NRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

We send Pre-K–12th graders to Sunday School with this liturgy:

**Director of Music**
Iris Blanco-Urgelles

**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**

**Scripture Reading** John 1:29 – 42 (pg. 92); Matthew 3:13 – 17 (pg. 3)

**Sermon**

*Choral Reflection* “Take, O Take Me as I Am”

*Affirmation of Faith* Adapted from the Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

*Unison Prayer of Confession*

Pastor: You sent the Baptist to point to your Son. But too often, we abandon his message and point only to ourselves. We point to our worship preferences rather than the God we worship. We point to our works rather than the grace that makes us all equal.

We point to our values rather than the One who has always valued everyone.

We point to our traditions rather than to the One who calls us to let go. We point to our past rather than to the One who calls us into the future.

Forgive us, Lord, for pointing in all the wrong directions.

Pastor: God of our baptismal hope, Forgive us when we do not wait patiently for your direction.

Forgive us when we are too patient with our misdirection. Hold our gaze on your baptismal promise, sealed in the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Through the power of your Spirit, give us the courage to speak what we have seen and point to the One who takes away the sins of the world.

In the name of your son, Jesus Christ, we pray.

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** Isaiah 49:1–7 (pg. 679) Jose Irizarry

**Children’s Time**

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**Sermon**

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*Affirmation of Faith* Adapted from the Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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MLK DAY OF SERVICE – TOMORROW
Tomorrow from 9 AM to 4 PM, the congregation is invited to be a part of our MLK Day of Service in Fellowship Hall. We will be making pillowcases with Ryan’s Case for Smiles for children who are hospitalized with chronic illness. We still need volunteers for pillowcase making (no experience needed), ironing, running the food/card making areas, set up, and clean up. If you can be a part of this event in any way, please contact Lauren Feldman.

IRAN DISCUSSION – WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22 (7 PM)
With all the news coming out of Iran lately and US relations with the country at its lowest point in decades, Nader Engheta will lead us in a discussion exploring some of the events that have brought us to this point. If you are seeking clarification on what is happening in Iran, or would simply like to take part in an open discussion, we would love for you to join us (This will take the place of our first week of Supper at St. John’s classes. The regularly scheduled classes will begin on January 29.)

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

RIDGELEY’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.

NEW YEAR UPDATES
Youth Fellowship will now gather from 4-5:30 PM, ages 5th–12th grade, unless otherwise specified in our advertisements. Additionally, Senior High Youth (8th–12th grade) will gather for Sunday School on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month to discuss the previous week’s sermon and scripture.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS
Today: Youth will not meet due to MLK Day of Service
January 26: Youth will meet in Ridgley’s office 4–5:30 PM

CONFIRMATION
On January 21, the Confirmation Class will gather at the home of Nancy Higgins from 6:30–7:30 PM. Don’t forget that our confirmation retreat is February 7–9! Details to come.

YOUTH AT SUPPER AT ST. JOHN’S
Starting Wednesday, January 22, youth are invited to join Ridgley in her office from 6–7 PM for a meal and Bible study during Supper at St. John’s.

SUMMER SHARING BRUNCH – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2
The congregation is invited to join the youth after worship for a pancake breakfast and update on this past summer’s events! This will be a chance to learn more about the work that the youth did on their recent mission trip to Puerto Rico and to see pictures from VBS. Summer events for 2020 will be announced at this event. The meal is free, but donations are welcome.

OFFICE WEATHER CLOSURES
As we head into the season of snow, just a reminder that inclement weather closures for the office will mirror T/E School District’s closing schedule.

St. John’s Calendar
Sun, Jan 19 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School
Mon, Jan 20 Office closed for MLK Day
Tues, Jan 21 9:00–4:00 MLK Day of Service (Fell. Hall)
Wed, Jan 22 7:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Thurs, Jan 23 10:00 am Women’s Bible Study
Sat, Jan 25 6:30 pm Adult Handbell Rehearsal
Sun, Jan 26 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School
10:30 am Annual Congregational Meeting

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

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.

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