



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

~ January 19, 2025 ~

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

Welcome to Totenfest Sunday:

A special service in memory of those who have entered life eternal.

Organ Prelude: "Largo in G" - G. F. Handel

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 139)

L: As we gather, we pause to remember that we are known by God.

As we gather, we remember the Love of our Creator.

P: O Lord, you have searched us and known us. O God, you know us all the days of our lives.

L: We remember that God was there at our births, our first steps, and those moments of intimate closeness.

We remember that in our moments of joy, public and private, God has been present.

P: O Lord, you have searched us and known us. O God, you know us all the days of our lives.

L: We remember also that God is there in our moments of sorrows, in our grieving, when we feel alone.

Even at the moment of death, God is still there.

P: O Lord, you have searched us and known us. O God, you know us all the days of our lives.

L: In all time and all places, we have been known by our God. And in those places, God has loved us.

P: O Lord, you have searched us and known us. O God, you know us all the days of our lives.

A: For all of this we say, thanks be to God.

*Opening Hymn: "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" #243

***Prayer of the Day:**

Holy One, we seek you this day as we come to worship. For some, we are coming with thankfulness and praise for a good week, for the blessings of the New Year. Others of us come remembering loved ones we have lost, holding a space in our hearts that still feels empty. Still others of us just need to hear your voice. Be present now for all of us. Give us your Spirit. And speak to the deepest parts of our souls. For we pray in Jesus's name, Amen.

Prayer Response: Glory Be to the Father" #734

Mission Moment: Merom

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 62:1-5
John 2:1-11

Sermon: "Ordinary into Extraordinary"

Service of Remembrance:

We remember, with honor, members of St. John’s who have passed away during the last year. We also remember others who, although not members, received the Rite of Christian burial from our congregation. We trust their lives and spirits to the One who formed and knew them best of all. We ask God to bless, comfort, and strengthen those who grieve their passing.

(After the reading of the following names, we ask that a family member come forward and light a candle in memory of their loved one.)

Those for whom the Rite of Christian Burial was conducted through the ministry of St. John’s:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Date of Burial</u>	<u>Place of Burial</u>
Gayle Sarringhaus	10.26.2024	10.31.2024	St. Johns UCC

(After the reading of the previous names, anyone who would like to come forward to light a candle in remembrance of a loved one is welcome to do so.)

Loved ones of members & friends who are included in our prayers:

The family of: Tom Walsman
 Henry Pictor
 Janice Simon
 Ralph Harmeyer
 Joyce Meyer
 Dave Raver
 Dan Borchelt
 Ann English
 Chris Fairchild
 Josh Bicker
 Dale Parmer
 Joyce Meyer
 Patients of Health Care Providers

Lighting of Candles**Congregational Prayer [In Unison]:**

God of life, we give you thanks for the lives of those we have remembered today and for the ways in which we have seen the glory of your presence through them. With your tender love and your gentle compassion, embrace those who are grieving, grant them comfort and peace, and be their refuge and strength. Fill our hearts with trust in you that we may, without fear, commit those who are dear to us to your loving care for all eternity.

Memorial gifts have been given in honor of these members and friends during this year. These gifts provide an ongoing legacy that strengthens the ministry of St. John’s Church. We say “Thank you” to those who gave these gifts and the persons and families they honor.

Closing Prayer [In Unison]:

Dear God, we thank you for these lives which have touched us. Through them we have seen glimpses of your love and power. We dedicate the gifts given in memory of them, may they strengthen your church and your work in the world. We ask that you help us to be a community of support, encouragement and prayer for those who are bereaved. May our hearts be open to you O God, as you call us to be wise men and women, bringing gifts of encouragement to one another. We ask these prayers in Jesus name. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation for Our Offerings

Organ Offertory: "At the Name of Jesus" arr. Wagner

Doxology #34

Offertory Prayer

*Closing Hymn: "Breathe On Me, Breath of God" #461

*Benediction

Organ Postlude: "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" arr. Innes

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

LITURGIST / BENEVOLENCE CALENDAR:

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); Trenton Gesell (On his recovery, Neighbor to Dale Koester); The family of Gayle Sarringhaus on his passing; Mike Bauman (Health 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); Dale Koester's nieces safety during the wild fires in CA.

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 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 26th** 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 23rd** 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.

CALIFORNIA FIRE RELIEF ASSISTANCE:



On January 7, 2025, wildfire activity began in Los Angeles County, California. Immediate reports indicate that this fire has caused substantial damage throughout LA County, making this event the largest fire disaster in the county's history. At the time of this writing, nearly 30,000 acres have been consumed by the blazes. One hundred eighty thousand people are currently displaced from their homes due to devastation or evacuation orders, and these fires continue to spread, causing additional destruction. Among the building destroyed is Altadena Community Church, United Church of Christ.

Since the onset of this disaster, the Global HOPE team has communicated with the Southern California and Nevada Conference Minister. The team will coordinate with ecumenical partners and a national network of voluntary organizations active in disasters (VOAD) as it shapes our long-term response.

As we continue to pray for and support those who experienced unimaginable loss, we invite you to support the UCC's recovery efforts in the following ways:

- Donate to the UCC's California Wildfires 2025 by writing a separate check or indicating in your memo.
- You may also give cash if it is marked in a pew envelope. We will pass these donations on to the appropriate setting so they get to the relief efforts.
- You may also mail a check directly to the United Church of Christ using the address of United Church of Christ, PO Box 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194. Please be sure to note "California Wildfires 2025" in the memo section of your check. Our EIN: 34-192704.

Thank you in advance for your help in providing relief for our siblings in Christ who are hurting.



SCRIPTURES



Isaiah 62:1-5:

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the LORD and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her and your land Married, for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.



John 2:1-11:

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it. When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

Hymns

Song of Thankfulness and Praise *(page #243)*

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to you we raise;
once revealed, when heaven's star
brought the wise men from afar;
branch of royal David's stem,
in your birth at Bethlehem,
Word before the world began,
God revealed to us in man.

God revealed at Jordan's stream,
prophet, priest and king supreme;
once revealed in power divine
changing water into wine;
Cana's holy wedding guest
keeping to the last the best;
Word before the world began,
God revealed to us in man.

God revealed in valiant fight,
conquering the devil's might;
sins forgiven, sickness healed,
life restored and God revealed:
once revealed in gracious will
ever bringing good from ill,
Word before the world began,
God revealed to us in man.

Stars shall fall and heavens fade,
sun and moon shall dark be made;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
all will see his glorious sign;
all will then the trumpet hear,
all will see the Son appear.
Word before the world began,
God revealed to us in man.

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.

For All the Saints *(page #529)*

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed;
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine.
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds and ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
the singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Breathe On me, Breath of God *(page #461)*

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with you I will one will,
to do and to endure.

Breath on me, breath of God,
so that your will is mine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with your fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity.