

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.	



March 9, 2025

10:00 a.m.

First Sunday in Lent



Prayer of Meditation before Worship

The signs of your grace are all around us, God of ceaseless love. Each new morning, each free breath we take, bears witness to the life we find in you. Because of Christ, sin has loosened its grip on our souls. Because of Christ, though trouble may attack, it no longer defeats. Give us, God of the world, a language to tell our stories of faith, so that we may speak of your saving presence and your great healing heart. Amen.

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “If You Will Trust In God to Guide You” (Gordon Young)

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: Psalm 71, adapted (done responsively)

I will also praise you with the harp,
For your faithfulness, O my God;
My lips will shout for joy,
When I sing praises to you;
My tongue will tell of your righteous acts
All day long.
Let us praise our God together in song!

*Hymn #252 “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” (Land of Rest)

O God, we who have learned to place our trust in you are fortunate indeed. In openness and without bias, you hear every voice that calls upon your name and you answer. Worshiping and serving only You, we praise your name. We confess, God, that temptations beset us and confound us. Our longing for power, for ownership, for the satisfactions of our desires are constantly before us. Yet we are so slow to learn to manage these temptations in wholesome ways. Too often we yield to them, or deny them, bury them under hard work, or hide them behind demonstrations of our goodness. Forgive us our misguided efforts. Teach us instead to consider your Son whose response to temptation was simple, direct, and sure. Let Jesus' strong and faithful reliance on you be our guide. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Do not fear! I say to you in the name of Jesus Christ: Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has made you free. Anyone who is in Christ Jesus is a new creation; the old has passed away. Behold, the new has come! Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.

**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.**

(*Greatorrex*)

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.”

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;

Preaching Today: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Steve Twehues

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, March 9: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, March 10: 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting

Tuesday, March 11: 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting

Wednesday, March 12: 12:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch

Thursday, March 13: 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, March 15: 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
9:00 a.m. Leadership Team Meeting
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Pause for Lent

Sunday, March 16: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:30 a.m. Potato Bar Luncheon

† †

GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD!

*Benediction

*Choral Response

Postlude

“Prelude in G Minor”

(J.S. Bach)

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.



The greenery at the pulpit and baptismal font are provided by the church.

Open flower dates are March 16th, 23rd & 30th
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 9TH

March 9th: Elise Fallor
March 10th: Marcia Schmidt
March 11th: Laura Haas

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.

From the Law of the Old Testament: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

“When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.’ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Anthem

“Living Hope”

(arr. Jay Rouse)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness.
I do not trust the sweetest frame, but holy lean on Jesus name.
On Christ, the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

How great the chasm that lay between us; how high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation, I turned to heaven and spoke your name into the night.
Then through the darkness, your loving kindness tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished; the end is written; Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken. I am forgiven. The king of Kings calls me his own.
Beautiful savior, I’m yours forever; Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah! Praise the one who set me free.
Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me.
You have broken every chain, There’s salvation in your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.
Then came the morning that sealed the promise. Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the roaring lion declared the grave has no claim on me.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’ ”

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

Sermon “*Life’s Transitions*” Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

***Hymn #505** *“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”* (All The Way)

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.

(sing twice)



We are stewards in God's garden, entrusted with the care of all the earth and of God's people, our sisters and brothers. Let us give account of our stewardship as we dedicate material offerings and as we rededicate ourselves to the tasks Christ sets before us.

“Ave Verum” (W.A. Mozart)

Cleanse us by thy blood and water streaming from thy pierced side
Feed us with the body broken now and in death's agony.

(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**

In concern for us Christ, you have taught us that where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also. May the gifts and offerings we offer here today demonstrate that we give our treasure freely and gladly to you. Accept the gifts of our hearts as well. In Jesus' name. Amen.

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” (Maryton)