



December 7, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent



Prayer of Meditation before Worship

To you, O God, we lift our voices in praise and prayer. Loving God, caring Creator, gracious Spirit, we come to you seeking the reassurance of your presence, especially here and now as we begin this time of Worship. Amen.

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“An Advent Prelude”

(Kendra Franke - flute)

(Charles Calahan)

Tower Bell

Introit

Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung.
From Jesse’s lineage coming, as saints of old have sung.
It came a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

*Call to Worship

In the vibrance of youth, in the wisdom of years, in all and many tongues of every race and nation, the people of God gather to share the joy of Worship.
Let us with our vast and varied family of faith, and with one mind and one voice praise our God, in the name of our Savior, Jesus the Christ.
Let us together Worship God!

*Hymn #153

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

(Hyfrydol)

CONTACTS

Phone

859-431-1818

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Website

www.stjohnsuccnewport.org

Facebook

St. John’s United Church of Christ–Newport, KY

PROGRAM

Coffee Fellowship Time

Worship

LOCATION

Fellowship Hall (L.L.)

Sanctuary

TIME

9:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

CHURCH STAFF

POSITION

Designated Pastor

Pastor of Visitation

Director Of Music/Organist

Chancel Choir Director

Office Administrator

Director of Communication & Outreach

Financial Administrator

PERSON

J. Martin Westermeyer

John Robson

Michael Sullivan

Tony Burdette

Kelli Taylor

Kyle Taylor

Chris Baker

CONTACT

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Kelli.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org

Kyle.Taylor@stjohnsuccnewport.org

Financialadmin@stjohnsuccnewport.org

CHURCH LEADERS

PERSON

Kyle Taylor

David Stamm

Pat Goins

Vickie Kennedy

POSITION

Church President

Church Vice President

Church Secretary

Church Treasurer

CONTACT

859-394-5256

859-322-2426

859-250-2830

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: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Kyle Taylor

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Chancel Choir Director: Tony Burdette

Cantor: Jean Nutgrass

Candle Bearer: Mark Behrendt
Diana Stamm

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: David Stamm & Wendy Watts

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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This Week

Sunday, December 7: 10:00am Worship Service/Second Sunday of Advent/
Communion Sunday

Monday, December 8: 7:00pm AA & Al-Anon Meeting

Tuesday, December 9: 7:00pm NA Meeting

Wednesday, December 10: 7:00pm-8:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 11: 9:00am-12:00pm Food Pantry
3:00pm-4:00pm Yoga Class Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 13: 9:00am AA Meeting
10:00am-11:00am Advent Discussion Group

Sunday, December 14: 10:00am Worship Service/Third Sunday of Advent
11:30am Lunch Bunch Holiday Luncheon

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

***Prayer of Invocation**

Gracious God, when we pray for comfort for the brokenhearted and repentance for those who need to turn around their lives, we are praying for ourselves; for we are in need of both. We give you thanks for the words of assurance and the call to change our lives, for you know our needs even better than we know ourselves.

Hear now the prayers of your people for those we know and love and name before you in the quiet of our hearts. Teach us and shape us to serve you in your world. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Please be seated

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace

Cantor: 1.O - so - so o - so - so, pyong - hwa - ui - im - gum,
2.Come now, O God of hope, make us one bod - y.
3.Come now, O God of peace, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - so.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con-cile your peo-ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, re - con-cile your peo-ple.

(congregation sings verse 3 as directed)

Prayer (unison)

Come, O Holy One, as the water of life and refiner’s fire, strengthen us with courage for your work of justice, that in all the creation and among every people your peace may be established, and your joy abound, through Jesus our Deliverer. Amen.

From the Major Prophets of the Old Testament: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

From the Poetry of the Old Testament: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.

May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.

May he live while the sun endures
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.

In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.
Amen and Amen.

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, Ernie
Brady, Flo Grey, Betty Jo Haas, Eric
Haas, Joanna Haas, Betty Hasse,
Chuck Hawkins, Vickie Kennedy, Jan
Knepshild, Ed Von Strohe, Wendy
Watts & Marty Westermeyer

Weekly Prayer List for Northern Kentucky UCC Cluster

Grace UCC; Ft. Wright
Mark Roeder

St. Paul UCC; Alexandria
Paul Forrey

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
Robert Hasse Take a moment this week to
send him a card or give him a call as we
celebrate Robert as our member of the
week!

His address is:
Robert Hasse
500 Lakeview Drive #103
Wilder, KY 41071

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!

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 is provided by the church.

Open flower dates are December 14th, 21st & 28th
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.



ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

For online giving, please scan the QR code.

BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7TH

December 8th: Mike Scharber

December 9th: Ralph Schoulthies

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS FOR THE HOLIDAYS-LAST DAY TO ORDER

Poinsettia order forms can be found in your Sunday Bulletin.

Orders are due by Sunday, December 7th.

Advent Chorus: (All sing)

**Peace, peace, peace -
The gift of Christ is peace.
We walk with God, our past forgiven.
All in Him is life and heaven.
Peace, peace, peace -
The gift of Christ is peace.**

From the Letters of Paul in the New Testament: Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel for Jews and Gentiles Alike Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sermon

"Keep Your Eyes Upon Jesus" Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Response #472

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

(sing twice)

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

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels...The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

Offertory Invitation

The mountains of God offer prosperity for all people. We have been blessed that we might be a blessing to others. Now we are invited to employ the resources God grants us, to hasten the day when the wolf shall live with the lamb and a little child shall lead them. We give in the name of the One whose coming we seek anew in this Advent season.

Offertory “Noel” (Mary McDonald)

The first Noel, the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winters night that was so deep. Noel!	And by the light of that same star three wisemen came from the country far, to seek a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. Noel!
They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, Beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel! Born is the king of Israel,	Then let us all with one accord, sing praises to our heavenly Lord, Who has made heaven and earth of not, and with his blood, our life has bought! Noel!

*Doxology (Veni Emmanuel)

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
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Isreal!

*Prayer of Dedication

With these offerings we move beyond words to deed, O God. We share the Good News and seek the peace you alone can give. We express our faith in your goodness and in the witness our church can make in a needy world. May these gifts be wheat and not chaff in God’s Kingdom of Heaven. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

*Hymn #232 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (Picardy)
(vs. 1 & 2)

Communion

Celebrating God’s Word in Sacrament

Communion is Open to ALL: saint and sinner, lost and found, believer and seeker.
We partake of the bread together to symbolize our unity and community as God’s people.
We shall partake of the cup individually to symbolize our solitariness
as we each stand alone before our God.

*Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the one holy universal Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation
Eucharistic Prayer
Consecration of the Elements

Partaking of the Lord's Supper

As is our tradition, the Elements of Communion are held until all are served and partake at the direction of the Pastor.

Traditional wine is located on the outside circle of the serving tray and apple juice is available on the inner circle of the serving tray.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

O God, by coming to your table we receive more gifts than we deserve. We give thanks for Jesus Christ, whose birth we anticipate this Advent Season, and through whom we receive life and in whom we are bound in covenant. Renew us so we may willingly serve as Christ served. It is in Jesus’ name that we pray. Amen.

*Hymn #191 “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” (Carol)

*Benediction

*Choral Response

Give us grace O Savior small, to share the news, goodwill to all.
Angels tell us of your birth, good will to all and peace on earth.

Postlude “Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts” (Saint-Saens)
(from Christmas Oratorio)

Communion Cup Disposal

Please use trash receptacles located at each exit for disposal of communion cups.