



September 28, 2025  
10:00 a.m.  
**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



**Prayer of Meditation Worship**

*Thank you God: for creation's beauty, for loved ones, for friends who speak the truth,  
for strangers in whom you come. Thank you. Bless us, O God. Not so much with things, but  
with meaning, presence, and hope. Bless us. Guide us where you would have us grow.  
Guide us out of fear and into trust. Guide us. We give you our thanks, we rest in your  
blessings, we follow your guiding way. In Jesus Christ. Amen.*

\*All who are able are welcome to stand

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

*“Meditation”*

*(A. Schreiner)*

**Tower Bell**

**Introit**

Come we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known,  
Join in a song with sweet accord, and thus surround the throne.

**\*Call to Worship: Psalm 146 (in part) (Responsive)**

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, my soul!

**I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life....**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord  
their God....

**Who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry....**

The Lord watches over the strangers; he holds the orphan and the widow....

**The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!**

**\*Hymn #569**

*“God of Grace and God of Glory”*

*(CWM Rhondda)*

**\*Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

Great and wonderful are all your works, O God; majestic is your name. Unto the ends of the earth you display your dominion. Beyond the reaches of the heavens your glory shines. Hear the praises we offer as we gather to Worship. Receive the confession we make through your mercy and grace. As we open your Word, we discern goodness. Your way is holy, great God of all.

Praise be to you, God of mercy and might, and to your only begotten, our Savior Christ Jesus. In spite of our sin, Christ calls us to ministry. Christ is patient and loving, reflecting your nature.

- We dishonor your name and persecute our neighbors; we are not deserving of the trust you place in us.
- We confess our wrongdoing and plead your forgiveness. Through Christ accept us and cleanse us of all sin. Amen.

**\*Assurance of Grace**

Hear the Good News! We are dealt with mercifully. The grace of our Lord Jesus is lavished upon us with faith and love which are ours through 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.

(Greateorex)

**Scripture Lesson: 1 Timothy 6:6-19**

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

**CONTACTS**

|                        |                                                |             |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Phone                  | 859-431-1818                                   |             |
| Email                  | stjohnsucc@stjohnsuccnewport.org               |             |
| Website                | www.stjohnsuccnewport.org                      |             |
| Facebook               | St. John's United Church of Christ–Newport, KY |             |
| <b>PROGRAM</b>         | <b>LOCATION</b>                                | <b>TIME</b> |
| 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 |
| Chancel Choir Director               | Tony Burdette         | Tony.Burdette@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. |                        |

## Welcoming and Leading Us This Morning

# Preaching Today: John Robson

Liturgist: Kyle Taylor

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Chancel Choir Director: Tony Burdette

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Darlene Knepshield

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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## This Week

**Sunday, Sept. 28th:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Monday, Sept. 29th:** 7:00 p.m. AA & Al-Anon Meeting

**Tuesday, Sept. 30th:** 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting

**Wednesday, October 1st: 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal**

**Thursday, October 2nd:** 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Yoga Class Fellowship Hall

**Saturday, October 4th:** 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting  
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. The Chosen Discussion Group

**Sunday, October 5th:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service/World Communion  
Sunday/Neighbors In Need



**GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD**

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

## Scripture Lesson: Luke 16:19-31

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

## Anthem

*“Sure Foundation”*

(Mark Hayes)

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,  
When you pass through the river, I am there.  
Floods may seem to overwhelm you, but this one thing is sure:  
I will never forsake you; do not fear.  
When you pass through the fire, you shall not be burned.  
When the flame would consume you, I am there.  
Fiery trials may assail you, but this one thing is sure:  
I will never forsake you; do not fear.  
Do not fear, I have redeemed you. I have called you. You are mine.  
You can trust my sure foundation, until the end of time.  
“Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.  
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.  
When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply.  
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design thy dross to consume,  
And thy gold to refine.  
The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes.  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake!  
I will never forsake you; do not fear!

Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria, the notables of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel resorts!

**Sermon**                      “Duties of the Have’s”                      Pastor John Robson

*(Holiness)*

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Pastor of Visitation John Robson

You can view our online video Sunday worship services through our church website: [www.stjohnsuccnewport.org](http://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!

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday offers congregations a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. The first Sunday of October is when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church. On that day, we recognize that we are part of the whole body of believers. Join us on **Sunday, October 5th** as we celebrate World Communion Sunday.

## NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries.

In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy.

This special offering will be collected on **World Communion Sunday (October 5, 2025)**. Thank you for your support and generosity!

## PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

**Sunday, October 12th** is Pastor Appreciation Day. Take a moment and let Pastor Marty and Pastor John know how much we appreciate all that they do for St. John's and for everyone here at St. John's.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, October 26th - 11:15 a.m.

Sanctuary after Sunday Worship

## TRUNK OR TREAT

Join us **Saturday, October 18, 2025 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** as St. John's hosts a Trunk-or-Treat event. This event will take place in the parking lot of St. John's. We are asking members and friends to bring their cars and decorate them and pass out candy to children as they come to your car. Costumes are encouraged for both children and adults and there will be a winner for best costume. There will also be games and activities for kids to participate in as they make their way through the treat trail. Invite all of your children, grandchildren, and friends to join us for this fun event. If you would like to participate by providing a car or hosting an activity please contact the church office or place your name on one of the sign-up sheets located in the church.

## Response

*Psalm 143:1*

## Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

306



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

HEAR OUR PRAYER  
Irr.

## Offertory Invitation

We are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share the gifts that have been shared with us. In our sharing, we make our actions our prayer that our neighbors might know God's abundant love. Let us consider the gifts we give in grateful praise.

## Offertory

*"There Is a Redeemer"*

*(arr. Mary McDonald)*

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.  
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain.  
When I stand in glory, I will see His face;  
There I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.

Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.  
There is a Redeemer!

**\*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**

**How is it that you have entrusted us with such riches, O God? By what wisdom have you discerned it best to give such abundance to our care and keeping? Humbled by your trust in us, we accept both the joy and the responsibility of being your stewards. Equip us for the ministry of stewardship with generous hearts, open hands, and souls full of thanksgiving and praise. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #621**

*“For the Healing Of the Nations”*

*(Regent Square)*

**\*Benediction (Responsive)**

God sends us from this place with a word of hope.

**We will offer the shelter of grace to all in need.**

Jesus sends us out with the word of life.

**We will seek to share community with those we will meet.**

The Spirit sends us into a world which longs for justice.

**We will trust that God's freedom will be offered to all people.**

**\*Choral Response**

**Postlude**

*“Recessional”*

*(Gordon Young)*

**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 October 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th  
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28TH**

September 28th: Sheila Witte  
October 3rd: David Stamm & Marty Westermeyer



**ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS**

For online giving, please scan the QR code.

**THE CHOSEN**

Saturday October 04, 10-11:30am  
Saturday October 11, 10-11:30am  
Saturday October 18, 10-11:30am  
Saturday October 25, 10-11:30am  
**Meetings are in the church library**

**LUNCH BUNCH**  
**Wednesday, October 8th**

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.  
Food and drinks will be provided  
Desserts provided  
Help us celebrate Fall!!  
All are welcome