

St. John's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MISSION

Good Neighbors, Sharing the Good News

MESSAGE

The Parable of the Sower
Guest Preacher, Jeff Brinkman

DATE

13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 23rd, 2026
Liturgical Color - Green

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

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/worship

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 | 8.23.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL

LAY LEADER | Sharon Curtright

USHERS | Jay Curtright
Sharon Curtright

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY

LAY LEADER | Jack Dunbar

USHERS | Stephanie Toigo
Bethany Trostad

NEXT WEEK | 8.30.2026

8:30 AM | CHAPEL

LAY LEADER | John Rasmus

USHERS | John Rasmus

10:45 AM | SANCTUARY

LAY LEADER | Julie Salmon

USHERS | Bonnie Pearson
Doug Pearson

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GUEST MUSICIAN: Seungchan Song, cello

**CELLIST SEUNGCHAN SONG JOINS OUR SINGERS IN MUSIC BY TODAY'S
FINEST COMPOSERS TO CELEBRATE GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL OF US.**

PRELUDE | “Elegie” | music by Josef Rheinberger, 1887
Seungchan Song, cello; Dale Morehouse, organ

Josef Rheinberger (1839–1901), the celebrated Liechtenstein-born German composer and organist, combined Romantic warmth with disciplined craftsmanship. His *Elegie*, No. 5 from the *Six Pieces for Violin and Organ*, Op. 150, was later arranged for cello and organ. Its long, expressive melody and gently consoling character create an atmosphere of quiet reflection, making it especially beautiful for worship or meditation.

INTROIT (10:45) | O Love² | music by Elaine Hagenberg, 2016
Chancel Choir; Seungchan Song, cello; Dale Morehouse, conductor and pianist

The words for “**O Love**” were written by **George Matheson**, a blind Scottish minister. Dr. Matheson related that this hymn was “written in the Manse of my former parish one summer evening in 1882. It was composed with extreme rapidity; it seemed to me that its construction occupied only a few minutes, and I felt myself rather in the position of one who was being dictated to than of an original artist. I was suffering from extreme mental distress, and the hymn was the fruit of pain.” Des Moines resident **Elaine Hagenberg’s** setting is a lyrical choral

Continued on page 3

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meditation on the boundless, self-giving love of God. Flowing melodies, rich harmonies, and expressive text create an atmosphere of warmth and reverence. The work invites us to reflect on divine compassion, grace, and the enduring power of love that transforms hearts.

*O Love that will not let me go,
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain,
O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.*

*O Love that will not let me go,
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.*

(Words by George Matheson, 1882)

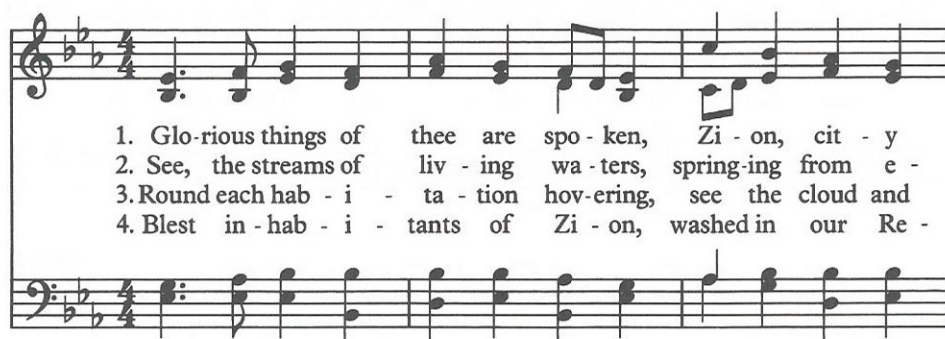
WELCOME & INVITATIONS | John Rector, Leadership Council Chair

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.

*OPENING HYMN | *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* | UMH 731 (St. 1, 2, 4)



1. Glo-rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring-ing from e -
3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov-ering, see the cloud and
4. Blest in - hab - i - tants of Zi - on, washed in our Re -

ORDER OF WORSHIP

of our God; God, whose word can - not be bro - ken,
ter - nal love, well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters,
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - ering,
deem - er's blood; Je - sus, whom our souls re - ly on,

formed thee for his own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges
and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a
show - ing that the Lord is near! Thus de - riv - ing from our
makes us mon - archs, priests to God. Us, by his great love, he

found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's
riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which like the
ban - ner light by night and shade by day, safe we feed up -
rais - es, rul - ers o - ver self to reign, and as priests his

walls sur - round - ed, thou mayst smile at all thy foes.
Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
on the man - na which God gives us when we pray.
sol - emn prais - es we for thank - ful of - fering bring.

WORDS: John Newton, 1779 (Ps. 87:3; Is. 33:20-21; Ex. 13:22)
MUSIC: Croatian folk song; arr. by Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797

AUSTRIA
87.87 D

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader | God calls us this day to a life of joy.

People | **With God, joy cracks through the bonds of despair.**

Leader | With God, joy bursts forth from moments of quiet pleasure.

People | **with God, joy gilds the edges of even ordinary days.**

ALL | **This is the day which our God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Amen.**

(McClanahan, Peggy. *Flames of the Spirit* (Ruth C. Duck, ed.), pg. 66)

*HYMN OF PRAISE (10:45) | *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing*² | UMH 93

Let all the world in ev-ery cor-ner sing:

my God and King! 1. The heavens are not too high,

God's praise may thith-er fly; the earth is not too low, God's praises

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system contains the first line of the hymn. The second system contains the second line, with a 'Harmony' section for the Soprano and Alto parts. The third system contains the third line. The lyrics are printed below the corresponding staves.

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Antiphon (Unison)

there may grow. Let all the world in ev-ery cor-ner sing:

Harmony

my God and King! 2. The church with psalms must shout, no

door can keep them out. But, more than all, the heart must bear the

Antiphon (Unison)

long - est part. Let all the world in

ev - ery cor - ner sing: my God and King!

WORDS: George Herbert, 1633
MUSIC: Erik Routley, 1960

Music © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

AUGUSTINE
66.66 with Antiphon

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CHILDREN'S MOMENT | Grace Mott, Coordinator of Family & Children's Ministry
DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRAYER JOYS

Thank you **Lund Family** for donating cookies for all to enjoy in the Rotunda after the 10:45 AM service.

Colby Lund's eyes are doing well. He will not have to return to the doctor for a checkup for 6 months!

PRAYER CONCERNS

The Family and Friends of Marcia Kelly | Friend of Linda Potter | on her death
Jan Etherton | Friend of John Rasmus
Chris Mueller
Don Jarvis
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
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

PASTORAL PRAYER

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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 | *God is All You Need*² | music by Mary McDonald, 2021
Grace Mott, soprano; Seungchan Song, cello; Dale Morehouse, piano

These words were written in 1904 by **Civilla Martin** after being inspired by her son to trust in the care God will provide. Now this beautiful setting of the hymn inspires us to trust in God's care and wisdom. **Mary McDonald's "God Is All You Need"** is an uplifting solo of faith and reassurance, proclaiming God's constant presence through every joy and trial. Warm, expressive melodies support a message of trust, hope, and unwavering confidence that God's grace and strength are sufficient for every season of life.

*Be not dismayed whate'er betide; beneath His wings of love abide;
God will take care of you; He will take care of you.*

*Through days of toil when heart doth fail, when dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you; He will take care of you.*

*He never will forsake you; He'll hold you when you fall;
And when your heart is hurting, He'll comfort through it all.
His peace gives calm assurance, His grace enough for every need.
Through every day, in every way, God is all you need!*

*No matter what may be the test, lean, weary one, upon His breast;
God will take care of you; He will take care of you.*

He never will forsake you...

(words by Civilla D. Martin, 1904, alt.)

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SCRIPTURE | Matthew 13:1-9¹ | NRSVUE

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!"

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 | "The Parable of the Sower" | Jeff Brinkman

Jeff Brinkman is a retired United Methodist Minister, having served 30 years in the Missouri Conference. He was our youth and education director here at the church from 1988-89. He is married to Cathy and has three grown children. His middle daughter, Jennifer was baptised here at St. Johns. Jeff and Cathy currently reside in Vero Beach, Florida.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (10:45) | *For Everyone Born*² | tune by Brian Mann; arr. Tom Trenney, 2016 | Chancel Choir and Seungchan Song, cello; Dale Morehouse, conductor and pianist

Shirley Erena Murray has written about the origin of her hymn, "*For Everyone Born*:"

I wrote this text in 1998, when I was involved with work for Amnesty International and because I couldn't find anything to reflect a broad overview of human rights in any hymnbook. You can see that I have used some of the very basic ideas of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – the right to shelter, safety, food, and later, the right to a job, to freedom of speech and worship....What is this table? In my mind it began as the table of the world in the peaceable kingdom, an imaginary place of justice and joy where everyone gathers and is fed. But inevitably it was taken up in the context of the Holy Table.... And in places where exclusion by the Church

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is a source of injustice and pain, as with the gay and lesbian communities, it has been used to ask for a place at the table, along with every other believer.

Brian Mann composed a flowing lyrical melody to this beautiful text, and Lincoln NE's **Tom Trenney** wrote this now-classic choral arrangement. Rooted in themes of justice, hospitality, and God's inclusive love, it calls the church to welcome all people with dignity, compassion, and joyful celebration of God's kingdom.

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

The image displays a musical score for a doxology. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system of music covers the first line of lyrics. The second system covers the second line. The third system covers the third line and ends with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures

here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly

host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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

OLD 100th
LM

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*HYMN OF SENDING FORTH | *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*² | UMH 569 (St. 1, 2, 3)

1. We've a sto - ry to tell to the na - tions,
2. We've a song to be sung to the na - tions,
3. We've a mes - sage to give to the na - tions,
4. We've a Sav - ior to show to the na - tions,

that shall turn their hearts to the right, a
that shall lift their hearts to the Lord, a
that the Lord who reign - eth a - bove hath
who the path of sor - row hath trod, that

sto - ry of truth and mer - cy, a sto - ry of
song that shall con - quer e - vil and shat - ter the
sent us his Son to save us, and show us that
all of the world's great peo - ples might come to the

peace and light, a sto - ry of peace and light.
spear and sword, and shat - ter the spear and sword.
God is love, and show us that God is love.
truth of God, might come to the truth of God.

WORDS: H. Ernest Nichol, 1896
MUSIC: H. Ernest Nichol, 1896

MESSAGE
10 8.87 with Refrain

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Refrain

For the dark - ness shall turn to dawn - ing, and the

dawn - ing to noon - day bright; and Christ's great king - dom shall

come on earth, the king - dom of love and light.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE | Dale Morehouse, organ**

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THIS WEEK

SUNDAY | 8.23

- 8:30 AM Worship Service | Chapel
- 9:30 AM Pathways Adult Bible Study - Cooking for Neighbor 2 Neighbor of Kansas City
Brookside Hall Kitchen
- 10:45 AM Worship Service | Sanctuary

MONDAY | 8.24

- 9:00 AM PDO Fall Session
- 9:00 AM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Lunch Prep | Brookside Hall Kitchen
- 10:45 AM Neighbor 2 Neighbor Lunch Served | St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
- 12:30 PM Quilting Group | 205

TUESDAY | 8.25

- 9:00 AM PDO Fall Session

WEDNESDAY | 8.26 | Happy Birthday Pastor Jim!!

- 9:00 AM PDO Fall Session

THURSDAY | 8.27

- 9:00 AM PDO Fall Session

FRIDAY | 8.28

- 1:00 PM Living Streams | Zoom

SATURDAY | 8.29

No Scheduled Activities

SUNDAY | 8.30

- 8:30 AM Worship Service | Chapel
- 10:45 AM Worship Service | Sanctuary



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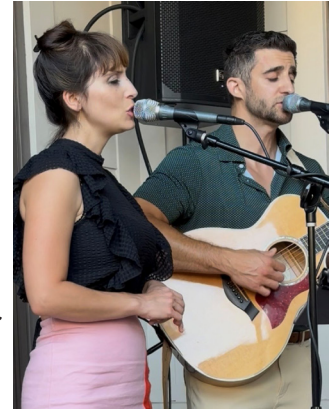
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

“TABLE N’ TOWN” UPDATE!

Five Table ‘n Town (“TNT”) events took place in July and August. We had 40 participants, some of whom attended more than one event:

- **Dinner at Sue Young’s** – Hosted dinner at Sue’s home – great food and conversation! Sue provided main dish and wine. Guests brought appetizer, sides or dessert. Group of 10.
- **Mini-Golf and Dinner in Overland Park (Aaron & Loretta Lund, hosts)** - Tap Ins at the Greenhouse. 5 adults and 5 kids.
- **Jazz Happy Hour (Gary Whitmer & Margaret Smith, hosts)** – Café Trio on The Plaza, Tim Whitmer on the piano. Some stayed for dinner. Group of 11.
- **Wine-Tasting at the Senters (Jamie & Marilyn Senter, hosts)**
- Each couple/guest brought a bottle of wine to share. Senters provided snacks/hors d’oeuvres/sweets. Group of 8.
- **Pedrucci at The Market at Meadowbrook** – Tony & Stephanie Toigo’s duo music performance during extended Friday happy hour. 14 attendees from St. John’s.



Pedrucci (Tony and Stephanie Toigo) performing at The Market at Meadowbrook August 7th.

Please contact **Gary Whitmer** (816.501.8671 or gtwhitmer@gmail.com) if you’re willing to organize/host a TNT activity. Our goal is to have 4-5 activities lined up for **October**, **November**, or **December** and have our sign-up sheets out in the Rotunda, and notices in our Friday Newsletter and Sunday Worship Guide by September 13.

Suggestions:

- o Happy hour and music on the town
- o Dinner and music on the town
- o Music on the town
- o Hosted dinner in your home – guests bring apps, sides, dessert.
- o Hosted dinner at your preferred restaurant or bar – Dutch treat
- o Wine-tasting in your home – guests bring wine and hosts provide apps.
- o Dinner and mini-golf.
- o Dinner followed by a music or theatre performance.
- o Whatever idea you have on sharing food, music or other entertainment fun with others!

Hope to hear from you!



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PARENTS DAY OUT | PRESCHOOL

DIRECTOR

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Register
Attendance

BE OUR GUEST



Network Home: [SJUMCWireless_Guest](#)
Network Password: [sjumcguest](#)

**BACK TO SCHOOL...
THROUGH THE YEARS!**

We are celebrating **Back to School Sunday** on

September 20th

with a trip down memory lane—and we need YOUR school pictures!

- Dig through those photo albums, yearbooks, and memory boxes and bring us a favorite school picture from your younger years! Kindergarten curls, awkward middle school photos, senior pictures, questionable hairstyles—we want to see them all! You may submit more than one photo!
- **Please submit photos by September 14.** Email photos to Grace Mott; Coordinator of Children & Family Ministries; grace.mott@stjohnsumc.org or drop off at the church office. Don't want to part with the original? We are happy to take a picture of it so you can keep your physical copy.



All of the photos will be displayed in the Rotunda on Back to School Sunday for everyone to enjoy.