with others;

We give thanks, O God.

For these Thanksgiving Baskets that are to be given to those who frequent our Pantry;

We give thanks to you, O God.

For the donations of finance and food to make these baskets available;

We offer thanks to you, O God.

For the volunteers who assembled these baskets;

We give thanks for their service.

Let us pray:

O God, we thank you for food and remember the hungry.

We thank you for health and remember the sick.

We thank you for friends and remember the friendless.

We acknowledge our blessings received from you and in return we bless these Thanksgiving Baskets. May those who benefit from this food be blessed with a sense of thanksgiving. Therefore, we give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for all people, for God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. Amen.

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



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

HEAR OUR PRAYER
Irr.

The world and all that is in it belongs to God. The Creator has blessed us with material resources and human companionship. Let us return to God the sacrifices of our thanksgiving.

For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise our hymn of praise.
For the wonder of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light;
For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild,
For Thy Church that ever more Lifteth holy hands above.
Offering up on every shore Her pure sacrifice of love,
For Thyself, best gift divine, To our race so freely given;
For that great, great love of Thine, Peace on earth and joy in heaven.
Lord, accept our hymn of grateful praise!

**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**

How wonderful is this moment when we are privileged to enter into your presence. We lay our gifts upon the altar and receive your blessing. You are more than capable, All-Powerful God, of doing the work of your kingdom without us, and it would certainly be perfectly done. Yet it is your mysterious will that we have a part in the redemption of all things. May we never take for granted the wonder and awe-inspiring power of these gifts. Use them for your work, now and forever. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Albin Whitworth)

Saturday December 14, 9:30-11:00