

St. John’s at Worship
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements (please pass the fellowship roll)

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 Fourth Advent Candle

*Hymn (INSERT), vss. 1–4 “The Candle of Hope”

Scripture Reading Luke 1:39 – 56 (pg. 57) Lisa Archbold

Welcoming New Members and Reaffirming the Baptismal Covenant
Barbara Beucler Dan & Jen Lortz

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 through 7th 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!

CHORAL CANTATA
“EVERLASTING LIGHT:
THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS”
Written and arranged by Lloyd Larson, Mary McDonald,
Jay Rouse, Larry Shackley
Orchestration by Michael Lawrence
Everlasting Light
Longing for the Light
My Soul Proclaims
Bethlehem, O Bethlehem
Shepherds and Angels
This Child of Light
This Is Christ the King
Everlasting Light (Finale)

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 & 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.

*Hymn 89, vss. 1, 3, 4 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

*Benediction

*Choral Response “Come, Light of God”

*Postlude “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD
Director of Music Iris Blanco-Urgelles
Greeters Amy Lord, Dick Oliver
Ushers Carla Chieffo, Steve & Lisa Archbold, Will Joyner
Coffee Service Wanda Odom
Guest Musicians Frank Mercurio (trumpet), Mark Ator (French horn),
Jess Schury (flute), Myanna Harvey (violin),
Alex Kilitzyn (viola), Cassia Harvey (cello),
Patty Turse (harp), Kevin Walker (percussion)

We would like to extend a special thanks to our incredible Director of Music,
Iris Blanco-Urgelles, and our wonderful choir for all of the time and hard
work that they have devoted to preparing today’s cantata:
Sopranos: Jill Burstein, Michelle Schulman, Miyuki Hashimoto,
Betsy Miller, Pam Schafer
Altos: Nancy Coradi, Nancy Kimmons, Tatyana Smolen
Tenors: Jeff Estabrook, Rich Scott, Patrick Bullock
Bass: John McClintick, Benjamin Greenfield

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 greeters, Amy Lord and Dick Oliver 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!

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING
Over the next few weeks, we are receiving the Christmas Joy Offering. For
more than 70 years, the Presbyterian Church has collected the Christmas Joy
Offering to support the unmet needs of families who have devoted their lives
to the mission of the PC(USA). This offering is shared equally by the
Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions (which provides critical
assistance to Presbyterian Church workers and their families) and
Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges (which enable
students to develop their gifts and find their calling). There are envelopes are
in the pew racks if you would like to give, and the offering will be dedicated
in January.

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.

THE BEAUTIFUL POINSETTIAS DECORATING
OUR SANCTUARY ARE GIVEN BY:
Kathy and Katie Johnson The Bellew Family
Gavin & Cindy Kerr Chuck & Jeanne Lynam
Ken & Nancy Coradi David & Christine Markle
Skip & Marianne McClennen Chris & Judy Mileto
Ken & Mary Dilloway Dick & Chris Oliver
John & Sharon Griffin The Loftus Family
Ann Roberts & Frank Lewandowski Mary K. DaRin
Tom & Nancy Higgins Gordon & Mimi Wright
Nancy Kimmons & John Senior Jim & Sue Tiede
Linda Corish, in memory of Bob Risk Pam Schafer
Rachel & Brian Binkley Kelly & Steve Barnes
Steve & Lisa Archbold Don & Sarah Marvin

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES

Join us this Tuesday as we celebrate the birth of Christ:

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 feel free to come early to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Today – Birthday Party for Jesus

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.

Sunday, December 29 – Family Worship

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!

COLLEGE STUDENT CHRISTMAS PARTY – TONIGHT (5 PM)

All college-age students are invited to come to the Feldman home tonight from 5–7 PM. It is 100% casual, and you don't need to bring a thing. It's a great time to catch up and reconnect with each other!



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.

Upcoming Youth Events

Sunday, January 5 – Youth Group Winter Kick-Off (4–5:30 PM)

Friday, January 10 – PJ & Movie Night (5:30–7:30 PM, 4th grade and under)

Sunday, January 12 – Youth Group (4–5:30 PM)

Sunday, January 19 – No Youth Group

Monday, January 20 – MLK Day of Service (5th–12th grade)

OFFERING ENVELOPES AND YEAR-END GIFTS

Offering envelopes for 2020 are now available in Fellowship Hall. If there is not a set with your name on it, and you would like one, please contact Ken Dilloway (Dilloway1@aol.com).

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

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

Sun, Dec 29

9:30 am Family Worship – Service of
Lessons and Carols
No Sunday School

***Please note that the church office will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 through Friday, Dec. 27. It will reopen on Monday, Dec. 30, but will also be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 31 and Wednesday, Jan. 1.**

If you have a pastoral emergency when the office is closed or on a Saturday, you can call 484-604-0499.



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OFFICE 610.688.5222

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

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
That the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
That you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
And my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

– From the hymn, “Canticle of the Turning”

December 22, 2019
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandeonpa