

St. John's at Worship Fourth Sunday in Lent

Prelude "Dialogo" arr. *D. Coakley*

Welcome and Announcements *(please pass the fellowship roll)*

Introit "Pavana" arr. *D. Coakley*

*Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus says that we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

People: We come to God because there is a hunger in our hearts that cannot be satisfied by food.

Leader: Jesus says, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me. Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

People: We come to God because our souls are thirsty for what only God can give.

Leader: Jesus says, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled!"

People: May our hunger and thirst be filled as we worship God.

*Hymn **139, vss. 1, 2, 5** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

*Prayer of Invocation and 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.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession from Psalm 51

**All: Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

Leader: What makes you feel *far* from God?
How does your heart need to be cleansed?
Where does your spirit need to be renewed and restored?
What aspect of your life can you work on this week that will help you take a single step toward the new life of resurrection?

(Silent Confession)

**All: May our confession be more than words and thoughts.
May it bring about real transformation in us,
so that we might truly live new lives in Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

**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.**

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31 – 32 (pg. 14)
Mileto Judy

Cherub Choir "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
*Grades Pre-K through 4 may go to Sunday School after the Children's Time.
Grades 5 – 12 remain in the sanctuary for communion.
Sunday School ends at 10:45.*

Sermon THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED Rev.
Marshall
Lenten Series: The Parables of Jesus

Anthem "Return to the Lord" *Decesare*

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Traditional)

Invitation to the Table
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

Call to Offering
(Ushers will collect *blue card* prayer requests at the time of the offering.)

Offertory "Cancion Religiosa" *A. de Cobeson*

*Doxology and Presentation of the Offering

**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. Amen.**
*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn **583, vss. 1, 2** "You Are the Seed"

*Benediction

*Choral Response

Postlude "Fantasia" arr. *D. Coakley*

*All who are able, please stand

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music *Iris Blanco*
Greeter *Jennifer Roberts*
Ushers *Carolyn Repke, Matthew Repke,
Kim Collett, Jack Collett*
Flowers *Given in loving memory of George J. Fielden, Sr.
by his family.*

Coffee Service *Justine An*
Cherub Choir *James Adams, Sophie Coradi, Luke Ealer,
Brandon Marshall, Ryan Marshall, and Tori Oliver.*

Devon Brass *Mark Ator, Jeff Estabrook, Joe Lorini, Frank Mercurio,
Paul Steege*

Soloists *Miyuki Hashimoto (soprano), Jeff Estabrook (Tenor),
Mark Ator (horn)*

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We are so happy that you have joined us for worship this morning, and we hope that you experience the love of Jesus Christ here with us! If there is anything we can do to help you feel more at home, please feel free to ask one of the ushers located at each of the sanctuary doors. We would love for you to join us for refreshments downstairs immediately following worship. Our greeter, Jennifer Roberts, will be available in the back of the sanctuary after worship to answer any questions you might have about St. John's. We are glad that you are here, and hope you will worship with us again soon!

EASTER LILIES

You can be part of the beautiful decoration of our sanctuary on Easter morning. To purchase a lily plant which you may take home following the Easter service, please see Lisa Estabrook. The cost of these lovely plants is \$10.

CHERUB CHOIR

All children ages 4 through 3rd grade are invited to join the **Cherub Choir**, which meets every Wednesday from 5:15 – 5:45 PM. The purpose of the Cherub Choir is to learn about God's amazing love for us by singing songs, talking about the Bible stories behind the songs, and playing with our friends. The Choir sings in worship on a monthly basis. As the seasons change we know your schedules do too, and we welcome all children as their schedules permit. If interested please contact Debbie Ealer.

WOMEN'S RETREAT – SATURDAY, APRIL 9 (9 AM – 1 PM)

Please join us on **Saturday, April 9** in the Wilson Carriage House for a women's retreat led by Carol Schreck, a retired associate professor at Palmer Seminary and a clinician in Marriage and Family at Kairos Counseling Services in Devon. "The Sacred Journey" is for those who are thirsty for more of God, who are dissatisfied with living on the surface, and who want to travel deeper into God's heart. We will be working with Sharon Brown's book *Sensible Shoes*, which you are encouraged to read prior to the retreat so that you gain familiarity with the spiritual journey being discussed. *Sign-ups are important! Please see Sue Hardin today at coffee fellowship if you plan to attend.* Thank you!

CARRIAGE CLUB

Please join us On Monday, March 14 at Noon for our Carriage Club Luncheon. We will welcome Michael Aichenbaum, Executive Director of Hosts for Hospitals, a nonprofit agency providing free or minimal cost lodging for patients and their families coming to the Greater Philadelphia area for specialized medical care. Reservations are appreciated and can be given to Judy Mileto.



The Middle/High School Youth Group meets from **4:30 to 6:00 PM.**

March 6: Nevan Hamid will speak to us about Islam

March 11: Middle School Trivia Night in Fellowship Hall (6 PM)

All youth in grades 5 – 8 are invited to a special Friday night trivia event. We'll start with pizza at 6:00 PM, and then at 6:30 the games will begin! We'll have multiple rounds with different teams. Trivia topics will include pop culture and academics. *Please bring a friend, and be sure to RSVP so we can have enough food for everyone.*

March 13: A look at music and how it relates to faith. We will be exploring a few songs in pop culture and see what they are really saying.

March 20: What does it mean to love your enemy?

March 27: Happy Easter! No Youth Group – enjoy time with your family.

March 28: Devon Horse Show Parking signups will be available online.

April 1: Signup deadline for Sr. High Mission Trip to South Carolina (**Mission Trip participants must sign up for two Devon Horse Show Parking slots.**)

HOLY WEEK

Starting on Palm Sunday, Christians around the world begin a weeklong observance of the events leading up to the death of Jesus on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Palm Sunday (March 20) Worship at 9:30 AM, with concurrent Sunday School and nursery care. The Sunday School children will take part in the Procession of Palms at the beginning of worship.

Maundy Thursday (March 24) At 7:00 PM St. John's will celebrate the Lord's Supper at a worship service appropriate for all ages. Childcare will be provided for nursery and toddlers through age 4.

Good Friday (March 25) Several churches in our area offer services on this day. Paoli Presbyterian from Noon – 3 PM. Wayne Presbyterian from Noon – 1 PM. Daylesford Abbey from 3 – 4 PM.

Egg Hunt (March 26) St. John's will host a community Easter Egg Hunt for children 5th grade and younger on the Carriage House lawn starting at 10:00 AM. Children will hear the Easter story, hunt for eggs, and do a craft. They may bring their Easter basket or we will supply small bags to carry home their goodies.

Easter Sunday (March 29) Celebration of the Resurrection at 9:30 AM worship. No Sunday School or Story Hour on Easter. Childcare will be provided for nursery and toddlers through age 4.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

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| Sun, Mar 6 | 8:00 am | APNC Meeting |
| | 8:00 am | Deacons Meeting |
| | 8:00 am | Women's Biblical Reflections |
| | 9:30 am | Worship & Communion |
| | 11:00 am | Session Meeting with Confirmation Class |
| Wed, Mar 9 | 5:15 pm | Cherub Choir (age 4-grade 3) |
| | 6:00 pm | Supper at St. John's |
| Thurs, Mar 10 | 6:30 pm | Devon Chapel Bells |
| | 7:45 pm | Chancel Choir |
| | 9:00 pm | Devon Brass |
| Fri, Mar 11 | 6:00 pm | Middle School Trivia Night |
| Sun, Mar 13 | 8:00 am | Trustees Meeting |
| Mon, Mar 14 | 12:00 pm | Carriage Club |
| | 7:00 pm | Session Stated Meeting |

A Reminder about Staff Days Off

Patrick is out of the office on Fridays and Saturdays.
Eric is out on Saturdays and Tuesdays.
Rody is out on Saturdays and Sundays.
If you email or call on those days, you may not get a response until they are back in the office. Thank you for understanding!



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Rev. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
Jeff Wagner, Clerk of Session
Eric Walker, Director of Youth Ministry (eric.walker@stjohnsdevon.com)
Iris Blanco, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)
Rody Gratton, Office Manager (rody.gratton@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

From "On the Parables of the Mustard Seed"
by Denise Levertov

...the seed
within us, so small
we take it for worthless, a mustard-seed, dust,
nothing.

Glib generations mistake
the metaphor, not looking at fields and trees,
not noticing paradox. Mountains
remain unmoved.

Faith is rare, He must have been saying,
prodigious, unique –
one infinitesimal grain divided
like loaves and fishes,

as if from a mustard-seed
a great shade-tree grew. That rare,
that strange: the kingdom
a tree. The soul
a bird. A great concourse of birds
at home there, wings among yellow flowers.
The waiting
kingdom of faith, the seed
waiting to be sown.

March 6, 2016
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa