

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

Welcome and Announcements (*Please fill out the fellowship roll*)

Introit "For the Beauty of the Earth"

*Call to Worship From Psalm 33

One: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.
For the word of the Lord is upright,
and all God's work is done in faithfulness.

**All: God loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.**

One: By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
and all their host by the breath of God's mouth.

**All: Let all the earth fear the Lord;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of God.
For God spoke, and it came to be;
God commanded, and it stood firm.**

One: Our soul waits for the Lord; God is our help and shield.
Our heart is glad because we trust in God's holy name.

**All: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.**

One: Let us worship God!

*Hymn 25 (GREEN) "Psalm 95: Come, Worship God"

*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 From the Book of Common Worship

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:
Cleanse us from all our offenses,
and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,
that with reverent and humble hearts,
we may draw near to you,
confessing our faults,
confiding in your grace,
and finding in you our refuge and strength;
through Jesus Christ your Son.**

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 Genesis 1 (pg. 1) Laurie Cato

Children's Time Rev. Joyner

*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!**

Anthem "Yes, My Jesus Loves Me" McDonald

Sermon GOD CREATES Rev. Marshall

*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 285 (INSERT) "God, You Spin the Whirling Planets"

*Benediction

*Postlude "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music *Iris Blanco-Urgelles*

Ushers *Laurie Cato, Jim Ryland*

Flowers *Given in joyful thanks and celebration for the life of
Magnolia Grace Phillips, second granddaughter of
Nancy & Bruce Phillips, born to their daughter Rachel on
July 16, 2021, in Charleston, SC.*

Vocalists *Jeff Estabrook, Paula Gonzalez, Miyuki Hashimoto,
Laura Jean McClintick, Heather McConnell,
Pam Schafer*

Guest Musicians *Cassia Harvey (cello), Myanna Harvey (violin)*

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

Masks are 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.

ST. JOHN'S FALL ADULT EDUCATION – WEDNESDAYS, 7–8 PM

Our Fall Adult Education class started this past Wednesday, and it's not too late to join us! Patrick is 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?" You do not need to sign up in advance. The Zoom link for each week's class will go out in the Sunday email, and a reminder email will be sent the day of the class. We hope that you will join us! (A recording of each class will be made available for those unable to attend.)

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

The Sunday morning Women's Book Study has resumed on Sunday mornings at 8 AM via Zoom. They are picking up right where they left off, with chapter 13 of Barbara Brown Taylor's book *Always a Guest*. The book is a collection of sermons, so it would be easy to join in on any given week without the need to have read the prior chapters. If you would like to participate or just have questions, please contact Carolyn Repke.

THE FALL FESTIVAL RETURNS – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 (4–6:30 PM)

The Fall Festival will be held on September 26 from 4:00–6:30 PM. It will be outside (weather permitting) with no masks required, although you are certainly welcome to wear one, based on your level of comfort. There will be music, food, games, and "Oliver Rocks" rock painting for all ages! This year we are starting the rock painting at 4 PM to allow for plenty of time and daylight. As always, children are welcome, as we have games planned for them, too! Around 5 PM, food and drinks will be served by our masked and gloved volunteers. Come catch up with friends and spend a couple of hours of worry-free fun with us! Admission is \$5 per person with maximum of \$15 per family (guests are free). Volunteers are needed to set up tables and chairs, clean up, and serve food and drinks. Please consider helping; you can sign up with Pat Marshall (pmmarshall@hotmail.com or 610-608-8143).

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

With the beginning of the school year, the Deacons are once again preparing to send care packages to our college students. If you have a child attending college this year, please email their name and address to Hunter Thomson (hthomson1509@gmail.com) to sign them up to receive a care package.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS RESUMED!

Children in Pre-K through 4th grade are invited to join us for in-person Sunday School during worship. Nursery care is available for younger children. Youth in grades 5–12 have the option to stay in worship or help with Sunday School downstairs. Regardless of vaccination status, masks are required in order to ensure the safety of our unvaccinated children. Check-in for families has also resumed 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.

The Fall calendar for children and youth is now available for pickup outside of Ridgley's office.

Confirmation Class Informational Meeting – Today at 11:00 AM

Parents and youth in grades 8–9 are invited to join us in the Kean Room after worship to get acquainted with this year's confirmation schedule, curriculum, and mentors.

Youth Advisory Council Meeting – Today at 2:00 PM (via Zoom)

Youth Group Escape Room – Today (4–6 PM)

Youth in grades 5–12 are invited to join us at Escape Room Mystery in King of Prussia for a collaborative event with youth from Trinity Presbyterian in Berwyn and Covenant Presbyterian in Malvern. The cost is \$10/person, with a \$20 family max.

Confirmation Mentor Meeting – Sunday, September 26 (11:00 AM)

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!

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Sept 19	8:00 am	Women's Book Study (Zoom)
	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	11:00 am	Confirmation Class Meeting
Wed, Sept 22	9:00 am	Prayer Group (Kean Room)
	7:00 pm	Adult Ed Class (online)
Sun, Sept 26	8:00 am	Women's Book Study (Zoom)
	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School

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

Head of the Church

Jesus Christ

The Session (Elders)

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. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
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

“Creation is not a work once performed and then finished and done with. It is a process, extending over time and open to the future. God continually creates something new and develops what he has already created. From the inexhaustibly-creating creative ground of all things, continually new forms of life emerge.”

– Jurgen Moltmann, *The Way of Jesus Christ*

September 19, 2021
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa