



**St. John's
United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive
Newark OH
43055-5298**

Main: 740-323-2407
Church Website

www.stjohnsnewark.org

Our Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher
stjohns.pastorstephen@gmail.com

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Anita Chirdon

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Todd Baldosser

scarlatti35@hotmail.com

Christian Education Director

Julie Kroah

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Sexton

Charles Bruah

Chapel Pianist

Jane Shoemaker

Children's Bell Choir

Colleen Kroah

Adult Bell Choir

Jerry Goodman

Librarian/Signer

Debi Snow

Prayer List

Rebecca Swartz

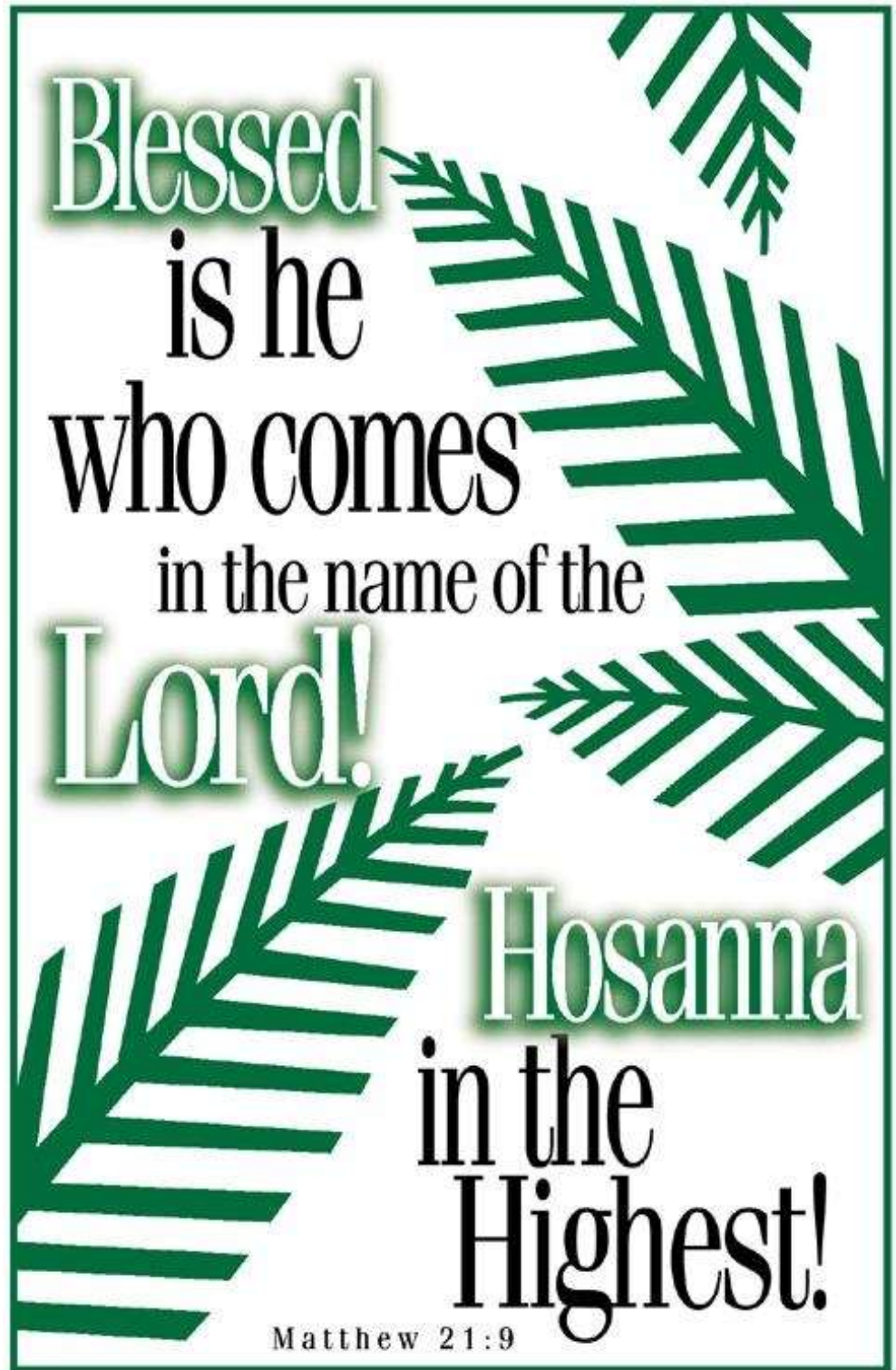
rebecasmil@aol.com &

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*Rooted in the Evangelical
and Reformed Traditions*

*We are Sowing Seeds of Hope
in a Time of Chaos*

So We May All Be One



Matthew 21:9

April 13, 2025

Chapel Service: 8:30 a.m.

Sanctuary Service: 11:00 a.m.

April 13, 2025

Chapel Service
Sanctuary Service

8:30 am

11:00 am

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Announcements & Greetings

Prelude (8:30 a.m.) “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” arr. by Berry Jane Shoemaker

Prelude (11:00 a.m.) Todd Baldosser
“Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates” Traditional

***Opening Hymn** “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” **No. 192**
(8:30 a.m. Verses 1 & 3)

- 1) **All glory, laud, and honor, to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
You are a child of Israel, Great David’s greater son;
you ride in lowly triumph, Messiah, blessed one!**
- 2) **The company of angels are praising you on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.**
- 3) **To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
As you received their praises, now hear us as we pray.
Since you delight in goodness, rule in our hearts today.**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Today, we join Jesus in his final trip to Jerusalem, knowing the depth of meaning this brings

All: **Open the gates of righteousness, that we may enter in**

Leader: We join the disciples in declaring that Jesus, riding on a donkey, is the One who will bring peace and salvation to all

All: **Open the gates of peace, that we may come Worship God**

Leader: We join with the bystanders who questioned and wondered who this Jesus really is

All: **Open the gates of truth that we may know our Lord**

Leader: This journey through Holy Week brings us face to face with the stark reality of sin and God’s faithfulness to save us

All: **Open the gates of salvation, that we may experience the God whose steadfast love never fails!**

***Please stand if you are able**

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts. From hope to despair to hope again. As we begin this Holy Week, joining with the crowd, help us to cut through the noise to see what is really happening and to realize what is at stake. As the story unfolds, open to us both the hope and the pain. In this time of worship, prepare us to celebrate, to weep, to wait and to rejoice. As we pray the prayer of surrender and trust that You taught, ...

***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 debts, As we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

No. 35

**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.**

Vocal Solo

“Three Days” Holst

Diane Reef

*** UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STATEMENT OF FAITH**

No. 361

**We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to your deeds we testify:**

**You call the worlds into being,
create persons in your own image
and set before each one the ways of life and death.**

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

**You judge people and nations by your righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
you have come to us
and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death
and reconciling the world to yourself,**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
Creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages,
tongues and races.**

**You call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world,
to resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.**

**You promise to all who trust you
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.**

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" No. 306
**Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord,
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.**

Mission Moment - Sheila Klescich, Executive Director of the Look-Up Center

Special Music (8:30 a.m.) Jane Shoemaker
"Were You There?" arr. by Wolaver

Choir (11:00 a.m.) "Hosanna" Sleeth

Scripture Reading Isaiah 62: 11

Scripture Reading Matthew 21: 1-11

Sermon "A Short Ride to a Long Week" Rev. Dr. Stephen Swisher

Hymn "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!" (8:30 a.m. Verses 1 & 4) **No. 191**

**1) Ride on, ride on in majesty!
As all the crowds hosanna cry;
through waving branches slowly ride,
O Savior, to be crucified.**

**2) Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
O Christ, your triumph now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.**

- 4) **Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Your last and fiercest foe defy.
bow your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, your power and reign.**

Invitation for Faithful Giving

***Doxology**

No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***Prayer of Dedication of the Offering**

All: Holy and Living God, sovereign over power and pain, glorious triumph and deep disappointment, we enter this Holy Week bringing our tithes and our offerings to Your altar and leaving them here in the hope that you will send them to make the world a more loving and compassionate place. We are reminded through the Bible that you sent two of Your Disciples out to make the world ready for Your coming. Remind us that Your Kingdom comes into the world not as a spectacle for us to witness but as a parade where we are called to make a contribution. In Jesus' Name. Amen

***Closing Hymn**

“Crown Him With Many Crowns”

No. 234

(8:30 a.m. Verses 1 & 4)

- 1) **Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**
- 2) **Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed over the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save:
his glories now we sing who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.**
- 4) **Crown Him the Lord of love; behold His hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.**

***Benediction**

***Please join us in the singing of the Congregational Benediction**

Go Now In Peace/Never be afraid/God will go with you/Each hour of ev'ry Day/Go now in Faith/Steadfast, strong and true/Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in Love/And show you believe/Reach out to others/So all the world can see/God will be there/Watching from above/Go now in Peace/In Faith and in Love. Amen/Amen/Amen.

CCL#2548454

Postlude (8:30 a.m.)

Jane Shoemaker

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name” arr. by Johnson

Postlude (11:00 a.m.)

“At the Name of Jesus” Traditional

Todd Baldosser

Pastor Steve's Quote of the Week

“If you can't fly, then run. If you can't run, then walk. If you can't walk, then crawl. Whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.”

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Swisher's message

Good Friday: 7:00 p.m.

“What's so Good about Good Friday?”

Romans 5: 12-15

Easter Sunday - April 27

7:00 a.m. Drive-In Service

“A Finished Story or a New Beginning?”

Luke 24: 1-12

8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sanctuary Services

“The Relevancy of the Resurrection”

1 Peter 1:3; Romans 8:11; John 11: 25-26

Sermon Notes

To our members, dear friends and visitors:

You are an important part of the worship and ministry that goes on here and we are thankful for your presence. Please sign the attendance pads on the tables. Thank you!



Be sure to pick up your St. John's Lenten Devotional at the entrance of the sanctuary.

To request a copy by mail, please email stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net

or call Julie Kroah at 740-323-2408

Be On The Lookout!

Palm Sunday

In the Sanctuary, the Chapel and the Fellowship Room.

Be sure to **Find a little Jesus**

And **Share a Little Jesus**



**Sunday
Morning
Time
Changes**

PLEASE NOTE

Starting April 27, 2025

8:00AM Outdoor Drive-In Service

9:00AM Adult Sunday School &
Confirmation Class

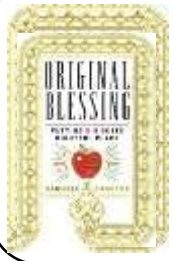
10:30AM Sanctuary Service



Purple Strips of Cloth

Be sure to pick up a purple strip of cloth at the front or rear of the sanctuary. Purple is the color of Lent. It symbolizes pain, suffering, mourning and penitence. It signifies the feeling of sorrow for our sins in the light of Christ's passion and death. In Lent, purple is used beginning Ash Wednesday and extending through Maundy Thursday.

Use the strip of cloth in a way so that you see it every day as a reminder of Lent and in preparation of Easter. For example, tie it on your rearview mirror, tie it on your purse, on a kitchen cabinet or lay it across your workspace.



Please join us as we meet on Thursday's April 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 11am to continue our discussion of the book entitled "Original Blessing, Putting Sin In its Rightful Place" by Danielle Shroyer. We enjoy coffee and conversation as we meet at the River Road Coffee House on the square in downtown Newark. The book is available online.



Mission and Outreach Committee - Focus for April
Our clothing drive continues with a focus this month on men's clothing. Pants, jackets, underwear, shoes and shaving supplies continue to be needed. Many thanks to the women who have donated clothing so generously this past month. As we give, my prayer is that we will feel God's spirit dressing us, as it says in Colossians 3:12 with "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." We will continue to highlight a different mission outreach one Sunday each month during worship. In April, we hope to hear a representative from The Lookup Center.

Confirmation Class



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Meetings are Sundays in the small meeting room
9:30AM—10:40AM

March 9 & 23

April 13 & 27

May 11 & 25

**Confirmation Sunday
June 1 during the 11AM Service**

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Contact
740.973.9460 for
more details.



We are looking for help to assist with the training with our Construction students on Mondays and Tuesdays anytime between 1-7pm. Hours can vary.

St. John's Youth Car Wash



Saturday, April 19, 2025

11am—2pm

At O'Reilly Auto Parts on Deo Drive, Newark

A free will offering will be accepted

All proceeds support the Mission Trip fund

St. John's Little Free Pantry

Take what you need. Give what you can.



Our little food pantry needs your help. Many of our members along with people from the community have been adding items on a regular basis. However, the need is so great that their efforts need to be supplemented. We are asking that those that can, bring food items to church on Sundays and place them in the donation bins provided: One at the top of the stairs between the Fellowship Room and the sanctuary or the one inside the side entrance door that leads to the rear of the sanctuary. We hope to collect enough food that we can resupply the little food pantry throughout the week.

Thank You,
Bill and Nancy McInturf

Easter Memorials

You may choose to remember a loved one with a gift to the Abiding Memorial Fund or the Foundation Fund (if established). All such gifts noted and received by today, April 13, 2025, will be listed in the bulletin on April 20, 2025, Easter Sunday. Abiding Memorial and Foundation Fund Cards and Envelopes are available in the literature rack in the Narthex or in the office or you can use this form and place in the offering plate with your contribution. Thank you!

_____ Foundation Fund _____ Abiding Memorial Fund

Be sure to complete the following to be printed in the bulletin: (i.e.: In honor of or in memory of..... by) for lily purchases, Abiding Memorials and/or Foundation Fund Contributions.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

The Youth of St. John's presents



Easter Breakfast

Sunday April 20

Serving 7:30am – 10:45am

Come let the Youth cook your breakfast. Enjoy pancakes, sausage, egg casseroles, fruit and more.



Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday - April 13, at 8:30AM & 11:00AM.

Dr. Swisher's message "A Short Ride to a Long Week"

Good Friday Service - April 18 at 7:00PM

Dr. Swisher's message "What's Good about Good Friday?"

Easter Sunday - April 20

Outdoor Drive-In Sunrise Service at 7:00AM

Dr. Swisher's Sunrise service message

"A Finished Story or a New Beginning?"

Sanctuary Services at 8:30AM and 11:00AM

Dr. Swisher's Easter message

"The Relevancy of the Resurrection"

Easter Breakfast Served 7:30AM to 10:45AM

Free-Will Offering accepted.





Easter

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING OUR RISEN SAVIOR

Join us for Dr. Swisher's uplifting message "A Finished Story or a New Beginning?" at the 7:00am *Outdoor Drive-In Sunrise* service. Then continue the celebration with his special Easter message "The Relevancy of the Resurrection" at the 8:30am or the 11:00am Sanctuary services.

Communion will be served at all services.

Easter Breakfast served 7:30am to 10:45am (free-will offering accepted)

Sunday, April 20th

Dr. Stephen Swisher will lead services at

7:00am, 8:30am and 11:00am

St. John's United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive Newark • (740) 323-2407
www.stjohnsnewark.org



Join us for Youth Sunday as we present
the why and the who we "Praise"

Praise!

April 27, 2025

8:00am and 10:30am



GRADUATION SUNDAY –May 18, 2025

Do you know of someone who is graduating from high school or college this spring? We would like to invite them to join us on Sunday, May 18, 2025, to celebrate the momentous event.

Please fill out the form and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office by May 4, 2025! Thank you!

Name _____

Parents/Church Family _____

Graduating from _____

Degree _____

Plans for the future _____

Additional information to share _____



General Prayers: Bill Carr, Charlie

Bruah, & Rev. Dr. Winfield Strout

Homebound and Nursing Facility Residents:

Mel Cunningham, Bonita Farmer, Patricia Gilbert, Paula Hatfield, Rosalie Johnson, Faith Kelly, Delores and Harold McDonald, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Mary Lou Hostetler, Charles & Lois Meyers, Molly Sheets, & Lois Swonger



Additional prayer requests on Bea's Blessings:

- Mr. Bill Klinesmith (Julie Kroah's father)
- Mrs. Barbara Swisher
- Reverend Charles White – James' Father
- Mark D: Cancer return
- Alpha Black

We Appreciate Those Serving Today!

Liturgist:

Jeff Conner

Cantor:

Diane Reef

Ushers:

Frank Davis, Jeff Conner, Larry Jones, Terry Gano, Mike Dooley, Barry Dooley Gary Kinser

Cradle Roll:

Volunteer/Avery Nagel

Bible Discovery Zone:

Marla Crowthers & Youth if needed

Media Worship Team:

Sound & Video:

11:00 am: Julie Kroah/Ken Kroah



Sunday: April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

- 8:30 am Chapel Service
- 9:30 am Confirmation Class
- 11:00 am Sanctuary Service
- 11:00 am Bible Discovery Zone
- 12:00 pm Youth Group Meeting

Tuesday:

- 7:00 pm Finance & Stewardship Committee Meeting

Wednesday:

- 6:00 pm Crystal City Chorus

Thursday:

- 11:00 am Thursday Book Study "Original Blessing, Putting Sin In Its Rightful Place" Shroyer - at River Road Coffee on the Square

Friday:

- 7:00 pm Good Friday Service

Saturday:

- 11am - 2:00 pm Youth Car wash – O'Reilly Auto Parts – Deo Drive

Sunday:

April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday

- 7:00 am Outdoor Sunrise Drive-In Service
- 7:30–10:45 am Easter Breakfast – Free Will Offering
- 8:30 am Sanctuary Service
- 11:00 am Sanctuary Service

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 8,419.25
Income as of April 6, 2025	<u>1,485.00</u>
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 6,934.25)
Boiler Cost	\$ 99,260.00
Boiler loan amount	\$ 26,654.19
Boiler Donations received	<u>\$ 20,123.20</u>
Donations still needed	\$ 6,530.99

ATTENDANCE

Report for Sunday, April 6

8:30 am - 14 11:00 am - 57

Sunday April 6 Live Stream Views – 401

Thank you for your continued support! In addition to your giving in person, by drop off, by mail, or by clicking on the donate button on the website, you can also scan this QR Code. We continue to find new ways to connect with our members and our community that are convenient, secure, helpful, and relevant to the ways in which some people prefer to donate. We thank God for our ability to offer these methods for those who may choose to use them.



Live streaming is now available on Facebook. If you missed the Live stream, you can watch a replay anytime on our YouTube or Facebook pages. Links for both of these sites can be found on our church website at www.stjohnsnewark.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 9am -12pm
Please call the office 740-323-2407 and leave a message to make any additional appointments or call/text Anita 740-973-8218. Thank you!