



January 18, 2026
10:00 a.m.
Second Sunday after the Epiphany



Thought for the Day before Worship

*Whatever we practice, not (save at rare intervals) what we preach,
is usually our great contribution to the conversion of others.*

– C.S. Lewis, “Letter to a Lady, 2 February 1955,” in W. H. Lewis, “Letters of C.S. Lewis”.

*All who are able are welcome to stand

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Sabbath Prayer”

(A. Schreiner)

Tower Bell

Introit

Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.

***Call to Worship: Adapted from Psalm 40:1-11**

As we wait patiently for the Lord,

As we look for deliverance from what we suffer,

God hears; God draws us out; God makes our steps secure;

And God gives us new songs of praise to sing.

We come, with confidence and trust, to worship God,

And to declare God’s faithfulness, steadfastness, and love in the great congregation.

Let us Worship our God!!

***Hymn #247**

“Sing of God Made Manifest”

(Salzburg)

***Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

We come to you with joyful hearts, O God, hearts filled with wonder and praise: for the magnificence of the cosmos you have created; for the constantly changing complexity of the life you have given us; but most of all for your Incarnation, your dwelling, among us. The knowledge that you have provided us with a Savior is too big to keep to ourselves – as it was for John the Baptist and the Apostle Paul and countless others whose lives have been altered by knowing him who is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Help us, in speaking and acting, to tell the Good News of forgiveness and love of him who is your Son, under whose Mercy we stand.

Our lives are filled with words, O God, words and words and words: on television, in books, on the Internet; words we hear and words we speak. Our culture of words lulls us into complacency.

We say we believe in helping others; we even identify who those “others” might be: the homeless, the helpless, the hopeless; those who lack food, shelter, companionship; those who have been beaten down by life or left behind in our affluent society. Even so, we too often fail to follow our words with actions. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to connect what we say and what we do, that we may become ever-growing disciples of him who is your Mercy, our Savior, our Deliverance, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

Hear the Good News! Grace and peace is given to you in Jesus Christ. All who call upon his name he claims as his own. God will keep you firm to the end, without reproach on the Day of our Lord Jesus. It is God who called you to share in the life of God’s Son, Jesus Christ. God keeps faith and forgives our sin. Dearly Beloved, believe the Good News! **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, now and forever. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

(Greateorex)

**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.**

From the Letters of Paul: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.



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	
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
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: Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

Liturgist: Tom Williams

Organist: Michael Sullivan

Chancel Choir Director: Tony Burdette

Sound Technician: Robert Pettus

Greeters: Darlene Knepshield & Julie Ollier

Ushers: Steve Twehues, Ralph Schoulthies & Mike Hanson

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This Week

- Sunday, January 18:** 10:00am Worship Service
- Monday, January 19:** Church Office Closed-Martin Luther King Jr. Day
7 :00pm AA & Al-Anon Meeting
- Tuesday, January 20:** 7:00pm NA Meeting
7:00 pm East Row Garden Club Meeting
- Wednesday, January 21:** 7:00pm - 8:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, January 22:** 3:00pm-4:00pm Yoga Class Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, January 24:** 9:00am AA Meeting
- Sunday, January 25:** 10:00am Worship Service

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GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Anthem

“Festival Jubilate”

(Patti Drennan)

Jubilate Deo! Joyfully sing unto God.
Sing joyfully, joyfully sing unto God. Jubilate Deo!
Sing joyfully unto God!
Serve the Lord with gladness. Enter His courts with praise.
Into God’s presence we come with joy. Give thanks to the Father and praise His holy name.
Jubilate Deo! Sing unto God. O sing joyfully, joyfully sing unto God. Enter his gates with
thanksgiving. Enter his courts with praise. The Lord is gracious, the Lord is good.
Give thanks to the Father and praise His holy name.
Jubilate Deo. Joyfully sing unto God.
O sing joyfully unto God. Jubilate!

From the Gospels of the New Testament: John 1:29-42

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed.) He brought Simon [†]to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter.)

Sermon

“Life Is Like a Box of Chocolates” Rev. J. Martin Westermeyer

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!

HENRY HOSEA HOUSE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Good News! **We have a fifth Friday opening on Friday 01/30/26.** We are looking for 7 volunteers to work from **3:30-6:00 PM** to help serve dinner. If you and/or friends and family would be able to help, please text or call **Pat Goins at 859-250-2830**. Thank you in advance for helping with this important community outreach venture.

“SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN’S

Join St. John’s on **Sunday, February 8th** as we celebrate Super Bowl Sunday with our “Souper” Bowl Event. This event will be a two-part event consisting of a food drive and luncheon following Sunday Worship.

Before worship, we will be hosting a canned food drive benefiting the St. John’s UCC Food Pantry to help individuals in need in our local area. We are asking everyone to bring in a canned food item (**items that are especially needed: canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, pudding, maple syrup, and vegetable oil etc.**) and place it in the baskets located at either entrance of the Sanctuary.

Then, following worship, join us in Fellowship Hall where we will be hosting a light luncheon of soup, salads, and desserts.

If you would like to help, sign-up sheets for food will be located at the entrances of the sanctuary of the church. **Please sign up if you would like to bring a soup, salad or dessert, or just come for the luncheon.** Reservations are also welcomed, and you will find forms in the bulletin to do so, or you may contact the church office. Reservation forms may be placed in the offering plates on Sunday morning.

We hope you can join us as we gather for worship and fellowship while also helping our local community with this fun event. If there are any questions, please contact the church office.

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

241

Thomas Toke Lynch, 1855

REDHEAD NO. 76: 7. 7. 7. 7. 7.
Richard Redhead, 1853



1. Gra - cious Spir - it, dwell with me; I my - self would
2. Truth - ful Spir - it, dwell with me; I my - self would
3. Ho - ly Spir - it, dwell with me; I my - self would



gra - cious be; And with words that help and heal
truth - ful be; And with wis - dom kind and clear
ho - ly be; Sep - a - rate from sin, I would



Would Thy life in mine re - veal; And with ac - tions
Let Thy life in mine ap - pear; And with ac - tions
Choose and cher - ish all things good, And what - ev - er



beld and meek Would for Christ my Sav - iour speak.
broth - er - ly Speak my Lord's sin - cer - i - ty.
I can be Give to Him who gave me Thee! A - MEN.



God does not require sacrifices and burnt offerings, but in our delight to do the will of God we bring our best in thanksgiving and praise. We rejoice in the abundant gifts of God, which enable us to share. Let us generously support our mutual efforts to be faithful to the One who is faithful to us.

Only god can move a mountain; only God can calm the sea.
Only God can heal a wounded spirit; Only God, only God.
Only God can hear my heart's cry; only God, my sin atone.
Only God can give us calm assurance, only God, only God!
God Almighty, most Holy wise God; You are the power and the glory,
O God, our God!

Only God can be our refuge; only God can be our strength.
Only God will stand as our Defender, only God, only God!
God is the power; only God in majesty!
Only God will reign as King forever, only God, Only God!

(Jean Joseph Mouret)

January 23rd: John Robson
January 24th: Robert Pettus