

St. John's at Worship Christmas in June

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

Introit “Sing We Now of Christmas” *Shaw*

Scripture Readings Matthew 1:18 – 24 (pg. 1)
Luke 2:7 (pg. 58)

*Call to Worship

Leader: Today we celebrate the birth of Christ,
the coming of our savior, *God with us!*

**People: The true light, which enlightens everyone,
has come into the world!**

Leader: Arise! Shine! For your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

**People: The Lord will be our everlasting light,
and God will be our glory!
Come, let us adore him!**

*Hymn **234, vss. 1, 3, 6** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*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

**Living God, on this day we celebrate your coming among us,
but we confess that we live as if you had never come at all.**

**In Christ we have the assurance that you are with us,
but in our anxiety, we are quick to forget you,
acting as if we are on our own.**

**In our mad dash to “hold it all together” and “make it all work,”
we neglect the needs of our neighbors
and the suffering of the world.**

**In our pursuit of the perfect life,
we have lost sight of what life is truly meant to be.**

Forgive us for the ways that we dwell in darkness.

**May Christ be born anew in us today,
that we might live in the light of your presence,
and shine your light forth to others, in Jesus' name.**

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 9:2 – 7 (pg. 638) Sue Chudy

Children's Time Rev. Marshall
Pre-K through 12th grade may go to Sunday School at this time.

*Hymn **240** “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

Scripture Reading John 1:1 – 18 (pg. 91)

Sermon ILLUMINATION Rev. Marshall
At the end of the sermon, we will have a moment of silent reflection and prayer.

*Affirmation of Faith A Christmas Affirmation

**We believe that God has come to us as a little child,
making our weakness his strength,
securing our salvation by becoming one of us,
blessing us with a steadfast savior,
filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another.**

We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world,

**giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts,
making the cause of the oppressed the highest priority,
declaring an everlasting reign of peace,
defeating the power of pain and suffering.**

**We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love,
inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table,
transforming us as disciples to go out into the world,
sending us forth to announce his kingdom of peace and comfort,
challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children.**

This we believe.

This we preach.

This we seek to embody in word and deed.

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

Offertory “Carol of the Bells”

*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 **246** “Joy to the World”

*Benediction

*Postlude “Hallelujah Chorus” *Handel*

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music

Iris Blanco

Greeter

Virginia Holt

Ushers

Pat Churchill, Avery and Caroline Hillier

Flowers

*Given by Ken & Mary Dilloway in loving memory of
our parents, Sarah & Edsel Gillett and
Rose & Harold Dilloway*

Guest Musicians *Julia Petters and Jess Schury (flute)*

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 in the Carriage House immediately following worship. Our greeter, Virginia Holt, 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!

LOWER LEVEL RENOVATION UPDATE

Asbestos remediation has concluded, and construction will begin soon (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.

SUMMER COMMUNION

Due to renovations and the loss of kitchen/preparation space downstairs, the Session has voted to celebrate communion by intinction for the remainder of the summer. Join us on July 2, August 6, and September 3 as we share the Lord's Supper together!

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Today is the last day to turn in items for the school supply drive benefitting the Village. We are in need of: *marble composition books, 2-pocket folders, sharpened pencils, large pencil erasers, crayons (packs of 24), glue sticks, pencil cases, rulers, and large boxes of tissues.* If you have questions or would like more information, contact Christine Markle or Nancy Higgins.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

A group of 19 youth and adults left this morning to spend a week doing construction and community activities in the Navajo reservation of Crownpoint, New Mexico. Please join us in prayer for all those going on the trip to have a safe, transformative experience: **Cat Duncan, Christin Ealer, Jenni Ealer, Oliver Feldman, Darien Irizarry del Valle, Matt McClintick, Michelle Miles, Nik Pearson, Christine Scolari, Sophie Slater, Adam Thomson, Noah Thomson, Andrew Ward, Alex Zeh,** and adult leaders **Dave & Libby Dalrymple, Debbie Ealer, Ridgley Joyner,** and **Barbara McClintick.** To learn more about where they are going and what they are doing, please visit www.nextstepministries.com/crownpoint-new-mexico-2/

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

We will be hosting a blood drive for the Red Cross on **July 6th.** Every three seconds someone in the United States needs blood. That adds up to about 32,000 units of blood needed *every day.* Despite the size of the need, less than 4% of the population are currently active blood donors. Come out and donate on July 6th. A single donation can help save as many as three lives! Visit the Red Cross website to schedule an appointment ahead of time.



**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. Register online at our website (stjohnsdevon.com). If you can volunteer to help with crafts, games, or snacks, please contact Laurie Cato.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2017

We are pleased to announce the details for Summer Sunday School this year. The format will be the same as last year: Check-in (5 minutes), Devotion/Bible Study (10 minutes), Activity (20 minutes), Food/Closing prayer (10 minutes). We will also provide summer treats like ice cream, water ice, and popsicles. **Please let Jeff Ealer know if your child has any food allergies.** We are very much in need of teachers to support this program. Please consider teaching by contacting Jeff Ealer (any time you can give is so helpful), otherwise we will have to consolidate classes or cancel altogether. We look forward to an exciting summer season sharing God’s Word with our youth and children! The full summer schedule is as follows:

Date	Pre-k/1st	2nd-4th	5th/7th	8th-12th
6/25	Genesis- Creation	Genesis - Creation	Genesis- Creation	Genesis - Creation
7/2	David and Goliath	Fruits of the Spirit	Communion	
7/9	The Ten Commandments	Moses in Egypt	Prodigal Son	The Woman at the Well
7/16	John the Baptist	Psalm 23	Paul and Damascus	Unmerciful servant
7/23	Mary and Martha	Paul's Journeys	David and Jonathan	Beatitudes
7/30	Prodigal Son	Mary and Martha	Jesus Calms the Storm	Great Commission
8/6	Noah's Ark	Joseph	Communion	
8/13	Elijah	Transfiguration	Esther	Nicodemus
8/20	Parable of the Talents	Jesus walks on water	Sermon on the Mount	Jeremiah
8/27	Solomon	Prodigal Son	Job	Parable of the Wedding Feast
9/3	Psalm 23	Samuel and Eli	Communion	
9/10	Sunday School starts			

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, June 25 9:30 am Worship
Mon, June 26 10:00 am Sewing Group
Sat, July 1 9:45 pm Mission Trip returns
Sun, July 2 9:30 am Worship & Communion (Intinction)
Tues, July 4 **Office closed in observance of Independence Day**
Thurs, July 6 Noon – 4 Red Cross Blood Drive

Patrick and Ridgley are 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.

Please note:

- * **Lara will be on vacation this week Monday – Thursday**, but we will have volunteers answering the phone each day
- * **Ridgley will be on the mission trip all week**



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Rev. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
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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

God did not wait 'til the world was ready,
 'til nations were at peace.
 God came when the Heavens were unsteady
 and prisoners cried out for release.
 God did not wait for the perfect time.
 God came when the need was deep and great.
 God dined with sinners in all their grime,
 turned water into wine.
 God did not wait till hearts were pure.
 In joy God came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
 To a world like ours, of anguished shame,
 God came and God's Light would not go out.
 God came to a world which did not mesh;
 to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
 In the mystery of the Word made Flesh,
 the Maker of the stars was born.
 We cannot wait till the world is sane
 to raise our songs with joyful voice,
 For to share our grief, to touch our pain,
 God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

– Adapted from the poem “First Coming”
 by Madeleine L’Engle

June 25, 2017
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa