

## St. John's at Worship Second Sunday of Advent

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

Introit "Waiting for our Lord to Come" *Carrie Allwine*

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: The light of God's peace shines among us!  
**People: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!**

\*Hymn **13 (INSERT)** "Prepare the Way"

**\*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.**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**In this season when we wait for your peace to come,  
 we recognize that we do not always do *our* part to *create* peace.  
 We judge others, hold on to grudges, and place conditions on our love.  
 We open our mouths when we should keep them shut,  
 and we shut our mouths when we should speak up.  
 We cannot be at peace with our neighbors, or with you,  
 because we are not at peace with *ourselves*.  
 This is not how you created us to be,  
 and this is not how we *want* to be.  
 We *want* to live in harmony  
 with ourselves,  
 with each other,  
 and with you.  
 May your peace come among us, so that we can *let go*,  
 and may we let go, so that your peace can come among us.**

Silent Confession

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 Isaiah 11:1 – 10 (p. 640) Dick Oliver

Children's Time Rev. Marshall  
*Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade may go to Sunday School after the Children's Time.  
 Grades 5–12 stay for communion. Sunday School ends at 10:45.*

Anthem "Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

**Choir**

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body,  
 Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

**Assembly**



2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.  
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.  
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.  
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Scripture Reading Matthew 3:1 – 12 (p. 2)

Sermon UNEXPECTED PEACE Rev. Marshall

\*Hymn **626, vss. 1, 2** "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

**Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** (Traditional)

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

Offering (Ushers will also collect blue prayer request cards at the time of the offering.)

Offertory "Hope is a Star" *Wren/Fogg*

\*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 **431** "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "Days of Elijah" *Robin Mark*

**ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD**

**Director of Music** *Iris Blanco-Urgelles*  
**Greeter** *Lyn Strickler*  
**Ushers** *Carla Chieffo, Carolyn Repke,  
 Herb Thal, Kristi Thomson*  
**Coffee Service** *Bob and Karen Edwards*  
**Flowers** *Given by Barbara and John Woodcock  
 with thanksgiving for our beautiful family.*

**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, Lyn Strickler, 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!

**ANGEL TREE**

Thanks to everyone who has taken an angel (or two!) from our Angel Tree, all 135 angels have been sponsored! Thank you so much for your generosity! ***Wrapped gifts are to be returned to Fellowship Hall today. Please attach the gift nametag to your gift.*** If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Wright or Kim Collett.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

If you would like to purchase a large poinsettia (\$10) to decorate our sanctuary (which you may take home after worship on Christmas Eve), Lauren Feldman will be taking signups at coffee hour today.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE – ELDERS, DEACONS, AND TRUSTEES**

If you feel called to serve as an Elder, Deacon, or Trustee, or if you know of someone else who would be a good fit, please fill out the form inserted in your bulletin. There is a box downstairs in Fellowship Hall where you may submit your forms (or just put it in the offering plate). You can also fill out and submit a form on our website. If you have questions, please speak to Patrick or a member of the Nominating Committee: John Adams (Chair), Sue Chudy (Deacons), Gordon Wright (Trustees), Cammy Wagner, Steve Barnes, or Judy Mileto.

**CARRIAGE CLUB – DECEMBER 12 (NOON)**

Carriage Club will hold a Christmas luncheon on Monday, December 12 at Noon. Following a light lunch of salads and sandwiches, we will be treated to a program of Christmas music provided by Iris Blanco-Urgelles (piano), Cassia Harvey (cello), and Myanna Harvey (violin). Childcare will be available with seven days notice and all who have time for lunch are invited to join us. Reservations are greatly appreciated and may be made by contacting Virginia Holt.

**ST. JOHN'S CONCERT SERIES**

Our next monthly concert will be on **Sunday, December 18 from 5–6 PM**, featuring joyful songs of the Christmas season! These concerts are free and open to the whole community, so please bring a friend and join us for an evening of amazing music!

**COLLEGE STUDENT CHRISTMAS DINNER**

On Sunday, December 18 all of St. John's college students are invited to Patrick and Jen's house at 6 PM for pizza. It is 100% casual, and you don't need to bring a thing. It's a great time to catch up and reconnect with each other! Parents, please check with your college student to see if they are coming and let Patrick know (Patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com) so that we can be sure to have enough food.

### ADVENT CRAFT NIGHT – TODAY!

Join us for our annual Advent Craft Night **next Sunday from 4–6 PM** in Fellowship Hall. It will be a fun evening of food, crafts, and fellowship to celebrate the Advent season. This event is open to everyone – kids and adults – and you are welcome to bring a friend! If you have questions or would like to help plan the evening, please contact Jeff Ealer.

### CHURCH-WIDE CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On **Sunday, December 11 at 5 PM**, our entire church family is invited to bring holiday cheer to the neighborhood around St. John's. We will meet at the church and walk around the neighborhood, singing Christmas carols. Caroling books will be provided; please wear festive apparel. After caroling we will return to our church for light snacks and fellowship. All are welcome, but RSVPs are helpful. Please contact Debbie Ealer.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Sunday, December 4 – Advent Craft Festival (4 – 6 PM)

Come help the younger kids make crafts, eat some food, and hang out!

### Sunday, December 11 – Christmas Caroling (5 – 6:15 PM)

Help us spread some Christmas cheer as we walk around the neighborhood and sing Christmas carols.

### Friday, December 16 – STAR WARS!

We will be joining some other youth groups who have rented out a theater at UA King of Prussia for the premiere of the new Star Wars movie, *Rogue One*! We will meet at the theater at 6:30 PM, with the movie starting at 7 (ending around 9:30). Tickets are \$15. You can absolutely bring a friend, but **you have to let Patrick know as soon as possible if you want to go, because we only have a limited number of tickets!**

### Sunday, December 18 – Christmas Party (4 – 6 PM)

Meet in the Carriage House and food, games, and SANTA GROG!

### CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY WORSHIP SERVICES

We will gather for worship twice on Christmas Eve:

#### 4:00 PM – Family Service

Children Pre-K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to take part in the nativity story. No rehearsals are needed, just follow the signs to the Kean Room for a costume!

#### 8:00 PM – Candlelight Service

Candles will light our darkened sanctuary as a reminder that the Light of the World, Jesus Christ, has come.

We will also gather to worship at **9:30 AM on Christmas Day** with scripture readings, carols, and guest preacher Christie McConnell.

Come celebrate the birth of Christ with us!

### 2017 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2017 are located downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick them up at your convenience. If there is not one with your name on it, and you would like one, please call Ken Dilloway.

### ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

<b>Sun, Dec 4</b>	8:00 am	Deacons Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship, Sunday School, and Communion (Traditional)
	4:00 pm	Advent Craft Night
<b>Wed, Dec 7</b>	5:30 pm	Cherub Choir (until 6 pm)
<b>Sun, Dec 11</b>	8:00 am	Trustees Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	5:00 pm	Caroling around the neighborhood
<b>Mon, Dec 12</b>	12:00 pm	Carriage Club
	7:00 pm	Session Meeting
<b>Sun, Dec. 18</b>	9:30 am	Worship, Sunday School, and the Sacrament of Baptism
	4:00 pm	Youth Fellowship Christmas Party
	6:00 pm	College Student Christmas Dinner at Patrick & Jen's house
<b>Sat, Dec. 24</b>	4:00 pm	Worship (Family service)
	8:00 pm	Worship (Candlelight service)
<b>Sun, Dec. 25</b>	9:30 am	Worship (No Sunday School)

### A Reminder about Staff Days Off

Patrick is out of the office on Friday 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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Lara Kennedy, Church Administrator (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

From "Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem"  
by Dr. Maya Angelou

Into this climate of fear and apprehension, Christmas enters,  
Streaming lights of joy, ringing bells of hope  
And singing carols of forgiveness high up in the bright air.  
The world is encouraged to come away from rancor,  
Come the way of friendship.

In our joy, we think we hear a whisper.  
At first it is too soft. Then only half heard.  
We listen carefully as it gathers strength.  
We hear a sweetness.  
The word is Peace.  
It is loud now. It is louder.  
Louder than the explosion of bombs.

We tremble at the sound. We are thrilled by its presence.  
It is what we have hungered for.  
Not just the absence of war. But, true Peace.  
A harmony of spirit, a comfort of courtesies.  
Security for our beloveds and their beloveds.

We, Angels and Mortals, Believers and Non-Believers,  
Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.  
Peace. We look at our world and speak the word aloud.  
Peace. We look at each other, then into ourselves  
And we say without shyness or apology or hesitation

Peace, My Brother.  
Peace, My Sister.  
Peace, My Soul.

December 4, 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)