St. John's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MISSION
Good Neighbors, Sharing the Good News

MESSAGE
But I Say To You
"Keep Your Word"

DATE
All Saints' Day
Communion Sunday
November 1st, 2026
Liturgical Color - White

WORSHIP GUIDE

NEW HERE?

WELCOME GUESTS

If you are interested in getting to know us, please provide information you are comfortable sharing via our online sign-in link on our website; stjohnsumc.org/worship, scan the QR code, or fill out the "guest card" located at the end of the pew, and place it in the offering plate.

NURSERY SERVICE | Room 103

Children, newborn through 5, are welcome in the nursery during the 10:45 AM worship service. The nursery staff kindly asks all parents to sign-in each Sunday and leave a cell phone number in case they need to contact you during the service. Also, please clearly label all of your child's important belongings.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Kid's Club House

During our 10:45 AM Worship Service, children from kindergarten to 5th Grade will be dismissed to participate in our Deep Blue Sunday School curriculum, led by our Safe Gatherings certified teachers. If your child(ren) is new to class, please feel free to accompany them to our classroom and meet their teacher. Should you decide to have your child(ren) attend Sunday School, you can ask an usher for directions to room 203 (Kid's Club House). **Questions?** Grace Mott; Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministries; grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org

**On the 3rd Sunday of the month, all children and youth are invited to help prep and cook a meal served to our friends at Neighbor2Neighbor of Kansas City (N2N) during Children's Sunday School.*

REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP AND PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

8:30 AM WORSHIP | Chapel

9:30 AM CHOIR REHEARSAL | Sanctuary
PATHWAYS ADULT BIBLE STUDY | 205

10:45 AM WORSHIP | Sanctuary and Virtual
NURSERY CARE | 103
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL | Kid's Clubhouse

JOIN US ONLINE!

Our Sunday 10:45 Worship Service is live-streamed on our website. stjohnsumc.org/watch

MAKE SOME NOISE FOR MISSIONS

Loose change in the offering plate is used to support our local and international missions, service, and justice efforts including the Missouri United Methodist Conference's Mozambique Initiative. For more information on the Mozambique Initiative visit mzinitiative.com.

GIVE

We are grateful for your continued support and partnership in ministry!
Scan the QR code to give online or Text BLESS6900 to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483).

SERVING

THIS WEEK | 11.01.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL
LAY READER | Sharon Curtright
USHERS | Jay Curtright
Sharon Curtright

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY
LAY READER | Barb Mueller
USHERS | Robert Taylor
Gary Fischer

NEXT WEEK | 11.08.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL
LAY READER | Volunteer Needed
USHERS | Volunteer Needed

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY
LAY READER | Drew Brought
USHERS | Leslie Ferguson
Dan Ferguson

COMMUNION SUNDAY

We are an open communion community. All who earnestly repent of their sins and seek to live in peace with one another are welcome to come and receive God's gifts of grace. As we partake of the elements, you are welcome to return to your seat or stop at the communion/prayer rail to kneel and pray. Once you are finished communing please quietly and reverently return to your seat.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

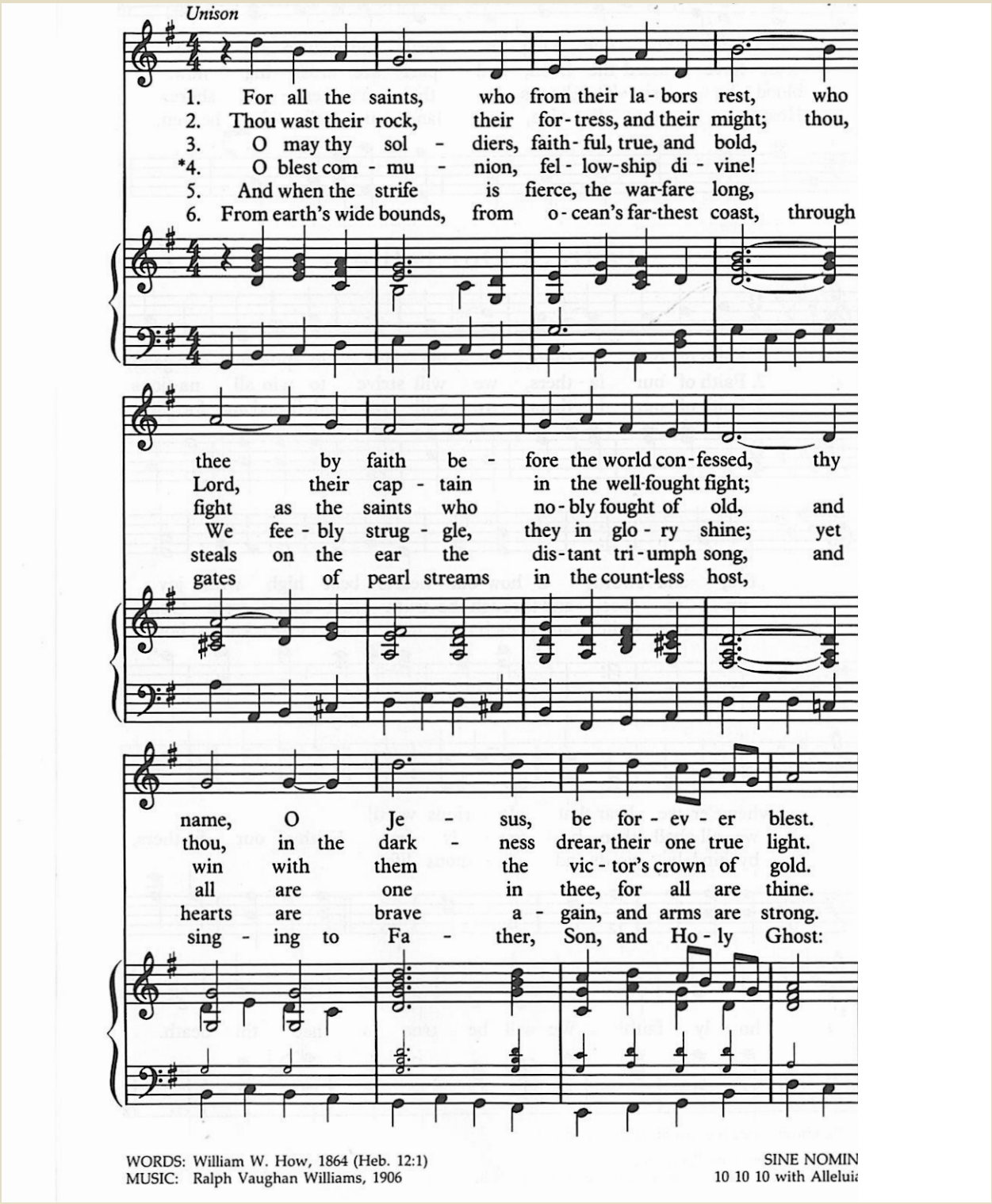
WE REMEMBER THE SAINTS IN OUR LIVES WITH MUSIC BY CLASSIC GREATS AND BY LIVING COMPOSERS, ADDING INSPIRING HYMNS FOR THE COMMEMORATION.

PRELUDE | *Going Home*[3] | music by Antonin Dvorak, arr. Phil Lehenbauer
Dale Morehouse, organ

WELCOME & INVITATIONS | Rev. Dr. Jim Hoffman
Worship Symbol Notes
* | All are invited to rise in spirit and, as you are able, please stand
BLUE TEXT indicates 10:45 AM Worship Service only.
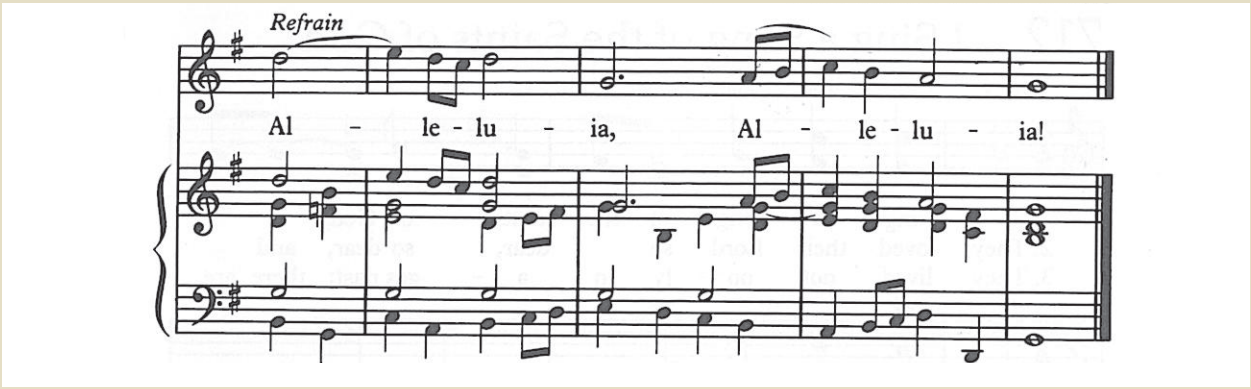
ORDER OF WORSHIP

***OPENING HYMN | *For All the Saints* | UMH 711 (St. 1, 2, 5, 6)**



Continued on page 4

ORDER OF WORSHIP

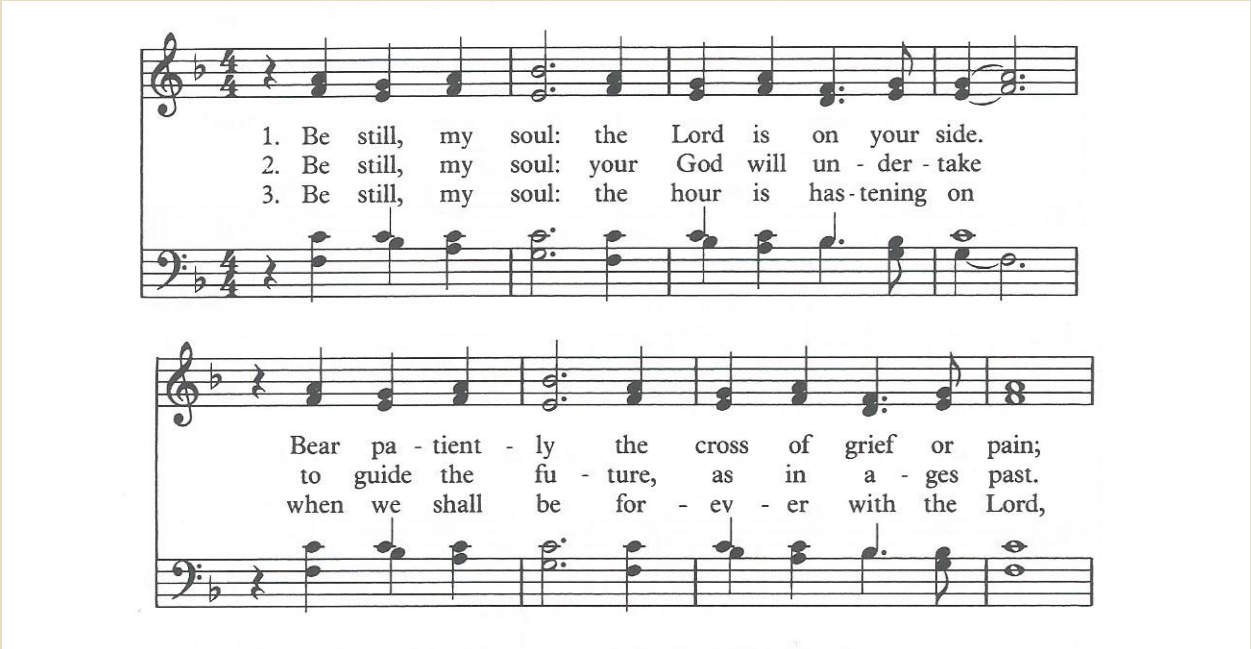


***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader | Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
People | Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,
Leader | And let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.
People | In the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior,
ALL | Let us worship God. Amen.
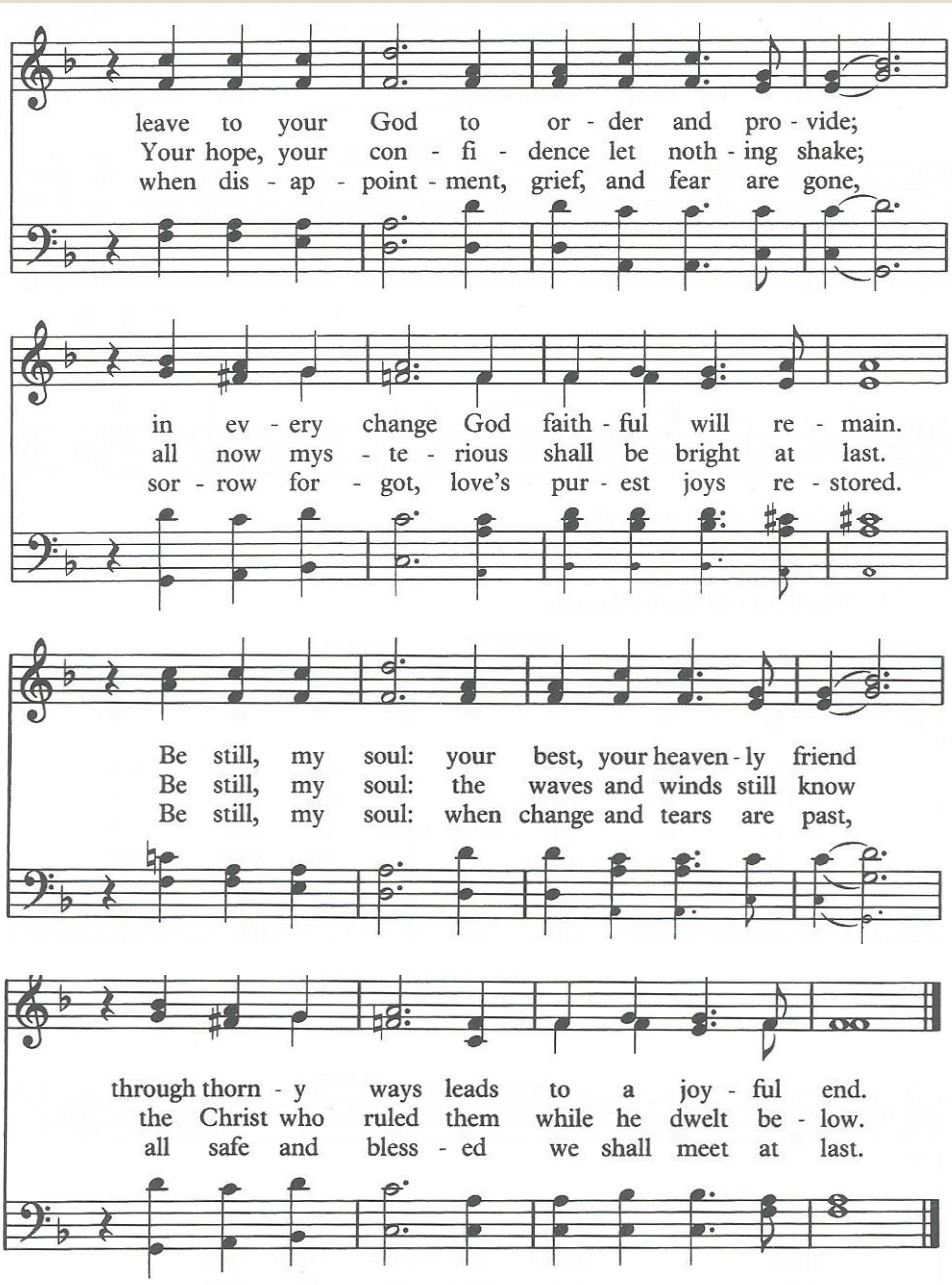
(The Worship Sourcebook, 2d ed., pg. 755)

***HYMN OF PRAISE (10:45) | *Be Still, My Soul*[2] | UMH 534**



Continued on page 5

ORDER OF WORSHIP



WORDS: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; trans. by Jane Borthwick, 1855 (Ps. 46:10)
MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. from *The Hymnal*, 1933

FINLANDIA
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Arr. © 1933, renewed 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

ORDER OF WORSHIP

REMEMBERING OUR SAINTS

We remember the members of our congregation who have died in the past twelve months and who now live with our Lord: **Claire Ridgway, LaDonna Justice, Murray Blackwelder, Jean Fisher,** and **Fred Klemushin.**

IN UNISON | We bless your holy name, O God, for all your servants who, having finished their course, now rest from their labors. Give us grace to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfulness, to your honor and glory; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER JOYS

Thank you **Julie Salmon** for donating cookies for all to enjoy in the Rotunda after the 10:45 Worship Service

Thank you to all the families who signed up to pray for Pastor Jim during Pastor Appreciation Month (October).

We had a very successful **Coat Distribution for our Baby Grace families in October**. Thanks to all of you for your generous donations of brand new coats and others that were in excellent like-new condition. Our families were thrilled and most grateful.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Paul Bergman | Father-in-Law of Becky Bergman
Jan Etherton | Friend of John Rasmus
Chris Mueller
Tammy Oskvig | Friend of John & Paula Rector
Carolyn Jeter
Dennis Young
Bailey Andrus | Husband of Beth Andrus
Marci Allen | Sister of Laura Jones
Darren Wallace and his family | Uncle of Grace Mott, and Brother of David Wallace
Rosa Maria Luque | Mother of PDO Teacher Blanca Quinto
Mark McMillen | Cousin of Jill Gardner and Nephew of Max Miller
Marilyn McMillen | Aunt of Jill Gardner and Sister of Max Miller
Linda Edwards | Friend of Ginny Miller
Those Dealing with Dementia, their families & caregivers
Those in Hospice Care, their families, and caregivers
UMC Hospice Program in Mongolia
Our Pastors & Other Church Leaders
Missouri Conference Bishop, Bob Farr

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Northwest District Superintendent, Curtis Olsen
Lionzuane UMC in Mozambique and Pastor Moises Jeremias Manhique
Worldwide Unrest and Persecution
Those who live on the margins of society
Those serving in the Military and all First Responders
Those impacted by natural disasters
Those suffering at the hands of others

Our "**Prayer Joys and Concerns**" list is an important reminder each week of who needs our prayers in the St. John's faith community and beyond. We are happy to keep your requests on our list for as long as you would like. And, we ask that everyone continue to pray for those that need it. We also ask to be notified of any updates to the status of your requests. Please review our current list of concerns and reach out to the church office with any updates; stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org or 816.523.6788.

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. Amen.

SOLO (8:30) | *Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth, from ELIJAH* | music by Felix Mendelssohn, 1846 | Aaron Bunnell, tenor; Dale Morehouse, piano

Please pp. 13 for the text and notes for this solo.

ANTHEM (10:45) | *Song of the Saints*[2] | words and music by Pepper Choplin, 2002 Chancel Choir; Dale Morehouse, conductor and pianist

Pepper Choplin's "***Song of the Saints***" is a sermon in song with a stirring message about glory in heaven. Its unique text is written from the vantage point of Christians who have gone onto

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heaven before us, offering comfort, affirming our faith, and celebrating eternal life in Christ. The piece begins reflectively and builds to a majestic ending. It celebrates the faith, courage, and enduring witness of those who have gone before us, reminding congregations that the legacy of faithful Christians continues to inspire and strengthen the Church today.

Tell the loved ones we are safe now. Tell them we have no more pain.
Do not hurry heaven's journey, but do not fear it just the same.

All will go through times of grieving, every tear must be released;
But live a tribute to our memory, heal your pain with holy peace.

For our faith was never futile as we trusted in the Lord;
Every word now has been proven; all we knew and even more.

Every promise Christ has given through our voyage was proven true.
Christ prepared for us a mansion and a mansion waits for you.

So do not faint from earthly challenge, hold your faith and live it strong.
Years on earth are but a moment, days in heaven go on and on.

(Pepper Choplin, 2002)

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 5:33-37 [1] | NRSVUE

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

READER | The Word of God for the people of God
PEOPLE | Thanks be to God

[1] "Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

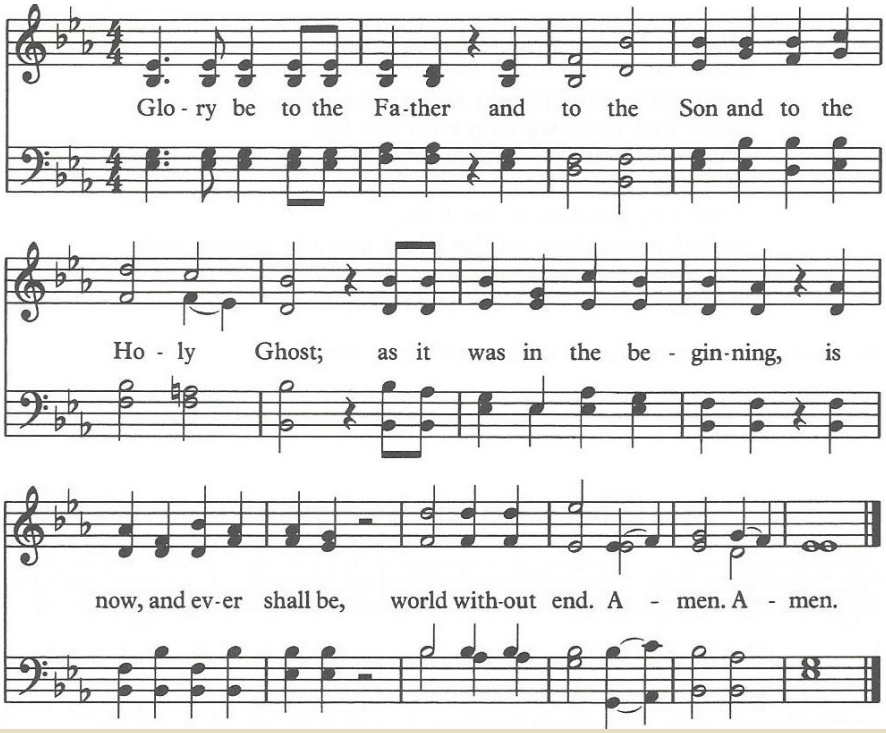
MESSAGE | But I Say To You "Keep Your Word" | Rev. Dr. Jim Hoffman

ORDER OF WORSHIP

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed[2] | UMH 7**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the father
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI | *Glory Be to the Father*[2] | UMH 71**



ORDER OF WORSHIP

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION[2] | UMH 13-14
(Words in **bold** indicate the congregation's unified response.)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give our thanks and praise to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: *"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."*

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: *"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."*

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Continued on page 11

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD: The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

PRESENTATION OF THE CUP: The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

RECEIVING OF THE COMMUNION ELEMENTS

COMMUNION ANTHEM (10:45) | *Canticle of Heaven*[2] | music by Craig Courtney, 1995
Chancel Choir; Dale Morehouse, pianist and conductor

Two passages in the book of Revelation evoking the majesty of heaven and the promise of eternal life become the text for this intensely dramatic song of heaven. They contain great words of comfort, in which believers stand before God's throne and worship God. God, in turn, will shelter them. The word translated as *shelter* is the word that also is translated as *dwell*. God's presence will remain with them. In a world in which deprivation was the normal pattern of life, the vision of no more hunger or thirst communicated at a visceral level. And relief from the sun and from heat reflects life in the Middle East. Sunbathing among peasants was not a vacation activity! People in fact had to protect themselves from the sun.

Those who are clothed in white, who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb,
Who are before the throng of God, who serve Him day and night within the temple;
And He who sits upon the throne will spread His tent over them.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

They shall hunger no more; they shall thirst no more.
The sun shall not strike them, nor scorching heat.
For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will shepherd them;
He will lead them to springs of living water;
God will wipe every tear from their eyes.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying:
"Now is the dwelling of God with mankind, and He shall dwell with them;
They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.
He will wipe every tear from their eyes.

There will be no more death, no more mourning or crying or pain;
For the old order of things has passed away."
(Words based on Revelation 7: 14-17; 21: 3, 4)

GENEROSITY MOMENT
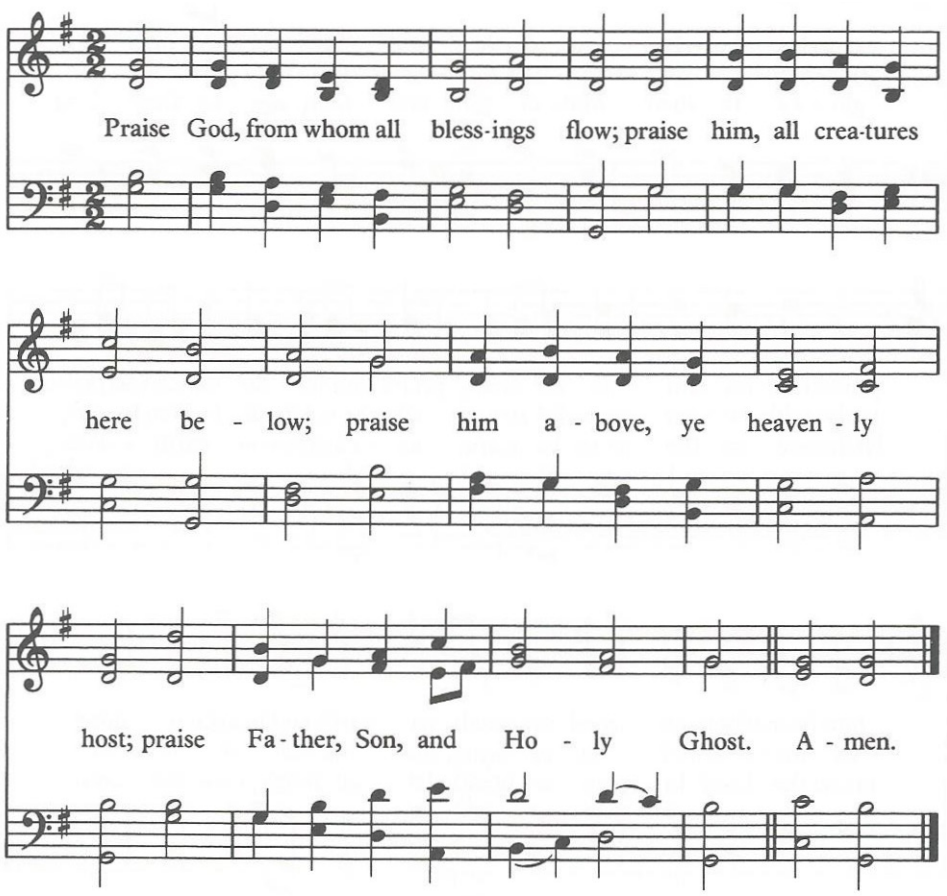
OFFERTORY SOLO (10:45) | *Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth, from ELIJAH*
music by Felix Mendelssohn, 1846 | Aaron Bunnell, tenor; Dale Morehouse, piano

ELIJAH is an oratorio by **Felix Mendelssohn** depicting the life of the prophet Elijah in the books of 1 Kings and 2 Kings of the Old Testament. It premiered in 1846 at England's Birmingham Festival and was later heard in the dedicatory weekend of New York City's Carnegie Hall in 1891. It was composed in the spirit of Mendelssohn's Baroque predecessors Bach and Handel whose music he loved. The radiant aria "***Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth***," sung after Elijah is taken to heaven, is inspired by the Biblical imagery of Matthew 13:42 and it celebrates the triumph of righteousness and the promise of divine glory. Its lyrical beauty, expressive vocal writing, and soaring melodic lines make it a beloved selection for All Saints Sunday.

Then shall the righteous shine forth
As the sun in their heavenly Father's realm.
Joy on their head shall be for everlasting,
And all sorrow and mourning shall flee away for ever.
(William Bartholomew, 1846)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

***DOXOLOGY | *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* | UMH 95**
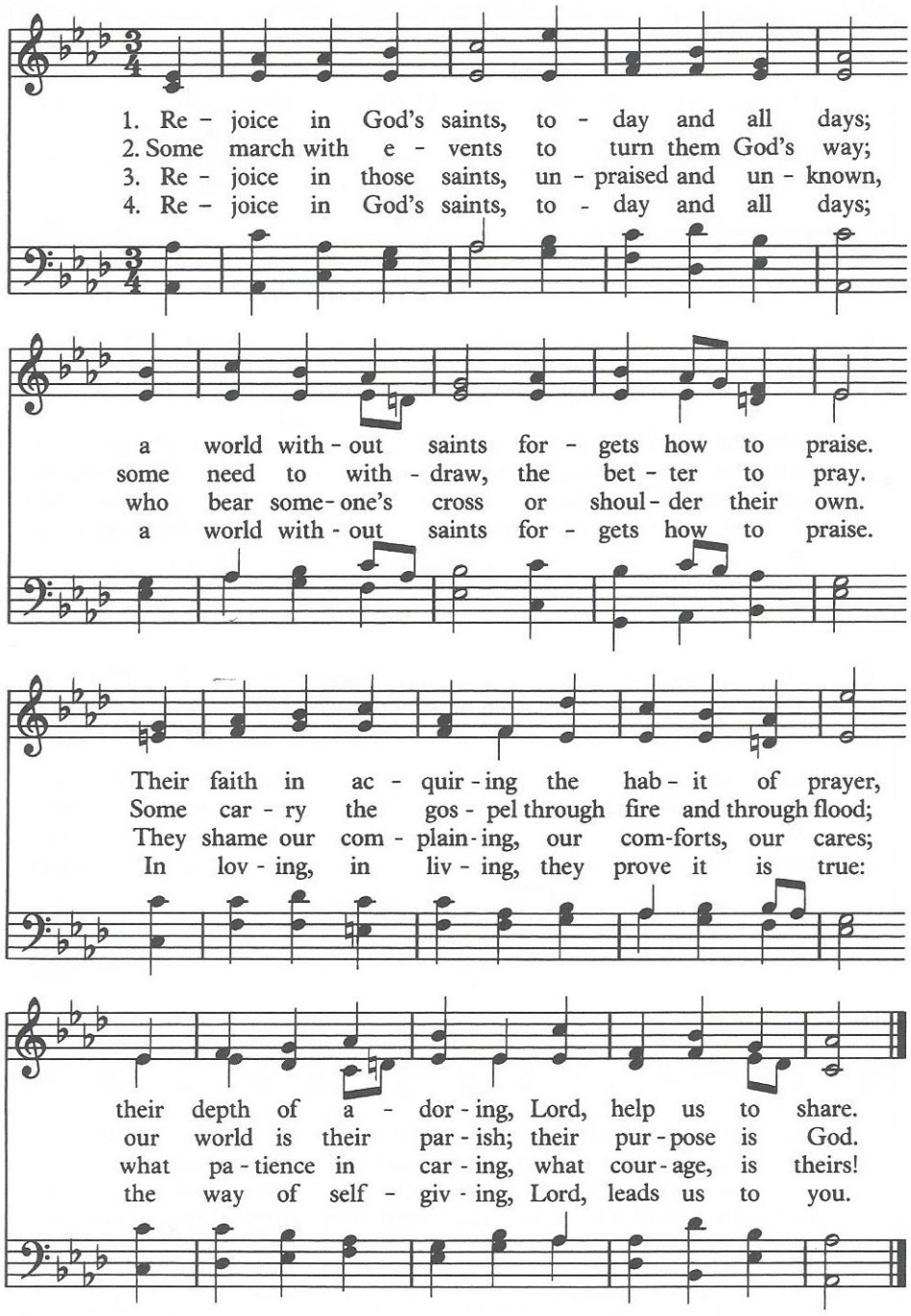


WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674
MUSIC: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

***HYMN OF SENDING FORTH | *Rejoice in God's Saints*[2] | UMH 708 (St. 1, 3, 4)**



WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1977
MUSIC: Attr. to William Croft, 1708

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Words © 1973, 1980 Hope Publishing Co.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE | *For All the Saints*[3] | setting by Phil Lehenbauer**
Dale Morehouse, organ

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THIS WEEK

SUNDAY | 11.1 | All Saint's Sunday | Communion Sunday | Daylight Savings
8:30 AM Worship Service | Chapel
10:45 AM Worship Service | Sanctuary
5:00 PM Stage Right Rehearsal | Susanna Wesley Hall

MONDAY | 11.2
9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
9:00 AM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Lunch Prep | Brookside Hall Kitchen
9:30 AM Staff Meeting | Library
10:45 AM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Lunch Served | St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
1:00 PM Quilting Group | 205
6:30 PM Leadership Council Meeting | Library

TUESDAY | 11.3
9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study | 205
10:00 AM Mystic Misfits; Contemplative Prayer Group | Brookside Hall
11:30 AM St. John's Bell Choir Rehearsal | Susanna Wesley Hall
7:00 PM Mandolin Orchestra of Kansas City | Brookside Hall

WEDNESDAY | 11.4
9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session
9:30 AM PDO Chapel with Grace
6:30 PM Men's Pizza Night | Waldo Pizza in Waldo

THURSDAY | 11.5
9:00 AM PDO/PS Fall Session

FRIDAY | 11.6
1:00 PM Living Streams | Zoom

SATURDAY | 11.7
No Scheduled Activities

SUNDAY | 11.8
8:30 AM Worship Service | Chapel
10:45 AM Worship Service | Sanctuary
5:00 PM Stage Right Rehearsal | Susanna Wesley Hall

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GOING DEEPER

November 2nd to November 7th
Scripture Reading(s) for the week:
Matthew 5:33-37; James 5:12; Leviticus 19:12; Psalm 50:14

On a hot summer's day in late July of 1982, I took the oath of enlistment for the United States Air Force. I promised on that day to defend the Constitution and to obey the orders of the officers who are assigned over me. I sealed that oath with these words, "So help me God." Now you may have never taken that oath. However, you may have taken a different one. If you were a witness in a trial, you took an oath. If you were a juror, you would take an oath. Maybe you signed a formal document under the penalty of perjury – that is an oath. Your marriage vows are a sacred oath. In these forms we give our "word" promising to be faithful to it. For some that means everything; others nothing.

For instance, Alex Cooper hosts the "Call Her Daddy" podcast. She recently interviewed actress Sophia Bush. During the episode Cooper pondered if women could get better if they leave their marriages. She said they should because the answer is always "yes." She insinuated that a woman could trade-up on the quality of man every time. One person responded that it is no longer "I do" but "until" something or someone better comes along.

I think most of us have resigned ourselves to this kind of behavior in politics. If I were to come up with a theme song for politicians it would Cher's song, "Gypsies, Tramps, and Thieves." It seems to me that the thing you give up when you take the oath of elected office is your integrity. Equivocation and obfuscation become your best tools – transparency and the truth are kept in a lockbox. There is an old joke that goes something like this: "Do you know how to tell a politician is lying to you? Their lips are moving." Not a very noble way to gain trust and cooperation.

Because Jesus spoke about oaths in his Sermon on the Mount, it must have been common practice in his day for people to abuse their oaths. This was not just a Jewish issue; Gentiles participated in this practice. It was common to invoke the name of God or a deity without fear of punishment for breaking your word. Originally, it was assumed that when a person invoked the name of a deity, the confirmed oath had to be true, and the confirmed vow had to be done. By Jesus day this had broken down. Jesus tells the crowds to stop invoking the name of a God or a deity because if they were transparent and completely honest in oath or vow, they would not need a deity's backing. Jesus told them to be people of integrity; people whose "yes is yes" and "no is no." Pythagoras said something similar, "let your word carry such conviction that you need not call deities to witness." No equivocating or obfuscating.

When I think of our witness in the world today, my starting point is our membership vows in the United Methodist Church. They are a vow that we take, an oath that we make before God and with the congregation. We covenant (a binding agreement sealed with a vow) to pray, be present, to give, to serve, and be a faithful witness to God's love manifest in Jesus Christ. We bind ourselves in common mission and purpose through this covenant to do all that we can to

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GOING DEEPER

battle evil, oppression, and injustice in whatever forms they may present themselves. We vow to be people of grace, forgiveness, and reconciliation. We say "yes" to God's invitation to be a fully committed follower of Jesus Christ. We say "no" to the temptations of the world that would distract us from our "yes." Or at least we say this is who we want to be.

In the Gospel of Mark chapter 8 verse 34, we read these words. "[Jesus] called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, 'If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'" The hardest part of our "yes being our yes" is saying "no" to ourselves and "yes" to denial and suffering. It does not sound like a lot of fun. It is the opposite of Jesus wants you to be happy, healthy, and wealthy. Who in this nation wants to follow a messiah who calls you to say "yes" to giving up everything for the sake of loving God and loving neighbor?

We are believers in God's grace that goes before us (prevenient), that redeems us (justifying), and that transforms us (sanctifying.) Being a fully committed disciple of Jesus Christ is a process, not something that happens with the snap of the fingers. We are like caterpillars who slink around while having within their DNA the need to fly. What I would propose to you is this – try to say "no" to parts of the world as you journey along. I believe this will give you more opportunity to say "yes" to prayers, presence, gifts, service, and faithful witness. Let your "yes" be a "yes" to God and your "no" be a "no" to the corrupt things of this world.

I invite you to take time and read each of the scriptures above followed by reflection on the questions below. Reflect on what you say "yes" to and what you say "no" to. Lastly, I pray that God bless the reading of God's Word and the meditations of your heart.

Questions to Consider this week:
Monday: What is the most sacred oath that you try daily to keep?
Tuesday: When have you broken an oath or vow?
Wednesday: What does it mean to you to be a person with integrity?
Thursday: How are you practicing your "yes" being "yes," and your "no" being "no?"
Friday: How are you experiencing the transforming power of God's sanctifying grace?
Saturday: How are you denying yourself and taking up the cross to follow Jesus?

Actions for the Week:
Head: Define what you are longing to eventually be as a person.
Heart: Determine what things you have entertained that would infringe upon your integrity.
Hand: Repent of the moments when you have broken your oath or vow.

Prayer: Gracious God, we find ourselves caught between two worlds that we want to say "yes" to. Yet we know that you have shown us that we cannot flourish in both worlds. Enamored by the world, it is hard to imagine that abandoning this life and taking up a cross would be fulfilling. Help us to see that from an eternal perspective, this is what is best for our souls. Help us to say "no" to the things that keep us from you and to say "yes" to what draws us to you. Amen.

INVITATIONS

MYSTIC MISFITS; CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD | 10:00 AM | BROOKSIDE HALL

The Mystic Misfits meet every other week from September through May with a few weeks off around Christmas/New Year's. The group begins with a twenty-minute sit beginning at 10:00 a.m. Centering Prayer is usually followed with a DVD or CD featuring a prominent leader in the Contemplative movement such as Fr. Richard Rohr, Dr. James Finley, Fr. Thomas Keating, Sr. Ilia Delio, Rob Bell etc., and the remaining time is spent in small group discussion, finishing about noon. **Questions?** mysticmisfitskc@gmail.com

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MEN'S PIZZA NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH | 6:30 PM | WALDO PIZZA

Join our St. John's men for a night of fun and fellowship. **Questions?** stjohnsumc@stjohsnumc.org or 816.523.6788

2026 CHARGE CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH | 10:00 AM | ST. JAMES UMC

It is the time of year for UMC churches to participate in their annual charge conference. We will be in a cluster conference with several other churches from the Northwest District. All of our required forms have been completed, reviewed, and voted on by our church board, and submitted to the district office. Members of the church board are invited to be present for the called charge conference; members of the congregation are welcome to attend as observers. **Questions?** stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org

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ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND | 12:00 PM

Please join us to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. All are welcome to help us make our sanctuary and chapel look "Merry and Bright" for this special time in the life of the church. **Questions?** Church Office; 816.523.6788 or stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org.

THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH YOUR ST. JOHNS FRIENDS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH | 5:00 PM | SUE YOUNG'S HOME

All are invited to a traditional Thanksgiving dinner at Sue Young's house. Please RSVP to and request address from Sue; 913.461.1798 (text or call) or Sbyoung01@hotmail.com

MISSIONS, SERVICE, & JUSTICE

BABY GRACE NOVEMBER CLOTHES CLOSET

We had a very successful Coat Distribution for our Baby Grace families in October. Thanks to all of you for your generous donations of brand new coats and others that were in excellent like-new condition. Our families were thrilled and most grateful. Now we continue our final quarter of the year with a November Distribution of Winter Clothing and Child Care items and a December Distribution of Toys & Books.

PLEASE HELP US FILL THE CLOTHES CLOSET. We can use all sizes (newborn to 5T). However we urgently need 2-Toddler to 5-Toddler . These are the sizes the majority of our children are wearing. If you personally don't have clothing in these sizes, ask your family, friends, and neighbors. Used clothing is perfect: or shop for items on sale or in thrift stores. **CLOTHING DONATIONS ARE DUE NOW AND NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 10TH**. Please donate respectfully with clean clothing in good condition and make sure it is seasonal and can be used right now.

Thanks you for showing these children that they are special and are loved unconditionally.

We will also need volunteers the week of November 9th through 14th at Trinity UMC to finalize sorting all clothing and to help with distribution. A sign up will be available on Sunday mornings in the Rotunda and on line. For sorting at St. Johns starting November 1st contact Christine Copeland or sign up in the Rotunda.

HELP SUPPORT HOPE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

St. John's has been a community partner for Hope Leadership Academy since 2016. As partners we help support their student scholars and teachers by donating supplies and uniforms, delivering Back Snacks and volunteering as classroom buddies. HLA currently needs:

- Boys underwear (sizes 5 - 16)
- Clear plastic backpacks

Donations can be brought to church and left in the bin in the rotunda.

The school has on-going needs, often identified on short notice. You can also help by contributing to the **Hope Leadership Academy Fund** at St. John's. This fund allows us to provide supplies and materials to the school when they are needed. Donations can be made by checks payable to SJUMC with HLA in the memo line, or online at stjohnsumc.org/give (Choose Fund: Hope Leadership Academy) If you'd like more information about Hope Leadership Academy and ways to help, please contact the church office; 816.523.6788 or stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org.

MISSIONS, SERVICE, & JUSTICE

IT'S TURKEY (EQUIVALENT) TIME

Now through **Sunday, November 22nd** we are collecting monetary donations for Harvesters to support their Holiday meal program. YOUR CONTRIBUTION is important: it will help provide a meal for a food insecure family this holiday season. Your part is easy…just donate "turkey equivalents" – which are $25 each. **Cash or checks made out to St. John's with "Harvesters" in the memo line can be dropped off at SJUMC anytime between now and the 22nd.** You can also donate online at https://tinyurl.com/2027Turkeys or Scan the QR code. Thank you for your generosity. **Questions?** Julie Salmon; julie.r.salmon@gmail.com or 816.547.6906.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NUT SALE

It's time to order your nuts for Thanksgiving and Christmas! We have nuts for eating, cooking, and gift giving! Pick up an order form in the Rotunda or scan the QR code or visit: https://tinyurl.com/2026SJUMCNutSale for a printable order form. **Questions?** Paula Rector; 913.226.4643

Thanksgiving – Order needed by November 8th
(pick up at church on November 15th or November 22nd)

Christmas – Order needed by December 6th
(pick up at church December 13th or December 20th)

BUILDING COMMUNITY ONE COOKIE AT A TIME

Every Sunday after our 10:45 AM service, we gather in our Rotunda for fellowship. Cookies make this time a little sweeter. If you are interested in donating cookies scan the QR code or sign up in the Rotunda. **Questions?** Church Office; stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org

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HONOR SOMEONE SPECIAL WITH ALTAR FLOWERS

Honor a loved one and *donate flowers to beautify our Chapel and Sanctuary ($100 Donation). Your donation will be mentioned in our weekly publications. If you would like to make a donation scan the QR code or sign up in the Rotunda. **Questions?** Church Office; stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH | 2:30 - 6:30 PM | BROOKSIDE HALL

St. John's UMC is proud to pay it forward and strengthen our community by helping to save lives. We are partnering with the American Red Cross to hold a blood drive, and we need your help to make it a success.

Jessica Gattorna, your church office manager, invites you to join her. If you can help, please e-mail the church office; stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org. You can help in the following ways:

- Donate blood (scan the QR code or visit: https://tinyurl.com/2026SJUMCFallBloodDrive)
- Volunteer my time to greet guests
- Promote the drive using social media

COZY CHRISTMAS PROJECT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

A family Christmas event filled with missions work, a Christmas movie, Christmas lights walk and more. More details to come soon! **Questions?** Grace Mott; grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org

ST. JOHN'S KIDS & YOUTH

KIDS/YOUTH SERVICE SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH | DURING OUR 10:45 AM WORSHIP SERVICE IN BROOKSIDE HALL KITCHEN

St. John's Youth and Children will be dismissed from worship to prepare & assemble meals for Neighbor 2 Neighbor of Kansas City (N2N). N2N provides meals and meets other daily needs to homeless and near-homeless persons in the Kansas City area. If you have kids that would like to help please contact Grace Mott; grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org. Or just show up!

YOUTH DONUT SALE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH | AFTER THE 10:45 AM SERVICE | ROTUNDA

Help support St. John's Youth by purchasing a donut after worship. Proceeds from the sale will go towards meals prepared by the kids of St. John's UMC to benefit N2N. If you would like to sponsor donuts contact Grace Mott, grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org.

St. John's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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816.523.6788
stjohnsumc.org

SENIOR PASTOR
Jim Hoffman | Ext 103
jimh@stjohnsumc.org

ORGANIST AND
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
Dale Morehouse
stjohnsumc@stjohnsumc.org

COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S
& FAMILY MINISTRIES
Grace Mott | Ext 102
grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org

CHURCH OFFICE MANAGER
Jessica Gattorna | Ext 100
jessicag@stjohnsumc.org

PARENTS DAY OUT | PRESCHOOL

DIRECTOR
Jill Gardner | 816.523.6788 Ext. 101
jill.gardner@stjohnsumc.org

Register
Attendance

BE OUR GUEST

Network Home: SJUMCWireless_Guest
Network Password: sjumcguest

1ST ANNUAL FALL FEST 2026





