St. John's at Worship Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements (please pass the fellowship roll)

*Call to Worship Psalm 146

Leader: Praise the Lord, O my soul!

People: I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to God all my life long.

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to the earth;

on that very day, their plans perish.

People: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the Lord their God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

who keeps faith forever;

who executes justice for the oppressed;

who gives food to the hungry.

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

the Lord loves the righteous.

People: The Lord watches over the strangers

and upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked, God brings to ruin.

Leader: The Lord will reign forever,

your God, O Zion, for all generations.

People: Praise the Lord! Children: Let us worship God!

*Hymn **64** "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

*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

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for the ways that we fail to have mercy.

Forgive us for the ways that we fail to forgive.

Love us, despite the ways that we fail to love.

Heal the wounds in the world and our lives that open us to sin, and extend to us, we pray, the grace that we fail to extend to others.

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 James 2:1 – 17 (pg. 229) Jeff Estabrook

Welcoming New Members and Reaffirming the Baptismal Covenant

Joe & Nancy Arico Mike & Judy Simmons Wanda Odom Ben & Lauren Tiede

As a part of reaffirming the baptismal covenant, we will profess our faith together using the 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.

As Pre-K–12th grade leaves for Sunday School, we send them with this liturgy:

astor: Now we go our separate ways to worship and learn about God.

Cong: May God be with you there! Children: May God be with you here!

Anthem

Scripture Reading

Mark 7:24 – 37 (pg. 42)

Sermon FAVORED Rev. Marshall

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 **263** (**GREEN**), **vss. 1, 2, 4** "Open Our Eyes"

*Benediction

*Postlude

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music Iris Blanco-Urgelles **Greeter** Jennifer Roberts

Ushers Tom & Nancy Higgins, Nancy & Joe Arico

Flowers Earline & Kermit Eck dedicate the flowers this morning

in loving memory of Earl & Donna Hensley and Stanley Eck. The roses celebrate the promise and hope of new beginnings, as we prepare to celebrate the wedding of our son Tyler to Sandy Shore, next Saturday at St. John's.

Refreshments Earline Eck

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 in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. Our greeter, Jennifer Roberts, 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!

CHOIR REHEARSALS – THURSDAYS AT 7:45 PM

If you like to sing, we would love for you to share your gifts with the church as a part of our choir. You do not have to be a "professional," just someone who can make a joyful noise to the Lord! Join us in the sanctuary on Thursdays from 7:45–9 PM. They just started back this past week, so it's a perfect time for new people to come, and you can check it out without committing to anything. Feel free to contact Iris (ipianistica@yahoo.com) with any questions.

ST. JOHN'S CONCERT SERIES – SEPTEMBER 30 (5 PM)

The St. John's Concert Series returns on **Sunday, September 30 at 5 PM** (**please note the change in time for this month only**). This month's theme is "Where Pop Meets Jazz." From Gershwin to Glenn Miller to Van Morrison and the music of *LaLa Land*, this concert brings to life the glamour and jazzy rhythms of some of the most beautiful pop music of the past decades. These concerts are free of charge and open to the community. Each month's concert focuses 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!

MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Outreach Committee would like to invite you to participate in two upcoming mission trips:

Houston, TX (October 28 – November 3). This is the fourth trip in partnership with area churches (and the first trip in partnership with the Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders) to repair homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey. The **cost is airfare plus a \$100 registration fee**.

Costa Rica (February 16–23, 2019). This trip is in partnership with Wayne United Methodist. It is their seventh trip working with Costa Rica Mission Projects, building and repairing churches and community buildings in Costa Rica. The estimated cost is \$1,800.

St. John's will contribute \$400 towards the cost of each St. John's participant in both trips. Neither trip requires construction skills, as there are knowledgeable people to guide you. For more information, please take one of the handouts on the table below the Outreach bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Contact Christine Markle with any questions.

ST. JOHN'S FALL FESTIVAL - TODAY (5-7 PM)

We will kick off the program year with our annual Fall Festival this evening from 5–7 PM! There will be good food, live music by the Joy Messengers Big Band, and games for the kids. It's a chance for everyone to come back together after the summer for fellowship, food, and fun! St. John's will provide burgers, hotdogs, drinks, and ice cream. Once again, we are asking for your help with sides and desserts. If your last name begins with a letter A–M, please sign up to bring a side (potato/pasta salad, baked beans, chips, coleslaw). If N–Z, please sign up to bring a dessert (cake, pie, cookies). Admission is \$5 per person, no more than \$15 for a family (guests are free!). Volunteers are needed to help with this event. We also need to borrow a few card tables; let us know if you can lend one. You can sign up with Susanne Engheta after worship.

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS TODAY!

Sunday School begins on September 9, and we will be commissioning our teachers in worship! Please hold our teachers, children, and youth in prayer as they prepare for the Fall!

SUNDAY SCHOOL/YOUTH GROUP REGISTRATION

You can register your children for the 2018/19 Sunday School/Youth Group program year via the link on our website. There is important information in there that needs to be filled out even for those who are already participants in the youth and children's ministry at St. John's. Please register by September 5!

SUMMER SHARING SUPPER – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 (5:00 PM) *Please note the change in date

Our Senior High Youth Group went on two trips this summer: a mission trip to Brooklyn, NY and a youth conference in Montreat, NC. The whole church is invited to join us for dinner as we share photos, memories, and reflections from the places God led us this summer!

ALL-CHURCH APPLE PICKING - SAVE THE DATE!

Join us on Sunday, October 14 (time t.b.d.) at Linvilla Orchards for a fun-filled time of apple picking! Kids, parents, grandparents...everyone is welcome to join us! Talk to Ridgley for more details.



Today – Fall Festival (5–7 PM)

Join our church family for food and games at the annual Fall Festival!

September 16 – No Youth Fellowship

September 23 – All-Church Spaghetti Supper (5 PM)

Youth should arrive at 4 PM, as they are the hosts of the program!

September 30 – Youth Fellowship Kick Off!

All youth will meet from 4–6 PM for fun and games to kick off the year!

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Sept 9	8:00 am 8:00 am 9:30 am	Deacons Meeting (Carr. House) Trustees Meeting (Kean Room) Worship & Sunday School Welcoming New Members
	11:00 am 5:00 pm	ME Meeting (Kean Room) Fall Festival
Mon, Sept 10	7:00 pm	Stated Session Meeting (Kean)
Wed, Sept 12	9:00 am	Prayer Group (Kean Room)
	6:00 pm	Supper at St. John's (Fell. Hall)
Fri, Sept 14	5:30 pm	Shore/Eck Wedding Rehearsal
Sat, Sept 15	3:30 pm	Shore/Eck Wedding

Ridgley is out of the office this week at a denominational pastor's retreat. She will be back on Wednesday, September 19.

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. If you have a pastoral emergency after hours or on a Saturday, you can call 484-604-0499.



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A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

Prayer for the Week

Great and glorious God,
we are recipients of your abundant grace,
your favor and blessing poured out upon all creation.
We who once were far away from you
have been brought near through Jesus Christ.
In gratitude, help us to reach out to others who are far away.
Open our eyes and ears,
our hearts and minds,
to those who are in need.
Let us bless others, not just with our words,
but with our *actions*,
so that all we do is a reflection
of our living faith in Jesus Christ.