

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
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.	



July 27, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



Thought for the Day before Worship

Christ, impress upon us; as you did your disciples, all we should know about prayer. Remind us that our God is like a generous parent to us, one who understands our wants, who responds to our persistent cries for help, and who offers to us what we need for each day. Let us learn to turn to God trustingly, humbly, and hopefully. Keep us tireless in bringing our deepest concerns before God. For everyone who seeks will find, and all who come to God will be given God's Holy Spirit. Amen.

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “My Jesus, I Love Thee” (Don Hustad)

Tower Bell

Call to Worship: Psalm 138
I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;
I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.
On the day I called, you answered me; you increased my strength of soul.
All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.
For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he perceives from far away.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.
The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.
Let us Worship our God!!

*Hymn #72

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

(Faithfulness)

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession**
Almighty God, we gather in praise and adoration to declare your greatness and goodness. Father, whose love is working in all creation, we praise you. Son of God, who left the safe immunity of heaven to bring us back, we adore you. Holy Spirit, empowering us to proclaim and manifest the good news, we glorify you. Receive our Worship, O God, through the ongoing ministry of Christ. We stand in awe before the life of Jesus: a life of humble service, of tender compassion, and of deep communion with you. Teach us to pray, O God! By your mighty Spirit lift us out of ourselves and our self-preoccupation to commune with you and to pour out our hearts in daily prayer. We are often slow to come in prayer, Gracious God. How seldom we seek your face! How infrequently we enter your presence! Our lives are consumed with our own wants and preoccupations. By the cross of Christ our Savior, deliver us from the dungeon of selfishness, and free us to love you and others with undivided hearts. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**
Hear the Good News! In Jesus Christ we are rooted and built and established in the faith. Through this act in Jesus, we cannot be separated from God. 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.

(Greateorex)

Scripture Lesson: Colossians 2:6-15
As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

Preaching Today: John Robson

Liturgist: Rose Wendling

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Darlene Knepshield & Wendy Watts

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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This Week

- Sunday, July 27:10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Monday, July 28:7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, July 29:7:00 p.m. NA Meeting
- Thursday, July 31:3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Yoga Class Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, August 2:9:00 a.m. AA Meeting
- Sunday, August 3:10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Communion Sunday

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GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD!

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, Family of Bob Gray, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Marilyn Hanson, Family of Melvin Hanson, Chuck Hawkins, Jean Morrow, Ed Von Strohe, Wendy Watts & Marty Westermeyer

Weekly Prayer List for Northern Kentucky UCC Cluster

St. Mark UCC, Latonia
Rachel Wirrig

St. John UCC; Covington

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

Her address is:

Carol Strong
Cold Spring Transitional Care Center
300 Plaza Drive Room 2408
Cold Spring, KY 41076

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!

Scripture Lesson: Luke 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." So he said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, or we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Solo

"Here I Am Lord"

(arr. Tom Fettke)

(Jean Nutgrass and Katheryn Jones)

I the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save,
I who made the stars of night

I will make their darkness bright Who will bear my light to them, Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord,
Is it I Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night I will go, Lord, If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts of love alone,
I will speak my word to them. Whom Shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them, Whom shall I send?

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 18:20-32

Then the LORD said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know.”

So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

Sermon “Bargaining with God — Really?” John Robson

***Affirmation of Faith:** Colossians 1:15-20 (adapted)
Christ is the image of the invisible God, first born of all creation; for in Christ all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities - all things were created through Christ and for Christ. Christ is before all things, and in Christ all things hold together. Christ is the head of the body, the church; Christ is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything Christ might be preeminent. For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Christ all things are reconciled to God, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of Christ's cross.

*Hymn #61 “There’s A Wideness In God’s Mercy” (Wellesley)

Gathering Together in Prayer
Joys and 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.**

Mission Moment David Stamm

Offertory Invitation
The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof. God has given us life and resources for it, so let us give in return.

Offertory “Because He Lives” (arr. Jack Schrader)
God sent His son, they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

And then one day, I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns!

*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
Generous God, having given us all things, you give us your very self each time we commune with you. In gratitude we dedicate these offerings that the whole world might know the same joy. Use us and these gifts, we pray, to further your Kingdom on the earth. In Christ we pray. Amen.

*Hymn #466 “Take My Life And Let It Be” (Hendon)

*Benediction

Postlude “Organ Miniature XI” (Flor Peeters)