St. John's at Worship Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prelude "Ever Faithful, Ever Near" Franklin Ritter

Welcome and Announcements (Please fill out the fellowship roll)

Introit "Sweet Peace, the Gift of God's Love" *P.P. Bilhorn*

From Psalm 34

*Call to Worship
One: I will bless the Lord at all times;

God's praise shall be continually in my mouth.

All: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

One: I sought the Lord, and God answered me,

delivering me from all my fears.

All: God is near to the brokenhearted,

and saves the crushed in spirit.

One: O magnify the Lord with me,

All: And let us exalt God's name together!

*Hymn **158** "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

*Prayer of Invocation & 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

Bread of Life,

You offer us life and life abundant in you.

You are the nourishment to our souls

that leaves us never hungry.

But so often we take you for granted.

We take for granted that you will answer our prayers,

that you will heal us and make us whole.

We take for granted that you love us.

Forgive us for not appreciating

your grace and presence in our lives.

Forgive us for crafting you to be solely a God

who meets our needs and nothing more.

Forgive us for the barriers we create for others

around your abundant grace and love.

Help us to center our lives upon you,

the bread for the journey,

the very sustenance our soul craves.

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.

Children's Time Rev. Joyner

Scripture Reading John 6:24–35 (pg. 98)

Sermon THE BREAD OF LIFE Rev. Joyner

*Affirmation of Faith A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Presentation of Offering & 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 **339** (**Insert**) "

"Be Thou My Vision"

*Benediction

*Postlude

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Organist Nancy Kimmons

Ushers Pete Crawford, John McClintick

Flowers Given by John Senior & Nancy Kimmons in loving

memory of Phyllis & Leroy Kimmons, married in August

of 1947.

Joy Messengers Nancy Kimmons, John Senior

WELCOME (BACK) TO ST. JOHN'S!

We are so happy that you have joined us for worship this morning! We hope that you experience the presence and love of Jesus Christ here with us today. 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 the sanctuary doors. We are glad that you are here and hope you will worship with us again soon!

COVID PRECAUTIONS

With Chester County's move to "substantial spread," masks are now required for all, regardless of vaccination status.

Initially, we will be using every other pew for seating (although there are no restrictions on capacity). If the number of worshippers exceeds our ability to do that, we will begin filling in the open pews as necessary.

We will not be passing offering plates. Instead, offering baskets are located at each of the entrances to the sanctuary, and you can place your offering there on your way in or out.

PASTORAL UPDATE

Patrick is out of the office on vacation until Sunday, September 5. During that time, he will be unavailable by email or phone. Ridgley is available for any pastoral care needs. You can call the church office during weekday hours or call the pastoral care line (484-604-0499) after hours or on weekends.

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATE

Our Church Administrator Lara Kennedy continues to work remotely as she recovers at home from another surgery on her previously broken leg. She is available by email and phone, but she will not be in the office this week.

ST. JOHN'S FALL ADULT EDUCATION

With the rise in Covid cases, we will not be having the "supper" portion of Supper at St. John's, but we will still be offering a virtual class. **Starting on Wednesday, September 15 from 7–8 PM**, Patrick will be teaching a class via Zoom called "Mission Impossible? The Church after Covid." He will be walking us through the work he has done thus far in his doctoral program, addressing questions like, "How do we navigate conflict in such a divided world?" "How do we know what God wants us to do?" "How do we adapt in a rapidly changing world?" "How do we make worship relevant?" and "Can we nurture trust in a polarized world?" More information will be coming soon. We hope that you will join us!

HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF – PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

If you would like to help provide disaster relief following the recent earthquake in Haiti, you can visit https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/haiti to learn more and give online.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES SEPTEMBER 12

Children in Pre-K through 4th grade are invited to join us for in-person Sunday School beginning September 12 during worship. Nursery care will be available for younger children. Youth in grades 5–12 will have the option to stay in worship or help with Sunday School downstairs. Regardless of vaccination status, masks are mandatory in order to ensure the safety of our unvaccinated children. Check-in for families will resume September 12 as well. We ask that when you enter the sanctuary, you sign in your child for contact tracing and security purposes.



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

An end-of-summer event for all ages

Wednesday, August 25 – Slip & Slide Out of Summer!

All children, youth, and families are invited to join us at Bear Creek Mountain Resort from Noon to 5 PM, where they have turned their ski slopes into massive slip and slides! The cost is \$30/person, \$100/family max. Please contact Ridgley with questions or RSVPs.

Youth Group Fall Kickoff – Sunday, October 3

All youth in grades 5–12 are invited to join us from 4–6 PM; more details coming soon!

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

All rising 4th graders and under are invited!

God & Me Story Hour – Every Tuesday (9:30–10:30 AM)

All children in 4th grade and under are invited to join us in the Memorial Garden on Tuesdays from 9:30–10:30 AM for a story and (to-go) snack. If you are not fully vaccinated, please bring a mask to wear.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Aug 22 9:30 am Worship

Wed, Aug 25 9:00 am Prayer Group (Kean Room)

Sun, Aug 29 9:30 am Worship

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.

ST. JOHN'S LEADERSHIP

The Session

Class of 2022

Peter Crawford, Tom Higgins, Jim Ryland, Andy Walsh

Class of 2023

Nancy Arico, Carla Chieffo, Judy Mileto

Class of 2024

Susanna Engheta, Gavin Kerr, Wanda Odom

Board of Deacons

Class of 2022

Dave Dalrymple, Kate Johnson (President), Amy Lord, Hunter Thomson

Class of 2023

Lisa Archbold, Sarah Marvin, Carol Netter

Class of 2024

Joe Arico, Lisa Estabrook, Jim Netter. Lee Walsh

Board of Trustees

Class of 2022

Chuck Lynam, Bruce Phillips

Class of 2023

Steve Oliver, Jeff Wagner (President)

Class of 2024

Patrick Bullock, John Lieberman, Dan Lortz

Treasurer *Brian Bouvier*

Financial Secretary *Ken Dilloway*



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Rev. Ridgley 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

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

- John 6:35