

**St. John's at Worship**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

Introit "Prelude in B minor" *F. Chopin*

\*Call to Worship from Psalm 34

**All: I will bless the Lord at all times;  
God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.  
My soul makes its boast in the Lord.  
O magnify the Lord with me,  
and let us exalt God's name together!**

\*Hymn 400 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

\*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.**

Scripture Reading Genesis 27:1 – 17 (p. 23)

Unison Prayer of Confession  
**Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor and the hungry,  
the meek and the merciful,  
the peacemakers and the persecuted."  
But the world around us blesses wealth and power  
and those who attain them.  
And all too often, those are the blessings we seek,  
and the people we seek to bless.  
We fail to recognize God's blessings among us,  
and when we *do* recognize them,  
we often take them for granted.  
We confess, O Lord, that we ask your blessing on that which we desire.  
Help us instead to desire that which you have blessed,  
through Jesus Christ.**

Silent Confession

Scripture Reading Genesis 27:18 – 29 (p. 23)

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. Amen.**

Scripture Reading Genesis 27:30 – 38 (p. 24) Beth Kephart

Children's Time Rev. Marshall

Anthem "Musical Moment" *F. Schubert*

Scripture Reading Genesis 32:22 – 31 (p. 30)

Sermon THE CURSE OF BLESSINGS Rev. Marshall  
Summer Sermon Series: *Living Worship*

\*Affirmation of Faith from *A Declaration of Faith (PCUSA)*

**We believe that Jesus lives.  
He lives as God with us,  
touching all of human life with the presence of God.  
He lives as one of us with God.  
Because he shares our humanity  
and has bound us to himself in love,  
we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.  
We declare that Jesus is Lord.  
His resurrection is a decisive victory  
over the powers that deform and destroy human life.  
His lordship is hidden.  
The world appears to be dominated by people and systems  
that do not acknowledge his rule.  
But his lordship is real.  
It demands our loyalty and sets us free  
from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.  
We maintain that ultimate sovereignty  
now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life.  
Jesus is Lord!  
He has been Lord from the beginning.  
He will be Lord at the end.  
Even now he is Lord.**

Offering (Ushers will also collect blue prayer request cards at the time of the offering.)  
Offertory "The Swan" *C. Saint-Saëns*  
\*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 664 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "Fantasie Impromptu" *F. Chopin*

\*All who are able, please stand

**ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD**

**Director of Music** *Iris Blanco-Urgelles*  
**Greeter** *Mary K. Darin*  
**Ushers** *Lee and Andy Walsh*  
**Coffee Service** *Shirley Hughes*  
**Flowers** *Given by Mary K. DaRin-Park in memory of my loving husband George Park.*  
**Guest Musicians** *Vincent Gao, Arthur Hu, Nathan Man (cello) and Lina Zhu*

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, Mary K. Darin, 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!

JOYS AND CELEBRATIONS!  
We celebrate with Pat Churchill as she welcomes her grandchild, Banks Hunter Churchill, born on Tuesday, August 16 in Cary, North Carolina. The rose on the communion table this morning is given in gratitude to God for the blessing of Banks' new life.

ALPHA IS COMING – WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21, 6 PM  
Alpha is a ten-week series exploring the Christian faith that will be the focus of Supper at St. John's this fall. Each week we will share a delicious meal, followed by a video presentation and small-group discussion that gives each of us the chance to share our thoughts and ideas on the topic presented. It's an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective, learning and growing together in an honest, friendly, and safe environment.

SUMMER BOOK STUDY – 11 AM IN CARRIAGE HOUSE  
There has been so much racial tension in our country lately. How can we, as Christians, engage these struggles and respond in ways that are faithful and loving? Last week we started a four-week study of the book *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism* by Drew Hart (Professor of Theology at Messiah College). We will meet after worship (11 AM) in the Carriage House to discuss chapters 5 – 7. Even if you haven't come before, we would love for you to join the conversation today!

**ST. JOHN'S FALL FESTIVAL**

Join us on Sunday, September 11 from 5 – 7 PM as we kick off the program year with a fresh take on our Burger-Corn Roast... St. John's Fall Festival! The menu will include barbeque pork, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, and coleslaw. There will be ice cream, music from the Joy Messengers, and (as always) a bounce house for the kids. It's a chance for everyone to come back together after the summer for fellowship, food, and fun! Invite a friend using the postcard in this bulletin!

**TEACHERS NEEDED!**

The Christian Education committee is looking for Sunday School teachers, both for our summer Sunday School program, and our traditional program beginning again in September. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Ealer or Sam Hillier. This is a great opportunity to connect with our kids and help them grow in their faith.

**Summer Sunday School**

This summer we are trying a new format that involves all grades from pre-K to Senior High. Each Sunday we will break down into age groups to have a Bible study where we will read Scripture and discuss what it means to us, followed by a group activity (like Bible baseball outside, games, or a service project), and then some sort of snack (like ice cream), and finish with a devotional. Jeff Ealer is leading this project, and needs help with teaching and running the activities. Please contact Jeff if you are interested in helping. Also, if your child has food allergies please let Jeff know (snacks will mostly be sherbet, ice cream, and maybe an occasional donut). Here is the schedule that is subject to change based on teacher availability:

Date	Pre-k/1st	2nd-4th	5th/7th	Senior High
8/21	Zaccheus	Joseph		
8/28	The Sower and the Seed	Job		
9/4	Prodigal Son	Sermon on the Mount	Communion	

(Bible study classes for 2nd-4th, 5th-7th, and Senior High meet separately)

**DID YOU KNOW THAT ST. JOHN'S HAS ITS OWN CUB SCOUT PACK?**

Pack 111, chartered by St. John's for many years, is open to boys from 1st to 5th grade and their parents. Cub Scouting (the junior branch of Boy Scouting) promotes character development while having fun, learning, and building family memories. If you, friends, or neighbors are interested, all are invited to the Pack information night on Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 pm at Devon Elementary School. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Bellew.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

- Sun, Aug 21** 9:30 am Worship  
11:00 am Book Study (Carriage House)
- Sun, Aug 28** 9:30 am Worship  
11:00 am Book Study
- Mon, Aug 29** 10:00 am Baby Bundles Sewing Group
- Sun, Sept 4** 9:30 am Worship & Communion
- Mon, Sept 5** Office Closed for Labor Day
- Sun, Sept 11** 8:00 am Trustees Meeting  
9:30 am Worship & Sunday School Begins  
5:00 pm **St. John's Fall Festival!**

**A Reminder about Staff Days Off**

This week Patrick will be out of the office on Thursday and Saturday. Lara is out on Saturday and Sunday. 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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A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

“Benediction” by Padraig O Tuama

Go in pieces  
The task is ended

Our concluding faith  
is being rear-ended  
certainty's being amended  
and something's getting mended  
that we didn't know  
was torn

And we are fire – bright, burning fire  
turning from the higher places  
from which we fell  
emptying ourselves into the hell  
in which we'll find  
our loving and beloved  
brother, mother, sister, father, friend

And so, friends, the task is ended  
Go in pieces  
to see and feel your world

**August 21, 2016**  
For the latest information and news about St. John's:  
[www.stjohnsdevon.com](http://www.stjohnsdevon.com)  
[facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa](https://facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa)