



SECOND SUNDAY
in
LENT

Sunday, March 1st 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: “Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.”

Proverbs 16:3

Organ Prelude:

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

-arr. Thompson

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Call to Worship[†]:

L: Friends of God, believe this – God loved the world, God loves the world, we are the beloved!

**P: May the truth of this great love story shine through our worship today;
may it renew our sense of calling.**

L: Come now with your tiredness, your frustrations and your discouragements;
come with your doubts, your fears, and your longings;
come, to discover yet again how Jesus reveals God’s love and mercy.

P: Come, in friendship to God and to each other; come in friendship to the world.

Come to listen for God’s Word to us, to offer our prayers, and to renew our calling.

A: Friends of God, beloved of God, let us worship our God.

*Opening Hymn:

What Wondrous Love Is This

#257

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession:

Faithful Savior, you have invited us to love the world, to see others as sibling, cousins, beloved. But too often we love only ourselves. Far too often we focus on our own wants, pleasures, and desires, failing to see the people around us in need. We do not look for our brothers and sisters and therefore do not see them. We do not watch for a world to love and thus fail to mirror your love us. Forgive us. Renew our hearts. Open our spirits that we might be the people of love and grace you always meant for us to be. And then empower us to go and love in your name. For it is in your name that we pray, Amen.

*Assurance of Grace

*Prayer Response:

Glory Be to the Father

#734

Mission Moment:

Safe Passage

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: Genesis 12:1-4a
John 3:1-17

Anthem *He Walked That Lonesome Road* Men's Choir

Sermon "Loving and Blessing the World"

Hymn *To God Be the Glory* #66

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory: *My Jesus, I Love Thee* -arr. Peterson

*Doxology #34

*Offertory Prayer

The Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion (*We share an open communion here at St. John's. All who have accepted Christ as Lord and Savior are invited.*)

The Communion Prayer and Words of Institution: 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**

Sharing of the Bread & Cup: (*Note that there are grapes in the trays – these grapes are offered for youth who are not yet taking full Communion. We want them to start experiencing the meaning of communion and feel included.*)

Prayer of Thanksgiving: **Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

*Closing Hymn: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* #261

*Benediction

Organ Postlude: *Postlude in C* -Caleb Simper

*Source: Adapted from re-worship.blogspot, original by Ann Siddall.

+

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

Scriptures:



Genesis 12:1-4a: Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.



John 3:1-17: Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?"

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Hymns:

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS #257

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down; when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing! To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing!

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through eternity I'll sing on!

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.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY #66

1 To God be the glory, great things he hath done;
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory,
great things he hath done.

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [Refrain]

3 Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
[Refrain]

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.

Hymns:

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS #261

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.



St. John's UCC Huntersville

Events * Prayer Lists * Announcements

March 1, 2026

Upcoming Events:

March 2	Easter Cantata Practice 6:30-7:30pm
March 3	Confirmation 5:30 & 6:15pm Lenten Service 7:00pm
March 5	Sunday School Board Meeting 6:00pm

Liturgist & Benevolence Calendar:

March 1	Sam Sitterding	Safe Passage
March 8	Mike Vonderheide	St. John's Music Fund
March 15	Sarah Dobson	Our Church Wider Mission (UCC)
March 22	Peter Frye	St. John's Membership Services



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

Charlotte Huffmeyer, Don Haarman, Mike Bauman, Frank Bergman, Deloris Brebberman, Bob Weiler Sr.

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; 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); . (Cancer); Anita Narwold; Charlie Dieckmann; Chuck Martin (Cancer, Bev McKinney's brother); Ralph Hochstetler (Cancer); Dan Hall (surgery); Luetta Brown (Health Issues); Ella Meyer (Health Issues).



FEBRUARY 25

LENTEN SERVICE:

Ask, Seek, Knock

MARCH 4

LENTEN SERVICE WITH SKIT:

Anger and Revenge

MARCH 11

BIBLE STUDY WITH FELLOWSHIP MEAL:

Judging Other and Golden Rule

MARCH 18

PRAYER STATIONS:

Lord's Prayer and Other Prayer Topics

MARCH 25

LENTEN SERVICE:

Do Not Worry



At the
Congregational
Meeting, the repair of
the organ tower
speaker was
approved. Any
donations toward the
repair can be directed
to the Music Fund.

Easter Flowers & Heavenly Bouquets



We are once again offering the chance to remember or honor a loved one by providing flowers for our sanctuary for Easter.

- If you would like to place an Easter flower in memory of/ in honor of someone on Easter Sunday, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering tray or turn it in to the office . All forms must be turned into the office no later than Monday, March 30th.
- If you would still like to honor/remember someone but don't want a flower, you can order a Heavenly Bouquet. These donations are used to buy decorations for the church. *Please include a minimum donation of \$5.*

Please take the flowers to church on Good Friday.
The Columbus Ave door will be open.

You may pick up your flower after the Easter Sunday service.

I would like to place a Easter flower or give a monetary donation.

Please circle one: *In Loving Memory of* *In Honor of*

Given By: _____