



**St. John's United Church of Christ**  
300 N. Huntersville Road, Batesville, IN 47006  
Worship Service: 9:00am / Sunday School: 10:15am

~ January 12, 2025 ~

[\* = Those who are able may stand, **L** = Leader, **P** = People and **A** = All]

Thought to Ponder: "God made *YOU* unique, just like a snowflake"

Organ Prelude: "Faith" arr. Jim Brickman

**Welcome & Announcements**

Pastoral Greeting

Call to Worship<sup>+</sup>:

**L:** Come, beloved of God, to remember who you are and whose you are.

**P:** God, in Christ, has named us all "Beloved."

**L:** Yes, here and now, God's heaven of love is being poured out anew.

**P:** May this motion of the Holy One, shape our hearts and minds.

**L:** May it brighten the Epiphany light in us and the whole creation.

**P:** And may it shape our words and work into good news for the world!

\*Opening Hymn: "Come Christians Join to Sing" #87

**\*Prayer of the Day:**

Loving God, we come to sing your praises; we come to seek your voice. We come seeking to remember what have heard before. So send us your Spirit. Remind us who we are- your beloved children. Remind us to whom we belong- you. And then empower us to take these pieces of good news and share them with the world you love. For we pray this in the name of He who told them to us, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer Response: "Glory Be to the Father" #734

Mission Moment: Batesville Area Ministerial Association

Especially for Children

The Song: **"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: Isaiah 43:1-7  
Luke 3:15-22

Sermon: "Claimed and Called"

Hymn: "When Jesus Came to Jordon" #241

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory: "Waters of New Life" arr. Keil

Doxology #34

Offertory Prayer

\*Closing Hymn: "Go My Children with My Blessing" #719

\*Benediction

Organ Postlude: "This is a Time to Remember" arr. Trabel

+ Adapted from UCC Worship Ways, original by Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins.

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

**LITURGIST / BENEVOLENCE CALENDAR:**

January 12	Cindy Feller	BAMA (The Food Pantry)
January 19	Kimberly Hill	Merom
January 26	Rachel Davis	Our Church Wider Mission (UCC)

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

**Others For Whom We Have Been Asked To Pray:** Dave & Bonnie Johnston; Nikki Sarringhaus; Carolyn Carson (Breast Cancer, Grandmother to Nikki Sarringhaus); Randy & Becky Schebler; Delores Cornett; Sandi Maxwell (Cancer, Friend of Jennifer Huffmeyer); Georgia Haarman; Lonna Patton & Stephen Feldmann (On their recovery, Pastor Joey's Parents); Robbyn Woluing (Cancer Diagnosis, Cousin to Ron, Mark & Randy Meyer); Bill & Ella Meyer (Health Issues, Brother & Sister-in-law to Ron, Mark & Randy Meyer); The family of Gayle Sarringhaus on his passing; Mike Bauman (Heart Issues, Brother to Jim Bauman); Pam & George Flodder (On the passing of Pam's father, Ron Simpson); Dale "Porky" Wittkamper (On his recovery from a broken shoulder); Jennifer Huffmeyer (On her recovery from a knee replacement); David Kelley (Health Issues, Uncle to Kristina Frye).

**Members/Friends Serving Active Duty in the Armed Forces:**

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

**Our Members and Friends in Nursing/Retirement Homes:**

**St. Andrews, Batesville:** Frank Bergman, David Johnston, Margaret Meyers, Carol Narwold.

**Aspen Place, Greensburg:** Charlotte Huffmeyer.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

January 12: SS Board Meeting 10:15am  
January 14: Council Meeting 7pm  
January 15: Confirmation Class 7pm  
January 19: Memorial Sunday  
January 22: Quilters 10:30am, Confirmation Class 7pm,  
Chancel Choir Practice 7pm  
January 26: Chancel Choir Sings  
Annual Congregational Meeting 10:15am

## *Announcements*



### **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:**

Please remember that our Annual Congregational Meeting will be on **January 26<sup>th</sup>** after worship. Plan to join us as we approve the budget for 2025 and officers for the New Year. We are all the Church together, so we need all of us there as we together discern the Spirit.



### **RECITAL:**

Pastor Joey will be giving a recital at St. John's on **February 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 3pm. "My Favorite Things" will feature Pastor Joey and David Hanson, with special performances by Serenity and Bailey Feldmann and Jane Link. The recital is free to the public, though an opportunity will be given to donate to the Food Pantry.

## **SCRIPTURES**



### **Isaiah 43:1-7:**

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth-- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."



### **Luke 3:15-22:**

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people. But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."



## Hymns

### Come Christians Join to Sing (page #87)

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!

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!

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 (page #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 (page #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.

### When Jesus Came to Jordan (page #241)

When Jesus came to Jordan  
to be baptized by John,  
he did not come for pardon  
but as the sinless one.  
He came to share repentance  
with all who mourn their sins,  
to speak the vital sentence  
with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation,  
our utmost woe and loss,  
for us and our salvation  
to die upon the cross.  
So when the dove descended  
on him, the Son of Man,  
the hidden years had ended,  
the age of grace began.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us  
to keep the vows we make,  
this very day invade us,  
and every bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction,  
the gift we covet most:  
to share the resurrection  
that leads to Pentecost.

### Go My Children with My Blessing (page #719)

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine  
forever. Go, my children, with my blessing – you  
are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you,  
what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's  
story; here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;  
grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here his tender  
comfort stilled you. Go, my children, fed and  
nourished, joyful and free.

I, the Lord will bless and keep you and give you  
peace; I, the Lord will smile upon you and give you  
peace; I, the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother. Go, my children;  
I will keep you and give you peace.