

St. John's at Worship Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Introit "For the Mountains Shall Depart" *M. Head*

*Call to Worship From Vacation Bible School

Leader: God gives us hope!

People: "For I know the plans I have for you, to give you a future and hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)

Leader: God gives us special abilities!

People: "In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well." (Romans 12:6)

Leader: God gives us wisdom!

People: "If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you." (James 1:5)

Leader: God gives us forgiveness!

People: "You are a God of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." (Neh. 9:17)

Leader: God gives us a family!

People: "For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:26)

Leader: In gratitude for who God is and all that God does, let us worship God!

*Hymn (INSERT), vss. 1, 3, 4 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*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

We do not always practice what we preach.

We preach a God who created the world and called it good, and then we pollute and destroy that creation.

We preach a God who cares for the poor, and then we blame them for their circumstances.

We preach a God who feeds the hungry, and then we throw away enough food to save their lives.

We preach a God who forgives every sin, and then we judge one another and hold grudges.

We preach a God who loves unconditionally, and then we justify why they don't deserve it.

Forgive our hypocrisy – our failure to live what we believe – and bring our hearts and minds, our words and actions, into more perfect harmony, in Christ.

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 Acts 8:26 – 39 (p. 127) Jeff Estabrook

Children's Time Songs from Vacation Bible School Rev. Marshall

Blessing Our Mission Trip Participants

Anthem "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" *arr. M. Hogan*

Scripture Reading Acts 17:16 – 34 (p. 137)

Sermon JOINING TOGETHER Rev. Marshall
Summer Sermon Series: *Living Worship*

*Affirmation of Faith *From A Declaration of Faith (PCUSA)*

God sent his Son

**to proclaim release to those who are bound,
to announce that God's promised kingdom is at hand,
to urge everyone to repent and believe the good news.**

**We believe that God sends us to tell all nations
that Christ calls everyone to repentance, faith, and obedience.**

**We are to proclaim by word and deed
that Christ gave himself to set people free
from sin and self-hatred,
from ignorance and disease,
from all forms of oppression,
and even from death.**

**We are to offer them in Christ's name
fullness of life now and forever.**

**We must not distort the gospel
by weakening its promises or demands,
by identifying it with oppressive structures,
by pointing to ourselves instead of Christ.**

**We must not restrict our proclamation
to persons just like ourselves.**

**We invite people everywhere
to believe in Christ and become his followers.**

**We urge them to join us in telling others the good news
and in struggling for justice, compassion, and peace.**

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

Offertory "Acquaint Now Thyself with Him" *M. Head*

*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 (INSERT), vss. 1, 3, 5, 6 "Take My Life"

*Benediction

*Postlude

*All who are able, please stand

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music *Iris Blanco-Urgelles*

Greeter *Debbie Ealer*

Ushers *Laurie and Courtney Cato*

Coffee Service *Marianne McCledden*

Flowers *Given by Irene A. McElreavy in loving memory of my parents William J. and Irene G. McElreavy.*

Guest Musician *Daniel Lickteig (Dramatic Baritone)*

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 immediately following worship. Our greeter 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!

EXPLORE YOUR FAITH – ALPHA TO OMEGA

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith that will be the focus of Supper at St. John's this fall. Alpha is built around three ideas: food, lecture, and discussion. Energize your faith! Attended Alpha previously? This is a new, updated program that will build on your previous experience!

CHURCH-WIDE GLEANING TRIP!

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3 (5:15-7:30)

Gleaning is the act of collecting leftover crops from fields after they have been commercially harvested. In Leviticus 23:22, God told the farmers "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor." Please come join us for a trip to Pete's Produce Farm to benefit the Chester County Food Bank. Anyone age 8 and up is welcome to participate. Please RSVP by July 28 to Debbie Ealer.

SUMMER BOOK STUDY

There has been so much racial tension in our country lately. How can we, as Christians, engage these struggles and respond in ways that are faithful and loving? In the month of August, Patrick will be leading a four-week study of the book *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism* by Drew Hart (Professor of Theology at Messiah College). We will meet after worship (11 AM) in the Carriage House each Sunday in August. You can purchase the book at Amazon.com and many bookstores.

ST. JOHN'S & KARITAS - MISSION IN LA ESTACION

La Estacion ("The Station," site of a defunct railroad depot) is an immense squatters' settlement in the center of Cuernavaca, Mexico. Through the coordination of Erik Friend, St. John's generous annual support has been a vital part of maintaining and expanding the Karitas mission. Their programs in Cuernavaca include a pre-school for 150 children, a daily breakfast program, a community center with programs *for* or offered *by* the community, and a micro-economic development program that has birthed over ten "cottage industry" small businesses. Erik is with us this morning, and would love to tell you more in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – THANK YOU!

We would like to thank everyone who gave of their time and energy to make Vacation Bible School so much fun this past week: **Kelly Barnes, Courtney Cato, Sue Choi, Linda Duncan, Andrew Ealer, Christin Ealer, Jenni Ealer, Nancy Higgins, Shirley Hughes, Kathy Johnson, Connor Loftus, Matthew Loftus, Ellen Moeller, Carol Netter, Sue Parsons, Nancy Phillips, Max Silverman, Clara Suski, Adam Thomson, Noah Thomson, Cammie Wagner, and Emily Wilson.** And a very special thank you to **Marianne McClennen**, who so willingly took the initiative to organize the whole week. We had around 30 kids each day, ranging in age from 4 – 10. We absolutely could not have done this without the hard work of our devoted volunteers. You all are what makes this church so great...THANK YOU!

HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP LEAVES TODAY!

We have a group of 13 youth and 4 adult leaders traveling to Vienna, Virginia to work with *Week of Hope*. They will be working with a local nursing home, rescue mission, family services organization, community center, family shelter, and kid’s camp. They leave at Noon today and will return around Noon on Friday. We will be blessing them this morning in worship, and ask that you please hold them in prayer throughout this week: **Brigitte Belzer, Jack Collett, Christin Ealer, Jenni Ealer, Connor Feldman, Oliver Feldman, Sean Haskins, Matt McClintick, Nik Pearson, Adam Thomson, Noah Thomson, Andrew Ward, Emily Wilson,** and our adult leaders **Ardath Belzer, Dave Dalrymple, Kristi Thomson, and Michael Whalen.**

TEACHERS NEEDED!

The Christian Education committee is looking for Sunday School teachers, both for our summer Sunday School program, and our traditional program beginning again in September. If you are interested, please let Jeff Ealer or Sam Hillier know. This is a great opportunity to connect with our kids and proclaim the Good News in their lives.

Summer Sunday School

This summer we are trying a new format that involves all grades from pre-K to Senior High. Each Sunday we will break down into age groups to have a Bible study where we will read Scripture and discuss what it means to us, followed by a group activity (like Bible baseball outside, games, or a service project), and then some sort of snack (like ice cream), and finish with a devotional. Jeff Ealer is leading this project, and needs help with teaching and running the activities. Please contact Jeff if you are interested in helping. Also, if your child has food allergies please let Jeff know (snacks will mostly be sherbet, ice cream, and maybe an occasional donut). Here is the schedule that is subject to change based on teacher availability:

Date	Pre-k/1st	2nd-4th	5th/7th	Senior High
7/24	Psalm 23	Moses		
7/31	Jonah	Psalm 23		
8/7	David and Goliath	Unmerciful servant	Communion	
8/14	The Good Samaritan	Servanthood		
8/21	Zaccheus	Joseph		
8/28	The Sower and the Seed	Job		
9/4	Prodigal Son	Sermon on the Mount	Communion	

(Bible study classes for 2nd-4th, 5th-7th and Senior High meet separately)

ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR

July 24 – 29 Senior High Mission Trip (Leaves at Noon)
Mon, July 25 10:00 am Baby Bundles Sewing Group
Sun, July 31 9:30 am Worship
Sun, Aug 7 9:30 am Worship and Communion (Intinction)

A Reminder about Staff Days Off

Patrick is 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. Thank you for understanding!



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 Lara Kennedy, Church Administrator (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

“I’d Rather See A Sermon”
 by Edgar A. Guest

I’d rather see a sermon
 than hear one any day;
 I’d rather one should walk with me
 than merely tell the way.
 The eye’s a better pupil
 and more willing than the ear,
 Fine counsel is confusing,
 but example’s always clear;
 And the best of all preachers
 are the ones who live their creeds,
 For to see good put in action
 is what everybody needs.
 I soon can learn to do it
 if you’ll let me see it done;
 I can watch your hands in action,
 but your tongue too fast may run.
 And the lecture you deliver
 may be very wise and true,
 But I’d rather get my lessons
 by observing what you do;
 For I might misunderstand you
 and the high advice you give,
 But there’s no misunderstanding
 how you act and how you live.

July 24, 2016
 For the latest information and news about St. John’s:
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