

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

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

Introit "How Great Thou Art"

*Call to Worship

One: We praise the God who created us and gave us life.
 All: **Glory be to the Father!**
 One: We praise the God who became one of us in Christ, so that we could live a new life.
 All: **Glory be to the Son!**
 One: We praise the God who still breathes life into us today.
 All: **Glory be to the Holy Spirit!**
 One: God is one: Father, Son, and Spirit.
 All: **So now we, who are many, worship God as one.**

*Hymn 14 (GREEN) "God, You Call Us to This Place"

*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

Triune God – in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 you show us how to live life together.
 But we confess that we often try to go it alone.
 We focus on our own needs and desires,
 ignoring the pain and brokenness of the world.
 We do not share our burdens with our neighbors,
 and we refuse to take on theirs.
 We have isolated ourselves, Lord, from you and from one another.
 We have built walls of pride and self-interest,
 and we ask you now, through your overwhelming mercy,
 to break them down.
 Shatter the sin that excludes us, and strengthen us to live life together,
 with you and all our neighbors, in the name of Jesus.

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 Deuteronomy 6:4–12 (pg. 163) Patricia Marshall

Children's Time

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 "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" Tomlin

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 7:6–11 (pg. 164)

Sermon GOD COVENANTS Rev. Marshall

*Affirmation of Faith Declaration of Faith

God keeps his promises and gives us hope.

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God kept his promises.

All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ.

But the work of God in Christ is not over.

God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen.

**The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence
 that supports us when lesser hopes fail us.**

**In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth,
 certainty of victory over death,
 assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death.**

This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.

We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.

**But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil
 that are possible now in the world, the church,
 and our individual lives.**

**Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition,
 however invincible it may seem,
 for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.**

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end.

Even now, he is Lord.

*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 53 (INSERT) "O God, Who Gives Us Life"

*Benediction

*Postlude "Deep River" arr. Burton

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Director of Music Iris Blanco-Urgelles

Ushers Peter Crawford, Wanda Odom

Flowers Given by Mary K Darin, "Sending my favorite
 congregation love and prayers for a happy Fall.
 Missing all of you daily."

Guest Musicians Sarah Early (alto), Patty Turse (harp)

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.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS, PART 2 – TODAY

We will be holding the second of a two-part class for new members today at 11:00 AM in the Kean Room. We will get to know each other, tell you about St. John's, talk about what it means to be a member and what it means to be a Presbyterian. It will last about an hour. If you missed the first class and have questions about joining, please contact Wanda Odom (wmodom@verizon.net).

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

John & Barbara McClintick would like to extend their deepest gratitude and thanks to everyone who sent cards and condolences following the death of John's brother and sister several weeks ago. Your kindness and care are sincerely appreciated!

PASTORAL UPDATE

Ridgley is participating in service to the greater Church this morning, as a member of the Installation Commission of Rev. Claire George-Drumheller, the new Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Lancaster.

Patrick will be out of the office on vacation from Monday, October 18 through Monday, October 25. He will be back in the office on Tuesday, October 26. 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.

NO ADULT EDUCATION CLASS THIS WEEK

Please note that Patrick's Zoom class will not be meeting this week. We will resume on Wednesday, October 27, from 7–8 PM.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are receiving nominations for Elders, Deacons, and Trustees for the class of 2023. If you know of anyone who may be called to fill one of these important leadership roles for St. John's, or if you yourself are feeling called, please email Judy Mileto.

ST. JOHN'S CONCERT SERIES RETURNS!

St. John's concert series finally returns on **Sunday, November 7 at 5:00 PM** with "Music from the Movies IV!" Come experience the magical sounds of the music behind the movies you love! From Disney to John Williams, the Musicalia Ensemble – joined by a soprano, a tenor, and a percussionist – presents an exciting program of epic movie scores that will keep you entertained. These concerts are free and open to the whole community, so let Hollywood come to you as you sit back and enjoy the soundtracks to your favorite films! (Marks are required for all, and the same protocol will be followed as on Sunday mornings.)

CONSECRATION SUNDAY – SAVE THE DATE!

St. John's will once again be celebrating Consecration Sunday during morning worship on Sunday, November 14. Please be on the lookout for more information coming by mail this week!

TRUNK OR TREAT – NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 (5–7 PM)

All children, youth, and adults are invited to our annual Trunk or Treat in the church parking lot next Sunday, October 24 from 5–7 PM. Ways you can help: 1) Donate a bag of assorted candy being collected outside, of Pastor Ridgley's office 2) Bring your best carved or painted pumpkin to enter into a pumpkin contest, 3) Decorate a Trunk for kids to come collect candy! A light meal will be provided for attendees. This event is for the WHOLE church family...we'd love to see you there! For more information, contact Christa Fisher (christafish@gmail.com).

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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.



The Fall calendar for children and youth is available for pickup outside of Ridgley's office. If you are not already receiving Ridgley's weekly emails for youth and families, email her at rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com.

Today – Youth Bible Study

4–5 PM: Middle School Youth (grades 5–7) are meeting at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Berwyn for bible study and games.

5–6 PM: High School Youth (grades 8–12) are meeting on Zoom for our first Session of Book Club. You do not have to have read anything to participate! The Zoom link provided in the weekly email.

Sunday, October 24 – Trunk or Treat (5–7 PM)

Children & youth of all ages are invited to join us for a spooky night of costumes, candy, pizza, and crafts. Youth will play GROG in the Carriage House (masks required) starting at 6:30 PM. If you'd like to decorate a trunk, contact Christa Fisher (christafish@gmail.com)

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Oct 17	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	10:30 am	Coffee Fellowship (Outdoors)
	11:00 am	New Members Class (Kean)
	9:00 am	Prayer Group (Kean Room)
		No Adult Ed Class This Week
Sun, Oct 24	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	10:30 am	Coffee Fellowship (Outdoors)
	5:00 pm	Trunk or Treat! (Parking Lot)

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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Iris Blanco-Urgelles, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)
Lara Kennedy, Church Administrator (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com)



"Sometimes people don't understand the promises they're making when they make them...But you keep the promise anyway. That's what love is. Love is keeping the promise anyway."

– John Green, *The Fault in Our Stars*

October 17, 2021
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa