

St. John's at Worship Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Introit

*Call to Worship From Psalm 105

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call on God's name;
make known God's deeds among the peoples.

**People: Sing praises to the Lord
and tell of all God's wonderful works.**

Leader: Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**People: Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek God's presence continually.**

Leader: Remember the wonderful works that God has done,
and let us praise the Lord!

*Hymn 98, vss. 1, 3 "To God Be the Glory"

*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

**Gracious God, you call us to have no other gods before you,
but there are many other people and things that we worship.**

**We bow down at the altars of money and materialism,
pride and power,
status and security,
sports and celebrity;
any god that is more convenient, less demanding,
and instantly gratifying.**

**We do not always love you with all our heart,
and soul, and mind, and strength.**

And we do not always love our neighbors as ourselves.

Break the lure of all the other gods in our lives.

Call us back to you.

Remind us that we are forgiven and loved,

so that with thankful hearts

we might give ourselves wholly to you,

as you gave yourself wholly to us, in Jesus.

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 Genesis 29:15 – 28 (pg. 26) Jeff Estabrook

Children's Time Rev. Joyner
Pre-K through 12th grade may go to Sunday School after the children's time.

Anthem

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31 – 33, 44 – 52 (pg. 14)

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

*Affirmation of Faith A Modern Affirmation

**We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,
whose mercy is over all His works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.
Amen.**

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

Offertory

*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 339 (INSERT) "Be Thou My Vision"

*Benediction

*Postlude

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music Iris Blanco-Urgelles

Greeter Jim Netter

Ushers Ellen Moeller and Brian Bouvier

Flowers Given by Linda Corish in memory of Bob Risk.
*Always in my heart and greatly missed. I know you
are in heaven bringing laughter to all those there.*

Refreshments Marianne McClennen

Guest Musicians Miyuki Hashimoto and Jeff Estabrook

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, Jim 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!

LOWER LEVEL RENOVATION UPDATE

Construction began this past week and is still scheduled to be completed by the end of 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 (come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup of juice) for the remainder of the summer. We celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month (August 6 and September 3). St. John's communion is not just for members or Presbyterians. Anyone who places their faith in Jesus Christ and seeks his nourishment is encouraged to share this meal with us!

CHURCH-WIDE GLEANING TRIP (WEDNESDAY, 5–7:30 PM)

Gleaning is the biblical act of collecting leftover crops from farmers' fields after they have been harvested and giving them to those in need. Please join us this Wednesday for our third annual trip to Pete's Produce Farm (1225 East Street Road, West Chester) as we gather fruit and vegetables to benefit the Chester County Food Bank. Anyone age 12 and up is welcome to participate. Please RSVP to Susan Starke.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017:
THANK YOU!

We had a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School this past week, welcoming about 20 children each day. They sang songs, played games, ate delicious snacks, made crafts, and learned Bible stories. They pretended to be Christians in first century Rome and learned that God's love is a gift, God's love claims us, God's love changes us, God's love is always there, and God's love is worth sharing.

We could not have done this without the hard work of our dedicated volunteers: **Ellen Moeller** and **Kelly Barnes** (snacks); **Will Joyner** and **Nik Pearson** (games); **Linda Duncan**, **Marianne McClennen**, **Kathy Johnson**, **Sue Parsons**, and **Monika Henkel** (crafts); **Darien Irizarry**, **Yuyza Irizarry**, **Christin Ealer**, **Jenni Ealer**, **Cat Duncan**, **Sarah Duncan**, **Courtney Cato**, **Cammy Wagner**, and **Justine An** (team leaders), as well as **Lara Kennedy** (registration), **Ridgley Joyner** (Bible stories), and **Patrick Marshall** (songs). Thank you all *so much* for the time and energy you put into making this a fantastic week for the kids and helping them learn about God's love by *modeling* it to them!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are still looking for volunteers to help teach summer Sunday School. If you can give one or two Sunday mornings to help our children learn about God's love, please email Ellen Moeller. This year Summer Sunday school will have 3 classes: Kindergarten-4th, 5th-7th, and 8th-12th. Each Sunday will begin with prayer, devotion, and a Bible story, followed by a craft or outside activity. If you would like to help, the CE committee has teaching material you may use, or you can bring your own ideas!

WELCOMING RIDGLEY AND WILL

Ridgley and Will are looking for your recommendations to help them get to know the area better. If you have any suggestions for restaurants, activities, doctors, etc, please write them down and drop them off in the bin in Lara's office. In addition, we will be hosting a series of get-togethers over the next few months so that they can get to know their church family a little better. The first gathering will be a Summer Picnic at Kristen Loftus' home in Berwyn on **Thursday, August 3 from 5:30-7:30 PM**. The second get-together will be a Back-to-School Barbecue at Laurie Cato's home in Malvern on **Sunday, August 27 from 5-7 PM**. We will be limiting these first two get-togethers to 14-15 people, so that Ridgley and Will get a chance to talk to everyone. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Barbara McConnell to sign-up. If these first two dates don't work for you, there will be more events to come in the fall.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, July 30	9:30 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Called Session Meeting (Kean Room)
Wed, Aug 2	5:00 pm	Gleaning Trip
	7:30 pm	Stewardship Committee (Kean Room)
Sun, Aug 6	8:00 am	Trustees Meeting (Kean Room)
	9:30 am	Worship & Communion (Intinction)

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.

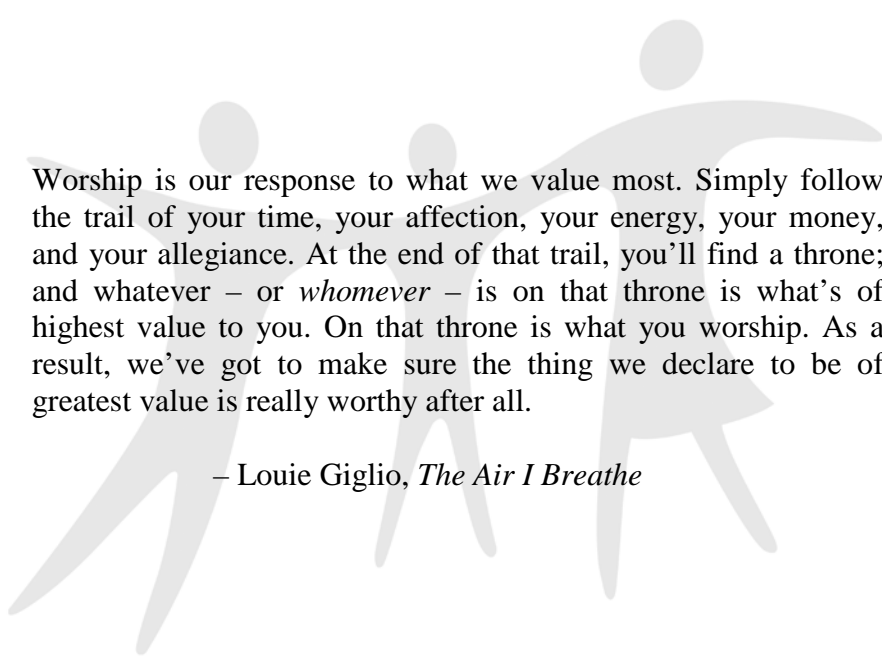


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Rev. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
Rev. Ridgley Beckett Joyner, Associate Pastor (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com)
Iris Blanco-Urgelles, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)
Lara Kennedy, Church Administrator (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH



Worship is our response to what we value most. Simply follow the trail of your time, your affection, your energy, your money, and your allegiance. At the end of that trail, you'll find a throne; and whatever – or *whomever* – is on that throne is what's of highest value to you. On that throne is what you worship. As a result, we've got to make sure the thing we declare to be of greatest value is really worthy after all.

– Louie Giglio, *The Air I Breathe*

July 30, 2017
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
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