

**St. John's at Worship  
Third Sunday of Advent**

Prelude "Sleep My Child" *Ryan*

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

Introit "Glory to the Newborn King" *Edwards*

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle Andy & Lee Walsh

\*Hymn 211, vss. 1, 6, 7 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

\*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 from 1 Corinthians 13

**Love is patient;  
we often are *not*.  
Love is kind;  
we often are *not*.  
Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude;  
we sometimes *are*.  
Love does not insist on its own way;  
we sometimes *do*.  
Love is not irritable or resentful;  
we sometimes *are*.  
Love does not rejoice in wrongdoing;  
we sometimes *do*.  
Love bears all things, believes all things,  
hopes all things, and endures all things;  
we are not always so faithful.  
Love never ends.  
May it be so with *your* love for *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 2 Samuel 7:1 – 11, 16 (pg. 281) Andy & Lee Walsh

Children's Time Rev. Joyner  
*At this time Pre-K – 12<sup>th</sup> grade leave for Sunday School until 10:45.*

Anthem "Born a Mighty King" *McDonald*

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26 – 38 (Pg. 56)

Sermon A LABOR OF LOVE Rev. Marshall  
*At the end of the sermon, we will have a moment of silent reflection and prayer.*

\*Affirmation of Faith

**Love is from God.**

**Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.**

**God's love was revealed among us in this way:**

**God sent his only son into the world**

**so that we might live through him.**

**In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us**

**and sent his son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

**Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.**

**No one has ever *seen* God;**

**if we love one another, God lives in us,**

**and his love is perfected in us.**

**We have seen and do testify**

**that the Father sent his Son as the savior of the world.**

**So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.**

**God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God,**

**and God abides in them.**

from 1 John 4

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

Offertory "All is Well" *Hayes*

\*Doxology

**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 213, vss. 1 – 3 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response "Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord" *Hopson*

\*Postlude

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

**Director of Music** *Iris Blanco-Urgelles*

**Ushers** *Carla Chieffo, Jose Irizarry & Mildred Del Valle,*

*Darien Irizarry*

**Greeter** *Carol Netter*

**Refreshments** *Lee & Andy Walsh*

**Devon Chapel Bells** *Susan Bain, Marilyn Benton, Christina Fish,*

*Sue Hardin, SueBeth Johnson, Jim Tiede, and special*

*thanks to Sarah Stauffer from St. Matthew's Methodist*

*Church for ringing with us today*

**Rejoicing Ringers** *Brigitte Belzer, Cat Duncan, Sarah Duncan,*

*Connor Feldman, Oliver Feldman, Nathan Geiger,*

*Sarah Geiger, Andrew Ward*

**Guest Musicians** *Heather McConnell*

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, 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!

ANGEL TREE

Thank you to everyone who sponsored an Angel and brought their gifts back last week! After worship today we will be delivering gifts to Prison Ministry Families in Chester. Lunch will be provided for those who are helping make deliveries. On Wednesday we will be delivering gifts to Sherwood (leaving from St. John's between 12:30 – 1:00 PM) and hosting a Christmas party for the children there.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ON DECEMBER 24 & 31

Next week's Sunday School classes will be combined for the holiday. Classes PreK–1<sup>st</sup> grade and 2<sup>nd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> grade will meet together in the fellowship hall to celebrate the birthday of Jesus with a Christmas story, craft, and cake! 5<sup>th</sup>–7<sup>th</sup> grade have the choice to assist or join the High School Sunday School Class in the Carriage House. This arrangement will be the same on Sunday, December 31 to prepare for Epiphany!



POINSETTIAS GIVEN BY:

*John & Barbara Alexander*

*Mark & Elizabeth Ator*

*Bob & Sue Chudy*

*Steve & Kim Collett*

*Ken & Nancy Coradi*

*Nancy Davis*

*Ken & Mary Dilloway*

*Kermit & Earline Eck*

*The Estabrook Family*

*The Feldman Family*

*Nancy Fielden Family*

*Tom & Nancy Higgins*

*Lee & Virginia Holt*

*Nancy Kimmons & John Senior*

*The Loftus Family*

*Linda Corish in loving memory of Bob Risk*

*Sandy Foster in loving memory of David Lawton*

*The Zomber Family in memory of Effie Mae Clarida*

*The Zomber Family in memory of Edward Fry, II*

*The Zomber Family in memory of Everette & Grace Fry*

*Chuck & Jeanne Lynam*

*David & Christine Markle*

*Skip & Marianne McClennen*

*Lee & Barbara McConnell*

*Chris & Judy Miletto*

*Jim & Carol Netter*

*The Oliver Family*

*Harold & Annie Powell*

*Scott & Carolyn Repke*

*Ann Roberts & Frank Lewandowski*

*Pam Schafer*

*Lee & Andy Walsh*

*Mark & Liz Ward*

*Gordon & Mimi Wright*

ST. JOHN'S CONCERT SERIES – TONIGHT!

Our next monthly concert, *Sounds of the Christmas Season*, will be **tonight, from 5–6 PM!** These concerts are free of charge and open to the community. Each month's concert will focus on a different theme, style of music, or composer, along with different instruments and vocalists. Please bring a friend and join us for an evening of amazing music!

COLLEGE STUDENT CHRISTMAS DINNER – TONIGHT!

All of St. John's college students are invited to Patrick and Jen's house tonight at **6:30 PM** for pizza. It is 100% casual, and you don't need to bring a thing. It's a great time to catch up, reconnect with each other, and get to know Ridgley and Will! 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.



Follow us on Instagram! @StJohnsDevonYouth  
Join our group text! Text "@Sjpcyouth" to 81010  
Subscribe to our Newsletter! Email rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com

January 7 Youth Group Winter Kick-Off (includes 5<sup>th</sup> graders)  
Join us at Arnold's Family Fun Center for pizza, go karts, arcade games, and laser tag. The cost is \$15 a person. Invite your friends! Please let Ridgley know you will be coming by Friday, January 5.

Save the Date: February 17 – Youth Ski Trip!  
Sign up by February 1

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

We offer several different ways for you to celebrate the birth of Christ:

**Wednesday, December 20 (7 PM) – Blue Christmas**

For many people Christmas can be a difficult time of year. Those who are struggling, have lost loved ones, or have bad associations with Christmas can often feel lonely or depressed while everyone else seems to be celebrating. If you find yourself struggling this Christmas season, join us for this service as we come to God seeking light in the midst of darkness.

**Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

**9:30 AM – Morning Worship & Christmas Cantata**

Join us for a morning of music, as the choir shares an arrangement of songs, interspersed with readings, to help us prepare for the coming of Christ.

**4:00 PM – Family Service**

Children in 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.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2018 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.

YEAR-END GIFTS

Year-end gifts will be credited in the 2017 tax year if they are received in the church office by Friday, Dec. 29, or postmarked by Dec. 31. Some members and friends of St. John's donate shares of stock or mutual funds at the end of the year. If you are interested in this option, we use Vanguard to process these transactions. Please ask your broker to use DTC number 0062; our account number is 6142 8971. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Bouvier.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

<b>Sun, Dec 17</b>	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	11:00 am	Youth mission trip meeting
	5:00 pm	Christmas Concert in Sanctuary
	6:30 pm	College Student Christmas Dinner at Patrick & Jen's house
<b>Wed, Dec 20</b>	7:00 pm	Blue Christmas service (Sanctuary)
<b>Fri, Dec 22</b>	10 am - 3 pm	Red Cross Blood Drive
<b>Sun, Dec 24</b>	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
		Christmas Cantata
	4:00 pm	Family Service
	8:00 pm	Candlelight Service

**Please note that the church office will be closed the week after Christmas.**

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 after hours or on a Saturday, you can call 610-764-6436.**

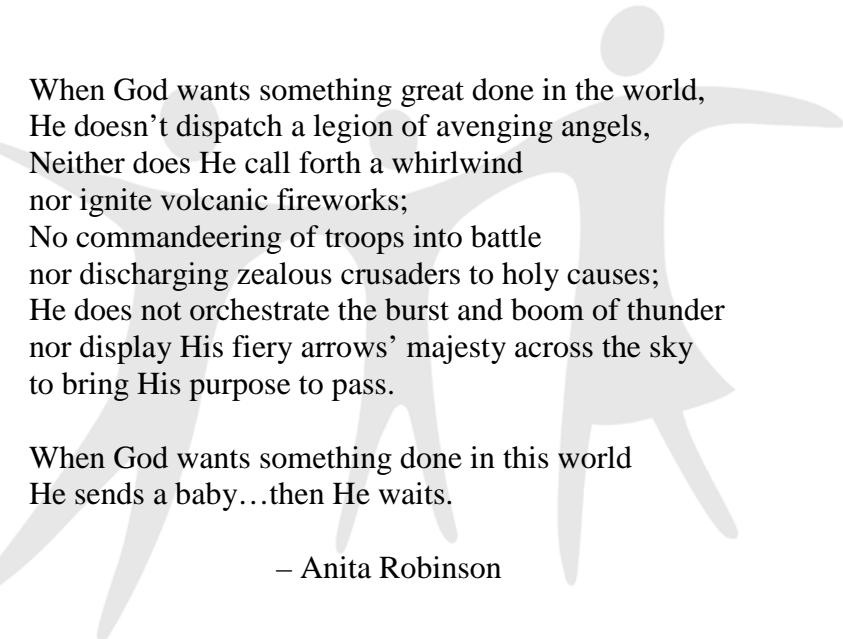


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Rev. Ridgley Beckett Joyner, Associate Pastor (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com)  
Iris Blanco-Urgelles, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)  
Lara Kennedy, Church Administrator (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH



When God wants something great done in the world,  
He doesn't dispatch a legion of avenging angels,  
Neither does He call forth a whirlwind  
nor ignite volcanic fireworks;  
No commandeering of troops into battle  
nor discharging zealous crusaders to holy causes;  
He does not orchestrate the burst and boom of thunder  
nor display His fiery arrows' majesty across the sky  
to bring His purpose to pass.

When God wants something done in this world  
He sends a baby...then He waits.

– Anita Robinson

**December 17, 2017**  
**For the latest information and news about St. John's:**  
**www.stjohnsdevon.com**  
**facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa**