St. John's at Worship Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements (please pass the fellowship roll)

Introit "We Bow Down" Twila Paris

*Call to Worship (From one of the oldest existing Christian liturgies)

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Leader: Let us worship God!

*Hymn **139**, vss. **1**, **5** "Praise to the Lord, the 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

Merciful and loving God, as individuals and as your Church,

we confess to you our sin, which is often found in the discrepancy between what we *believe* and what we *do*;

between what our minds know and what our lives show.

We know that we are called to feed the hungry and care for the poor, and yet we do not always *do* it.

We know that we are called to speak out against injustice, and yet we do not always *do* it.

We know that we are called to forgive and seek forgiveness, and yet we do not always *do* it.

We know that we are called to love our neighbor as ourselves, and yet we do not always do it.

Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

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 Matthew 16:13 – 20 (p. 18) Sylvia Louise Ryland

Children's Time Rev. Marshall

Anthem "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" Hoffman & Showalter arr. by Joy Messengers

Scripture Reading John 11:1-5, 17-27 (p. 104)

Sermon

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH Rev. Marshall Summer Sermon Series: *Living Worship*

*Affirmation of Faith

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.

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

Offertory - Cat Duncan "Pie Jesu" Andrew Lloyd Webber

*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 547, vss. 1-3 "O Church of God, United"

*Benediction

*Postlude

*All who are able, please stand

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music Iris Blanco-Urgelles **Greeter** Virginia Holt

Ushers Rich Scott and Carla Chieffo

Coffee Service *Kathy Johnson*

Flowers In loving memory of our parents, Betsy & J. Robert

Ryland, and Virginia & John A. Richardson, given by

Jim & Sylvia Louise Ryland

Joy Messengers Nancy Kimmons, John Senior, Lisa Howell, Linda

Duncan, and Pam Schafer

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, Virginia Holt, 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 (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 - STARTS NEXT WEEK!

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, starting next week when we will be discussing chapters 1 and 2. You can purchase the book at Amazon.com and many bookstores.

From a review by "Faith and Leadership" (Duke University):

"The church in the United States has had a long and troubled history with race and racism. And though most people today agree that racism is bad, many Christians still operate out of deeply held social intuitions – basically, gut feelings – about race, shaped by the broader culture and even Christian culture. Hart urges the Church to move from a 'thin' account of race and racism to a 'thicker,' more complex understanding that acknowledges how race shapes our lives and communities. 'We're all navigating race and racism every day,' Hart says. 'The question is, are we doing it faithfully? Are we aware of this long narrative of history that shapes our lives, and are we resisting it in a way that honors Jesus Christ?'"

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 |
|------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 7/31 | 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 | Commun | ion |

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

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Wed, Aug 3 5:15 pm Gleaning Trip
Sun, Aug 7 8:00 am Deacons Meeting
9:30 am Worship and Communion (Intinction)
Mon, Aug 8 7:00 pm Session Meeting

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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Iris Blanco, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)

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



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

"Ask yourself these three questions...and you will know who you are. Ask: what do you believe in? What do you hope for? But most important - ask: what do you love?"

- Paullina Simons, The Bronze Horseman