

# Serving Us Today

**Disciples:** All Members

**Organist:** Ginny Beamish

**Minister:** Don Crist

**Altar Decoration:** Becky Pierce

**Liturgist:** Allison Pierce

**Head Usher:** Mike Beamish

**Choir Director:** Becky Pierce

**Counters:** Mike Beamish &  
John Gibbons



## January 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 10a History Team 6p Choir	4	5	6
7 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	8	9	10 10a History Team 12p Council 4:30p M&W 5p Christian Ed 6p Choir	11	12	13
14 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	15	16	17 10a History Team 6p Choir	18	19	20
21 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:30a Adult Sun School 10:30a Worship Congregational meeting after worship	29	30				

*Happy Birthday!*

Sharon Wilson 1/4 -- Glenn Lytle 1/7  
Sarah Porto 1/15 -- Liz Fessler 1/16  
Ruth Jeffries 1/29



**January 21, 2024**

**“Hospitality – Beloved  
Community Series”**

**St. John’s United Church of  
Christ**

**130 S Walnut St**

**Troy, OH 45373**

**(937) 335-2028**

## INTROIT

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Liturgist)

A friendly welcome to all! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here.

### BELLS TO WELCOME THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

**PRELUDE** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Robert J. Hughes

**\*OPENING WORDS** To all of you, beloved of God, called to be saints; Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and Lord Jesus Christ. (from Romans 1:7)

**FIRST HYMN #376** (Black Hymnal)

"God We Thank You For Our People"

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Liturgist: Arise, shine; for your light has come. The glory of God has risen among us.*

**People: We are awake; we are alive! Praise God for deliverance and blessings.**

*Liturgist: Receive again the promises of the gospel. Participate in the mystery of Jesus Christ.*

**People: God's ways are being revealed to us today. Our church proclaims the unsearchable riches of Christ.**

### \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (In Unison)

**Eternal God, because your purposes become clear to us in Jesus Christ, we come with boldness to claim our relationship with you. We are grateful for the pioneers of our faith. The flames you ignited in them have not gone out. Your wisdom is still proclaimed in the church, challenging centers of earthly power with the claims of heaven. Today our search for meaning has led us to this place of worship. You are here; we rejoice! Amen.**

## PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Brent Adkins: Brent has had surgery and is now in Cardiac Critical Care. His situation is serious.

Wayne and Gretchen Cunningham: Stephanie Strobe's parents continue to battle health issues. Both have experienced some improvement of late but face long roads. Please keep them in your prayers.

Mary Ann Crist: Please keep Mary Ann in your prayers while she fights breast cancer. She is scheduled for surgery on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Becky Fessler: Becky is back in the Soin Hospital with continuing complications from her surgery for lung cancer. Please include her in your prayers.

Liz Fessler: Liz is improving. Please keep her in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

Em Finney: Please continue to pray for Ginny's sister as she continues to battle her illness. Ginny reports that she continues to hold her own but needs our prayers now more than ever.

Michael Ham: Michael continues to need our prayers as his health struggles continue. Thankfully, at the moment, he is holding his own.

Tracy Heffelfinger: Tracy, daughter of Joyce, suffered a mini stroke recently. Thankfully, there was no permanent damage and she is back at work. However, recovery and medication continue so, please, keep the prayers for Tracy coming.

Glenn Lytle: Glenn is back in the hospital for testing. After, he will return to rehab.

Erika, Logan and Brieanna Wilson: Please pray for Sharon's grandchildren that they may know the love, peace and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Remember our homebound in your thoughts and prayers. Cards are welcome:

Beulah Bowers: Piqua Manor, 1840 High St, Rm 42, Piqua, OH 45356 [\\*Please note address change](#)

Carletta Gritzmaker: 2896 West Main Street, Troy, OH 45373

Joan Meredith: Lakeview Wing #213, 1567 Garbry Road, Piqua, OH 45356



### **New Member Exploration Class**

Pastor Don is planning a new member exploration class in the new year. The first two meetings will be February 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am in The Gathering Place. Anyone is welcome to join us. This is an exploration class and not a commitment to become a member of St. John's.

### **Congregational Meeting**

Please plan to join us for our Congregational Carry-In and Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28, immediately following our worship service. Please bring a dish or two to share and your own table service. Beverages will be provided. The meeting will commence right after dessert. You will find the agenda included in the Annual Report in the Narthex.

### **Food for the Needy**

The Membership and Outreach committee wants to thank everyone for their generous donations benefiting food for the needy.

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "Blessing for a New Year"

John Ritter

**A TIME FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES**

**MORNING PRAYER**

Don Crist

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**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.**

**WELCOME TO FACEBOOK LIVE VIEWERS**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Romans 12:9-21

**SILENT PREPARATION FOR LISTENING**

We invite you to use these few moments of silence to welcome the Inner Teacher to speak to you as Don shares the morning message.

**SERMON** "Hospitality – Beloved Community Series" Don Crist

**OFFERTORY INVITATION** (Liturgist)

*We are stewards of God's grace, entrusted with the unsearchable riches of Christ, channels through which the wisdom of God is offered to the world. Our prosperity gives us the marvelous opportunity to share. What treasures will we offer today to honor Christ? What costly offering will be given with joy and worshipful devotion?*

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY: (In Unison)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, Ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*DEDICATION PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**For the joy of giving, we offer the products of our labor for the ministry of this church, in outreach to the world. With concern for those who are poor, oppressed, and needy, we rededicate ourselves as helpers and advocates. Out of devotion to Christ, we commit our best, that the church may bear witness to the whole world!. Amen.**



Please join us next week at 9:30a in the café for Adult Sunday School. The topic will be “The Reluctant Giver – God Loves a Cheerful Giver” with Mike Beamish leading.

**CLOSING HYMN: #539**

(Black Hymnal)

“Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant”

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

“Epilog”

Chester Nordman

*(All Hymns used by permission, CCLI License#11076943)*

# God is Still Speaking,

## Attendance and Giving

Total Attendance last week 1/14/24 = 18

	General Fund Donations	
Week of 1/14/24	Month of January	Monthly Budget
\$815.00	\$2,142.00	\$10,007.16

**Our Children’s Space is located through the door at the front of the church. We know there may be times that children’s needs may differ. Families are welcome to come to the area at any time during the service. Simply follow the signs and you will find our children’s rooms thoughtfully prepared for your family, including a live feed for you to follow along.**