

God is LOVE.

1 JOHN 4:16



Sunday, February 8th 2026

St. John's United Church of Christ

300 N. Huntersville Road | Batesville, IN 47006
stjohnsuccbatesville@etczone.com

Worship Service: 9:00am
Sunday School: 10:15am

* Those who are able may stand *L = Leader, P = People, A = All*

Words of Welcome: “Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful.”

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Organ Prelude:

Trust in His Steadfast Love

-Moore

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Call to Worship:*

L: We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

P: We are the salt of the earth.

L: We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

P: We are the light of the world.

L: We are called to follow the commandments and the law. The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.

P: Come, let us be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

L: Come, let us love one another with the love of God.

P: Let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus.

*Opening Hymn:

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

#87

Prayer of the Day:

Holy One, we come to sing your praise. We come to bring our heart, our souls, our very selves before your throne. We come to seek you. So shine in this place. Move in this worship. Make us reflections of your light. Through us, season the world with your righteousness and grace. And empower us through this moment as we strive to walk as your disciples. For we pray in the name of he who calls us, Jesus. Amen.

*Prayer Response:

Glory Be to the Father

#734

Mission Moment:

Midwest Ministry Development Services (UCC)

Especially for Children

Jesus Loves the Little Children

“Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.

Every child in every land, Jesus holds them in his hand, Jesus loves the little children of the world.”

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:13-20

Anthem *I Will Give Joyful Thanks* Chancel Choir

Sermon "You are Salt"

Hymn *You Are Salt for the Earth, O People* Page 6

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory: *Prelude* -Cesar Franck

*Doxology #34

*Offertory Prayer

*Closing Hymn: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* #393

*Benediction

Organ Postlude: *Marche Gothique* -Koury

*Source: Adapted from re-worship.blogspot, original by Rev. Mindi

Ministers	Every Member
Pastor	Rev. Joseph Feldmann
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. David Johnston
Organist/Choir Director	Mr. David W. Hanson

Scriptures:

✝ **I Corinthians 2:1-12:** When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him" God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

✝ **Matthew 5:13- 20:** [Jesus said,] "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp put it under the bushel basket; rather they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Hymns:

COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING #87

1 Come, Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!
loud praise to Christ our King;
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice:
Alleluia! Amen!

2 Come, lift your hearts on high,
Alleluia! Amen!
let praises fill the sky;
Alleluia! Amen!
Christ is our Guide and Friend;
to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end:
Alleluia! Amen!

3 Praise yet our Christ again,
Alleluia! Amen!
life shall not end the strain;
Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore
his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore,
"Alleluia! Amen!"

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #734

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.

DOXOLOGY #34

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.

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS #393

1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

2 Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

3 We share our mutual woes,
each other's burdens bear;
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.



You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

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*Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt.**Matt. 5:13-15*

Unison

D (allow to ring off)

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
 4 We are a blessed and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

Share the fla-vor of life, O peo-ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
 Shine so ho-ly and bright, O peo-ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
 Seeds of mer-cy and seeds of jus-tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
 Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the Cit-y of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the reign of mer-cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of jus-tice, bring forth the Cit-y of God!

During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain
 Marty Haugen, 1986

St. John's UCC Huntersville

Events * Prayer Lists * Announcements

February 8, 2026

Upcoming Events:

- February 8 Annual Congregational Meeting 10:15am
February 10 Council Meeting 7:00pm
February 11 Confirmation 6:00 & 7:00p
February 12 BAMA Meeting 1:30pm, SSB Meeting 6:00pm

Liturgist & Benevolence Calendar:

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|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| February 8 | Dan Narwold | Midwest Ministry Dev. Service |
| February 15 | Jeremy Welborn | Camp Washington |
| February 22 | Mike Vonderheide | St. John's Emergency Fund |
| March 1 | Sam Sitterding | Safe Passage |



St. John's Bereaved Prayer List: *(these names remain on for one year)*

Charlotte Huffmeyer, Don Haarman, Mike Bauman, Frank Bergman, Deloris Brebberman

Members/Friends Serving Active Duty in the Armed Forces:

Quintin Comer, Kris Freeman, Aaron Gordon, Steven Meer, Ryan Miller, Bryce Timonera, Chris Williams, Zeke Obermeyer

Our Members & Friends in Nursing/Retirement Homes:

St. Andrew's, Batesville: David Johnston, Margaret Meyers, Carol Narwold

Others For Whom We Have Been Asked To Pray:

Dave & Bonnie Johnston; Nikki Sarringhaus; Carolyn Carson (Cancer, Grandmother to Nikki Sarringhaus); Randy & Becky Schebler; Delores Cornett; Sandi Maxwell (Cancer, Friend of Jennifer Huffmeyer); Georgia Haarman; Robbyn Woluing (Cancer, Cousin to Ron, Mark & Randy Meyer); Connie Moody; Jim Link (Health Issues); The Family of Jerry Vollmer on his passing (Brother of Linda Kanning); Mary Ann Klingworth (Health Concerns); Merrill Hutchinson (Glioblastoma, Friend of Myron & Linda Kanning);); Kim Wuestefeld (Health Issues); Bob Weiler Sr. (Cancer); Anita Narwold; Charlie Dieckmann; Chuck Martin (Cancer, Bev McKinney's brother); Ralph Hochstetler (Cancer); Dan Hall (surgery).

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our Annual
Congregational Meeting
will now take place
today after service. We
invite you all to join us
for this important
meeting after service.



Souper Bowl Lunch

Get a delicious bowl of
soup & support your local
food pantry!

Today 11:00am-2:00pm
Batesville Intermediate
School Cafeteria
Everyone is welcome!
Freewill donations will be
accepted at the door.



Practice for St. John's UCC 42nd Easter Ecumenical Choir Cantata begins Monday, February 16th, 6:30pm. This year's cantata is Echoes of Easter. From the first note, uplifting melodies and echoes of praise proclaim the Easter celebration! All ages and faiths are welcome!

Practice Dates/Times:

Mondays, Feb 16, 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 6:30-7:30pm

Thursday, April 2 (approx. 8:15pm) after Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 9 6:30-7:30pm

Performance Dates/Times:

Easter Sunrise Service, Sunday, April 5, 6:30am

Encore Performance, Sunday, April 12, 7:00pm