

St. John's at Worship Ascension of the Lord

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

Introit "Revive Us Again" *Mackay/Husband*

Scripture Reading Luke 24:46 – 53 (pg. 90)

*Call to Worship

Leader: On Easter we celebrated that Christ rose up from the earth, ascending from the grave into a glorious new life!

**People: Let us rise up with him,
our bodies and spirits ascending
into the newness of resurrection!**

Leader: Today we celebrate that Christ rose up from the earth, ascending into heaven where he reigns in glory forever!

**People: Let us rise up with him,
our hearts and voices ascending
into songs of praise!**

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed!
Let us worship God!**

*Hymn **154 (GREEN)** "God Has Gone Up with Shouts of Joy!"

*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

**As we watch Christ ascend from this world,
we realize just how bound we are to this world.**

**We are bound to our possessions,
our egos,
our prejudices,
our grudges,
and our addictions.**

**But you call us to deny ourselves, take up our cross,
and be bound to you.**

Set us free from all the other gods that try to claim our devotion.

**And when we fall back into old patterns of dependency upon them,
may we know your saving, healing grace, in Christ.**

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 Acts 1:1 – 14 (pg. 118) Patricia Marshall

Children's Time Rev. Marshall
*Pre-K – 12th grade may go to Sunday School after the children's time.
Sunday School ends at 10:45.*

Anthem ""

Scripture Reading 1 Peter 4:12 – 14, 5:6 – 11 (pg. 234)

Sermon THE VIEW FROM ABOVE Rev. Marshall
At the end of the sermon, we will have a moment of silent reflection and prayer.

*Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed
**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father, Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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

Offertory "Farther Along" *Sevens/Baxter*

*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 (If you need to sit for the prayer, please feel free.)

*Hymn **577, vss. 1, 2, 4** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

*Benediction

*Postlude "I'll Fly Away" *Brumley*

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music *Iris Blanco*
Greeter *Carol Netter*
Ushers *Alberto Urbina, Doug Moeller, Steve and Kelly Barnes*
Flowers *In loving memory of Bess and Chris Spahr, Virginia
and Bob Darling, Bob Darling and Kit Spahr*
Coffee Service *Carol and Jim Netter*
Joy Messengers *Nancy Kimmons, John Senior, Linda Duncan, Lisa Howell*

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, Carol Netter, 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!

A VERY SPECIAL "THANK YOU!"

We are so grateful to everyone who helped clear out the lower level last Sunday! A dedicated group of volunteers worked incredibly hard to get everything moved and organized in the Carriage House in just a few hours.

We also want to express our gratitude to everyone who has signed up for Horse Show Parking shifts. We absolutely could not do this without you, and you have come through in a tremendous way!

To all of you who so readily and abundantly give your time and energy to make the life and ministry of this church possible – Thank you!

LOWER LEVEL RENOVATION UPDATE

The renovation of the lower level began this past week as sinks, commodes, and appliances were removed. Asbestos remediation will begin on June 1, and construction will begin on/around June 15 (lasting until mid-to-late September). **The entire lower level is a construction zone and thus not available for passage or use of any kind.** Restrooms are available in the Carriage House. Nursery care and coffee fellowship have also been moved to the Carriage House for the duration of the summer.

LIVING OUR DUAL CITIZENSHIP (PART 2) – SUNDAY, JUNE 4

On April 30 Howard and Betsy Friend led the first of two gatherings on "living our dual citizenship" – citizens of the Kingdom of God and citizens of the nation. We named some principles about how our Kingdom citizenship might inform and shape our thinking about issues of our nation. Our conversation, across a broad range of political views, was wonderfully robust and respectful! Join us for part two in the sanctuary on June 4 at 11 AM.

CELEBRATING GRADUATES

On **Sunday, June 11**, we will be celebrating our graduates in worship. If someone in your family is receiving their high school, college, or post-graduate degree this spring (or if they *have* since last June), please email Lara (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com) the following information: Student's name, current school, degree, and school to be attended in the fall (if applicable).

WELCOMING OUR NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR

In two weeks we will be welcoming our new Associate Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries, the Rev. Ridgley Beckett Joyner! Ridgley and her husband Will will be moving to Pennsylvania in early June. Her first day in the office will be June 12, and her first Sunday with us will be June 18. And, yes, she *will* be going on the mission trip! Ridgley and Will appreciate the love and support that you have shown them so far, and value your prayers as they prepare to begin their life and ministry here with us!

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

There is still a spot available for one more high school or college-age student to go on this summer's mission trip to New Mexico. If you are interested, please contact Debbie Ealer as soon as possible. The cost of the trip is \$425. There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, June 4 after worship in the Carriage House for all adult leaders, youth, and parents of those attending. This meeting is very important, and we strongly encourage everyone to attend.

HORSE SHOW PARKING SIGNUPS – VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!

Our annual Horse Show Parking fundraiser kicked off this past Thursday and runs through June 3. We are parking cars daily, from 9 AM to 9 PM. **We still have shifts available and are in need of volunteers, especially tomorrow night from 6 – 9 PM**. Youth and adults are all encouraged to sign up...it's a great way to meet new friends and catch up with old ones! Any youth who are participating in the mission trip this year are required to sign up for 3 shifts. We ask that any youth who are not attending the trip sign up for 2 shifts. Each shift lasts 3 hours, and you can sign up online at www.stjohnsdevon.com (under "Quick Links").



**Vacation Bible School 2017:
Rome: Paul and the Underground Church!**

July 24 – 28, 9 AM to Noon

Children ages 4 – 10 are invited to discover God's Word through drama, games, crafts, and songs! Explore a crowded Roman marketplace, tiptoe past watchful Roman guards, race chariots, encourage first-century Christians who meet in a dark cave, and visit Paul for daily discoveries about God's love.

If you would like to help with crafts, games, or snacks, please contact Laurie Cato (llcato@yahoo.com).

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, May 28 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School
Mon, May 29 **Office closed in observance of Memorial Day**
Sun, June 4 9:30 am Worship, Sunday School, and Communion (Intinction)
11:00 am Mission Trip Meeting for Youth, Parents, and Adult Leaders (in Carriage House)

Patrick is out of the office on Fridays and Saturdays. Lara 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. If you have a pastoral emergency on a Saturday, you may call (610) 608-2568.



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Iris Blanco, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)
Lara Kennedy, Church Administrator (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

They waited for the gift that would make them witnesses to all the world,
and proclaim good news when the news is bad,
trust light when it's dark,
and even now, we, too, wait:

For a savior to be in our midst,
for the kingdom to come,
for our troubles to be healed by someone,
because God knows we can't seem to solve them all ourselves,
including all the troubles of the world
which mirror our own.

The evidence suggests that that savior packed up and left a long time ago.
And yet, on this day we celebrate his absence!
On this day we take a leap, because from that point on,
he was going to have to be present in a new way,
if he was to be present at all.

– Scott Barton

May 28, 2017
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandeonpa