

St. John’s at Worship
Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude “Advent Meditation” Douglas E. Wagner

Welcome and Announcements (please pass the fellowship roll)

Introit “Advent Hope” Derek K. Hakes

Call to Worship
Pastor: In this season of watching and waiting and longing for you to come, as the days draw shorter and darkness surrounds us, we are seeking light. In our lives...
People: We seek your light.
Pastor: In our families...
People: We seek your light.
Pastor: In our community...
People: We seek your light.
Pastor: In our nation...
People: We seek your light.
Pastor: In our world...
People: We seek your light.

Lighting the Third Advent Candle

*Hymn 211, vss. 1, 6, 7 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

*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 and kind.
We often are not.
Love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude;
it is not irritable or resentful.
We often are.
Love does not insist on its own way or rejoice in wrongdoing.
We often 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, Lord, 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 Luke 1:26 – 38 (pg. 56) Linda Duncan

Welcoming New Members and Reaffirming the Baptismal Covenant
Peggy Billian Lynne Hay Steven & Ashlee Oliver

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.

Blessing of Departing Members David & Christine Markle

As Pre-K through 12th graders leave for Sunday School,
we send them with this liturgy:
Pastor: 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 “Bethlehem, O Bethlehem” Larson

Scripture Reading 1 John 4:7 – 21 (pg. 241)

Sermon LIVING IN LOVE Rev. Marshall

Offering (Ushers will also collect blue prayer request cards at the time of the offering.)
Offertory “In the Bleak Midwinter” arr. Holst
*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

*Hymn 213, vss. 1–3 “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

*Benediction

*Choral Response “Come, Light of God”

*Postlude “In Dulci Jubilo” arr. Quigley

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music Iris Blanco-Urgelles
Greeters Lyn Strickler
Ushers Carla Chieffo, Richard & Claire Hangen, Carolyn Repke
Coffee Service Mimi Wright
Guest Musicians Mark Ator (French horn), Cassia Harvey (Cello), Myanna Harvey (violin), Frank Mercurio (trumpet), Jess Schury (flute), Kevin Walker (Percussion)
Rejoicing Ringers Garrick Bellew, Rowan Bellew, Courtney Cato, Ryan Crill, Cat Duncan, Sarah Duncan, Sarah Geiger, Avery Hillier
Devon Chapel Bells Susan Bain, Sue Chudy, Christina Fish, Sue Hardin, Susan Starke, Elizabeth Unger, Kathy Ninness (from St. Matthew’s Methodist Church)

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 following worship. Our greeter, Lyn Strickler, 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!

ST. JOHN’S CONCERT SERIES – TODAY!
Our next monthly concert will be **today from 5–6 PM**, featuring the *Sounds of the Season*. These concerts are free of charge and open to the community. Please bring a friend and join us for an evening of amazing Christmas music!

THANK YOU FROM T&E CARES
“T&E Cares would like to thank St. John’s for hosting our holiday drive in the Carriage House again this year. With your help and the support of our community, we provided gifts and household supplies to 115 local families. We are so grateful for your partnership in this effort!”

DEACONS COAT DRIVE
We are collecting new or gently-used winter coats for adults (all sizes) and children (12m through size 14) connected to Sherwood Christian Outreach Center in Philadelphia. New and used mittens, gloves, and scarves are also accepted. All donations can be dropped off in the front closet of the Carriage House. Monetary donations are also appreciated and will help purchase new coats. Please contact Amy Lord if you have any questions.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS
If you would like to sign up to sponsor flowers in 2020, please contact Jeanne Lynam. Cowan’s Flowers creates the bouquets and bills the sponsor directly at a cost of \$48. You may take the flowers home or donate them to one of our homebound or hospitalized members.

UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Next **Sunday, December 22**, kids in PreK–4th grade will have a birthday party for Jesus during Sunday School! They will go to the Fellowship Hall for a lesson, craft, and cake (there will also be cake for the congregation after worship). Middle Schoolers (5–7th) will have class in the Carriage House, and High Schoolers (8–12th) are invited to either stay in worship for the cantata or come downstairs to help with the party. On **Sunday, December 29**, we will have a Christmas family worship service, where we will all stay in worship together to sing Christmas carols as one big church family!



If you are not already receiving Ridgley’s weekly emails for youth and families, email her at rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com.

RIDGLEY’S OFFICE HOURS

Ridgley is still holding office hours **Tuesdays from 10:30–1:30 at Terrain** (138 Lancaster Ave, in Devon Yard). Everyone is welcome to drop in! If you would like to set up a specific time to meet with her, or if you’d just like to get in touch, please call (864-417-8566) or email.

SAVE THE DATE: STAR WARS (FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20)

We will be joining other youth groups from around the area at the Regal Cinemas in Oaks to watch the new Star Wars movie! Tickets are \$10 each (and that includes popcorn). Email Ridgley today to buy your ticket today...there are only 4 left!

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

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

Wednesday, December 18 – Blue Christmas (7 PM)

For many people this 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 22 – Choir Cantata (9:30 AM)

Join us at 9:30 AM 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.

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 PM – Family Service

Children in Pre-K–5th 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. There will be a special musical prelude beginning at 7:30, so come early to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

OFFERING ENVELOPES AND YEAR-END GIFTS

Offering envelopes for 2020 are now available in Fellowship Hall. Year-end gifts will be credited in the 2019 tax year if they are received in the church office (or postmarked) by Tuesday, December 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

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| Sun, Dec 15 | Third Sunday of Advent |
| | 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School |
| | 11:00 am Nominating Committee (Kean) |
| | 5:00 pm Monthly Concert (Sanctuary) |
| Wed, Dec 18 | 9:00 am Prayer Group (Kean Room) |
| | 7:00 pm Blue Christmas Service |
| Thurs, Dec 19 | 6:30 pm Adult Handbell Rehearsal |
| | 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal |
| Sun, Dec 22 | Fourth Sunday of Advent |
| | 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School |
| | Choir Cantata |
| Tues, Dec 24 | Christmas Eve |
| | 4:00 pm Family Worship & Children’s Nativity Program |
| | 8:00 pm Candlelight Worship |
| Wed, Dec 25 | Christmas Day |

Patrick and Ridgley are off on Friday and Saturday. Lara is off 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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StJohnsDevon.com

Rev. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
Rev. Ridgley Beckett Joyner, Associate Pastor (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com)
Sue Chudy, Clerk of Session (susan.chudy@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

Lord, we don’t need another mountain,
There are mountains and hillsides enough to climb.
There are oceans and rivers enough to cross,
Enough to last till the end of time.

What the world needs now is love, sweet love
It’s the only thing that there’s just too little of.
What the world needs now is love, sweet love,
No, not just for some, but for everyone.

– Jackie DeShannon, “What the World Needs Now”

December 15, 2019
For the latest information and news about St. John’s:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa