

# St. Philip's United Church of Christ

10708 Lavinia Drive    St. Louis, Missouri 63123    314-843-5100  
[www.stphilipsucc.com](http://www.stphilipsucc.com)

September 26, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Pastor: Rev. Michael (Mike) Krewson  
Administrative Assistant: Carol O'Shea

Council President: Sandy Stevenson  
Youth Director: Andrea Tukin

Music Director: Mike Orzel

\*indicates that you may rise as comfortably able  
(text in bold read in unison)

## Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude and Wait for people to connect online

Lighting the Candles

\* Call to Worship (Responsively)

When we are afraid, may we sense our risen Lord ever near.

**When we feel alone, may we sense our God calming our lives.**

When we feel our world in turmoil, may we feel Jesus at our side.

**We give thanks, O God, for your comforting presence.**

\* Opening Hymn: "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" # 75

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old;

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the word I was there to cheer you on;  
you were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

\* Centering Prayer (Together)

**Happy are we whose help comes from God and whose hope is near. Our  
God, who made the stars and the heavens above watches over us and  
opens the eyes of faith. God is here now — and we are grateful. Amen.**

\* Response: "There's Something About That Name" # 115

**Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's just something about that name!**

**Master, Savior, Jesus! Like the fragrance after the rain.**

**Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all heaven and earth proclaim:**

**Kings and kingdoms will all pass away, but there's something about that name!**

Children's Time

Prayer of Preparation (Together)

**Like a clear bell that rings out our name, O God, Your Word comes to us now. It calls us, comforts us and urges us to seek peace. Open our hearts to hear you, still speaking God, and free our voices to praise you. Amen.**

Scripture: The Story of Esther

Narrator: The story of Esther takes place during the time when God's people Israel were in Exile in Persia. The King of Persia, we'll call him Xerxes, was about to host a big, wild party. But first a request of the audience. This story will include audience participation. When the Narrator (that's me) says the name 'Haman' the audience is invited to respond: "Boo!"

When either the name 'Esther' or the name 'Mordecai' are spoken, the audience is invited to respond: "Yeah!:" Let's try it"

Narrator: "Esther."

Audience: "Yeah!"

Narrator: "Haman"

Audience: "Boo!"

Narrator: "Mordecai"

Audience: "Yeah!"

Narrator: The King Xerxes, was hosting military generals and princes he wanted to impress and so, gave a wild party with lots of alcohol to drink. The Queen at that time, whose name was Vashti, was also holding a special feast for the women in a separate location during the same days.

Hymn: "The God of Abraham Praise" # 24

The God of Abraham praise, Who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love;  
the one eternal God, ere all that now appears,  
the First, the Last, beyond all through timeless years!

Jehovah great I am, By earth and heaven confessed,  
I bow and bless the sacred name Forever blest.  
Established is God's law, and changeless it shall stand,  
deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, or land.

God has eternal life implanted in the soul.  
God's love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.  
Praise to the living God! All praised be the Name,  
who was, and is, and is to be, is still the same!

Sermon: "Esther: Wonder Woman"

Rev. Mike Krewson and Reading Team

Anthem: ""

Prayer Time:

Wordless Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we  
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us  
from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

## Our Gifts

Response "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host:**

**Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* Prayer Dedicating our gifts (Together)

**You give us gifts beyond our expectations, O God. Use these gifts we  
give to you, to break open the doors of resistance. Let the fire of your  
Spirit dance within each person. Give us faith to claim your call for  
our lives. Amen.**

\* Closing Hymn: "Blessed Assurance" # 543

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!

Hear of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

(Refrain)

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sign;  
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (Refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

(Refrain)

## Benediction

## Postlude

## **WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY**

World Wide Communion Sunday is October 3, 2021. We will not be able to prepare a variety of ethnic breads and share them on this Sunday, but we are encouraging everyone who attends church in person, to bring a special bread (bagel – Poland, croissant – France, banana bread – South Africa, etc.) for you to personally enjoy during communion. This will be a nice break from the communion wafers currently being used.

If you choose not to bring a bread from home, or you forget to bring a bread, no worries. The little wine/wafer cups will still be available for you to use. Pick one up for the wine if you are bringing a bread.

Folks worshipping at home virtually – we encourage you to also choose an ethnic bread of your choice for communion on this Sunday.

## **OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS**

October 3 is Neighbors in Need Sunday. Neighbors in Need is one of our 5 for 5 charities, and benefits UCC Church projects, including projects that serve homeless and immigrant neighbors, and Native Americans throughout the country. Please consider donating to this worthwhile cause. You can include donations in your October 3 envelope and put Neighbors in Need on the subject line of your check or send a check to Kathy Shelton.

Fall is also the season for Sharefest, formerly called Festival of Sharing, an ecumenical program that provides a variety of items to those in need in Missouri. In the past we have collected food items, dental hygiene items, and paper products. Because of covid, this year we are asking for monetary donations during the month of October and specify that funds be used "Where Needed Most". Contributions for Sharefest can be made by sending a check to Kathy Shelton with Sharefest on the subject line.

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

**Sunday, October 10, 2021**

Bring your pets to worship with you on Sunday, October 10. Our regular 9:30am Worship will be held outside that day and will include a blessing for each pet in attendance.

Please have your dog(s) on a leash. You may invite neighbors or friends who might also wish to bring their pets.

## OCTOBER LUNCH BUNCH

Somethings' brewing and it will be ghoulishly fun,  
A wicked good time for everyone!

Fly on over for the Lunch Bunch Halloween Bash,  
Watch your broom steering so you won't crash.

Park your broomstick on St. Philip's lot  
Be there **Wednesday, October 13th at noon** to get a  
good spot.

Bring a dish, sign up at church, or call someone listed  
below,

A hauntingly awesome time of food, drink, and a game for  
all who go.

COVID rules will apply,  
Or back home you must fly.

RVSP by October 10th to "boo"tiful Leona G  
Or bewitching Mary D.

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Gene Siewing	2
Danielle Knoll	3
Joy Lopez	4
Leona Gottschlich	10
Ollie Coleman	11
Jeannine Navratil	18
Ray Hoffstetter	20
Rob Kammerer	20
Carole Armistead	20
George Brand	21
Cindy Lewis	21
Cara Schamburg	21
Sue Myers	23
Tom Nottelmann	23
Mary Dykstra	26
Susan Yung	26
Kevin Nickel	28
Chris Fischer	28
Averi Henson	30
Hayden Henson	30

**(See the orange signup sheet on the bulletin board)**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 <b>9:30</b> Sunday Worship In-person, Livestream on Facebook <b>9:45</b> Sunday School In-person	27 <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	28 <b>4:30</b> ECC Board Mtg	29 <b>5:30-7:00</b> LOGOS	30	1 October	2
3 <b>Worldwide Communion</b> <b>9:30</b> Sunday Worship In-person, Livestream on Facebook, <b>Neighbors in</b> <b>Need Special Offering</b> <b>9:45</b> Sunday School In-person	4 <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg <b>7:00</b> Church Council Meeting	5	6 <b>5:30-7:00</b> LOGOS	7	8	9
10 <b>9:30 Pet Blessing</b> Sunday Worship Outdoors - In-person, Livestream on Facebook <b>9:45</b> Sunday School In-person	11 <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	12	13 <b>noon</b> Lunch Bunch <b>5:30-7:00</b> LOGOS	14	15	16
17 <b>9:30</b> Sunday Worship In-person, Livestream on Facebook <b>9:45</b> Sunday School In-person	18 <b>10:00</b> Bible Study Conf Call/Zoom Mtg	19	20 No LOGOS	21	22 <b>4:30</b> Spiritual Life Zoom Meeting	23





# Our Vision Statement

## St. Philip's Vision Statement

We are called to the body of Jesus Christ, with:

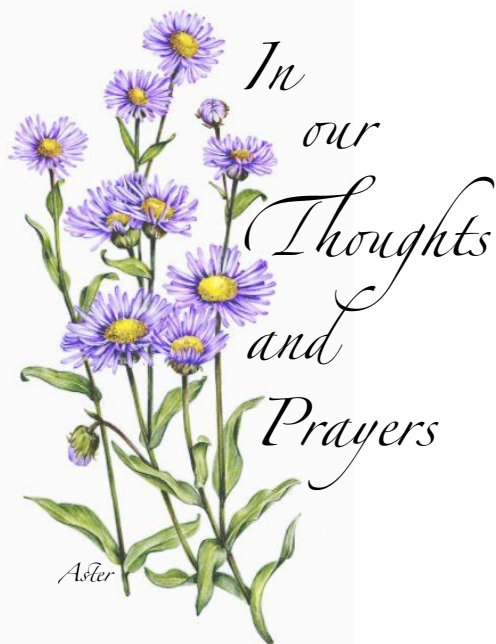
Minds to study God's word,

Mouths to proclaim the Gospel,

Eyes to see the needs of others,

Arms to welcome all,

Hearts big enough to share God's love with all God's children.



Judy Hickman  
Russ Hickman  
Deb Hudson  
Harry Jennings  
Pam Kelly  
Brian Malin  
Marilyn Milne  
Jered Nagle

Janet Remmers  
Paul Shrout  
Dottie Vinyard  
Paula Williams



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