St. John's at Worship Second Sunday of Christmas/ Epiphany Sunday

Prelude "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem" Pace & Boyce

Welcome and Announcements (please pass the fellowship roll)

Introit "March of the Kings" Linda R. Lamb

Scripture Reading Matthew 2:1–12 (pg. 2)

*Call to Worship

Pastor: With the wise men, we come, searching for the Messiah.

People: We have found him!

Jesus has been born King of kings and Lord of lords!

Pastor: And yet, we are still searching for glimpses of his presence

and glory in this world and in our lives.

People: We are *still searching* for light in the midst of darkness. Pastor: May we encounter him *here*, *now*, and be illuminated by his

presence as we worship God.

*Hymn **245**, vss. **1**, **2**, **3**, **5** "The First Noel"

*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

From a prayer by Howard Thurman

Gracious God, there will be much to test us

and make weak our strength before the year ends.

In our confusion we shall often say the word that is not true and do the thing of which we are ashamed.

There will be errors in the mind and great inaccuracies of judgment. In seeking the light,

we shall again and again find ourselves walking in the darkness.

We shall mistake our light for Your light,

and we shall drink from the responsibility of the choices we make. Though our days be marked with failures, stumblings, and fallings,

let our spirits be free,

so that You may take them and redeem our moments in all the ways our needs reveal.

Give us the quiet assurance of Your love and presence.

Grant that we may pass through the coming year with faithful hearts, in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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 Ephesians 3:1–12 (pg. 193)

As Pre-K through 4th 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!

Sermon INSIDE OUT Rev. Marshall

*Hymn **254**, **vss. 1**, **5** "We Three Kings"

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Traditional)

Invitation to the Table Great Prayer of Thanksgiving Communion of the People Prayer after Communion

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

Offertory "Little Drummer Boy" Davis

*Doxology

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 (If you need to sit for the prayer, please feel free.)

*Hymn 63 (INSERT) "As with Gladness Men of Old"

*Benediction

*Postlude "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music Iris Blanco-Urgelles **Greeters** Mary K. DaRin

Ushers Chuck & Jeanne Lynam, Kathy Johnson, Kate Johnson
Flowers Given by Mimi and Gordon Wright in honor of their
parents, T. Borden & Marie Van Stone, and C. Elmer &
Ruth Wright. "Children's children are a crown to the

(*Proverbs* 17:6)

Devon Chapel Bells Susan Bain, Cat Duncan, Sarah Duncan, Christina Fish,

Sue Hardin, SueBeth Johnson, Susan Starke, Jim Tiede, Elizabeth Unger, and we are happy to welcome Kathy Niness and Robin Sheard from St. Matthew's Methodist

aged, and parents are the pride of their children."

Church.

Joy Messengers Linda Duncan, Troy Fisher, Lisa Howell, Nancy Kimmons,

Evelyn Marvin, Pam Schafer, John Senior

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

Nancy Davis

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, Mary K. DaRin, 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!

COMMUNION SUNDAY

On the first Sunday of every month, St. John's shares the Lord's Supper. This meal reminds us of Christ's sacrifice for us – his body broken and his blood shed – so that we might be nourished in our faith to live for him. This is not just for Presbyterians or members of St. John's. Everyone who seeks to know and love Jesus Christ is welcome to share in this meal! When the trays are passed, take a piece of bread and a cup of juice and hold on to it; you will be invited to eat/drink when everyone has one. All of our bread is gluten free.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Today is the last day to give to the Christmas Joy Offering. For more than 70 years, the Presbyterian Church has used the Christmas Joy Offering to support the unmet needs of those 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 who are in need) and Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges. There are envelopes are in the pew racks if you would like to give, or you can learn more/give online at: https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETING - TUESDAY NIGHTS (7 PM)

Starting this week, there will be an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in our Fellowship Hall every Tuesday night at 7:00 PM. This is an open meeting, so anyone who feels that they have a problem with alcohol is welcome.

ANNUAL MEETING – SAVE THE DATE

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of St. John's is called for **Sunday**, **January 26 at 10:30 AM** (immediately following worship), for the purpose of:

Distribution of the Annual Report Presentation of the Approved 2020 Budget Approval of Pastors' Terms of Call for 2020 Election of Elders, Deacons, and Trustees

All members of St. John's are encouraged to attend.

PASTORAL UPDATE

Patrick leaves today after worship for a week of doctoral studies in Pittsburgh. He will be in worship next Sunday but has to go back after that for a few more days of class. He will be back in the office full time on Monday, January 20. If you have a pastoral care need, please contact the church office, and Ridgley will be available. If you have a pastoral emergency after hours or on a Saturday, you can call 484-604-0499.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

Prek-4th grade will meet as one class in the Fellowship Hall for a special lesson on *why* and *how* we celebrate Epiphany. Middle School and High School youth will stay in the sanctuary for worship and communion.



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

The Winter Calendar is now available! You can access it in the weekly emails or pick up your hard copy in the back of the sanctuary. Calendars will be mailed out this week.

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.

SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starting in January, Senior High Sunday School (Grades 8-12) will gather for Sunday School the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} Sunday of the month during worship (10–10:45 AM), upstairs in the Carriage House. We will gather to discuss the previous week's sermon and scripture.

Upcoming Youth Events:

Today – Youth Group Winter Kick-Off (4–5:30 PM)

Join us tonight at Arnold's Family Fun Center in Oaks (2200 West Drive) for pizza, bowling, arcade games, and go-karts! Bring a friend, some socks, and we'll see you there!

Friday, January 10 – PJ & Movie Night (5:30–7:30 PM, 4th grade and under) Join us at the church for pizza and a viewing of *The Star*. Please RSVP with Ridgley by Thursday.

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)

Sunday, February 2 – Mission Trip Pancake Breakfast after worship for the entire congregation.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Jan 5	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School Communion (Traditional)
Tues, Jan 7	7:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Wed, Jan 8	9:00 am	Prayer Group (Kean Room)
Thurs, Jan 9	6:30 pm	Adult Handbell Rehearsal
	7:45 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun, Jan 12	8:00 am	Trustees Meeting (Kean Room)
	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	11:00 am	Music Planning Meeting (Kean)
Mon, Jan 13	7:00 pm	Session Meeting (Kean Room)
Tues, Jan 14	7:00 pm	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

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.



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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

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; But the Lord will arise upon you, and God's glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you...

– Isaiah 60:1–4a