



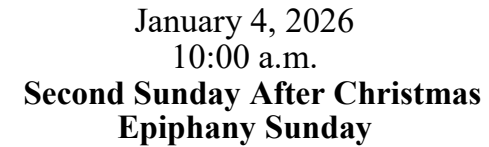
Phone	859-431-1818
Email	stjohnsucc@stjohnsuccnewport.org
Website	www.stjohnsuccnewport.org
Facebook	St. John's United Church of Christ–Newport, KY

Coffee Fellowship Time	Fellowship Hall (L.L.)	9:00 a.m.
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.

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

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

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.



*We try in so many ways to transcend our human limitations
as if human limitations can be transcended within human limitations.*

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Prelude

“The Three Kings”
(Kendra Franke - flute)

(*Wilbur Held*)

*Call to Worship

There's the star in the sky.

We follow the light.

There's the light of the world.

We follow the light.

We are called to light the world ourselves.

We shine in the darkness, and live with the consequences of illumination.

The dayspring from on high breaks upon us.

Joy comes with the morning. Thanks be to God.

Let us Worship our God!!

***Hymn #236**

“As with Gladness”

$$(Dix)$$

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

We confess, our God, how easy it is, to make our way to church on Sunday morning - resisting the temptations of sleeping in, a breakfast out with the family, a lingering cup of coffee and the paper.

We confess, our God, how easy it is to make our way to church, bring our gifts to the altar, drop them off, maybe say some words of respect, a prayer, converse pleasantly with fellow congregants, and then, go home and live life as we always have.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

***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 #231** *“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”* *(Festal Song)*

***Benediction**

Postlude *“We Three Kings ”* *(Gordon Young)*

Trash receptacles are located at each exit for disposal of communion cups

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 poinsettias in church today are provided by our members and friends of the church.
Open flower dates are January 11th, 18th & 25th
To reserve your special date, please call the church office.



ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS
For online giving, please scan the QR code.

Solo

“Were You There On That Christmas Night ” *(Natalie Sleeth)*
(Mark Behrendt - soloist)

Were you there? Were you there on that Christmas night,
when the world was filled with a holy light?
Were you there to behold when the wonder for told
came to earth?

Did you see , did you see how they held Him King,
with the gifts so rare that they chose to bring?
Did you see how they bowed
as they praised Him aloud at his birth?

Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang
at the glory of the night?
Did you hear how the bells of heaven rang
all through the night?

Did you know, did you know it was God’s own Son,
the salvation of the world begun?
Did you know it was love that was sent from above to the Earth?

From the Gospels of the New Testament: Matthew 2:1-12
In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon *“Do You Get It?”* Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

***Hymn #234** *“Wise Men, They Came to Look for Wisdom ”* *(Neumark)*
(vs. 1 & 4)

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 wealth of the nations has come to us. What are we doing with it? Prosperity is ours.
How shall we share it? We are invited to join the Magi at the feet of Christ, offering
whatever gifts are entrusted to us. Let us equip the church to make known “the wisdom of
God in its rich variety.”

Offertory “Away In A Manger” (Gordon Young)

*Doxology (The First Noel)

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heav’n-ly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of naught,
and with his blood man-kind hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

*Prayer of Dedication

Far away and long ago, the magi brought Jesus gifts - valuable gifts: gold,
frankincense, myrrh. Here and now, we bring our gifts - valuable gifts: cash and
checks - representing a portion of our allowances, our earnings. We offer our gifts
though, not only as signs of respect - of honor, but also as tokens of our commitment
of selves. May we never offer our gifts as distinct from the gift of ourselves. This we
pray in the name of the one who gave his all. Amen.

*Hymn # “Let Us Be Bread” Sing Twice



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.