

## St. John's at Worship First Sunday after Christmas Day

Prelude "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem"  
*Joy Messengers*

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

Introit "Angels We Have Heard on High" *arr. Jason Krug*  
*Devon Chapel Bells*

### Call to Worship & Wreath Lighting

One: Friends, hope is:  
**All: Being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.**

One: Peace is:  
**All: The wolf lying down with the lamb.  
A gift we can give each other.**

One: Joy is:  
**All: The space between our breath and our laughter.**

One: Love is:  
**All: Unquenchable, never-ending, born in a manger, here today.**

One: Christmas is:  
**All: The light that shines in the darkness.  
Let us make a joyful noise!**

One: Let us worship God.

\*Hymn (insert) "Love Has Come"

### \*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

**One:** Loving God, we are a forgetful people. We confess that we want reconciliation to be quick and easy.

**All: Remind us of the long walk to Bethlehem.**

**One:** We are tempted to overlook the outcasts in society.

**All: Remind us of the shepherds and their faithful witness.**

**One:** We expect that you will move in us, without seeking you on our end.

**All: Remind us of the magi—the way they searched for you, and the gifts they brought.**

**One:** We get caught up in the business of our days.

**All: Remind us of Mary and how she treasured sacred moments in her heart.**

**One:** We wake up thinking only of ourselves.

**All: Remind us of the daily choice we have to open our doors to people in need.**

**One:** We fail to hear the voices of the young and the old.

**All: Remind us that Mary and Joseph were young, and that your Son was brought into this world as a baby.**

**One:** We lose our way, forgetting to seek you.

**All: Remind us to look up, to look for your guiding light.**

**One:** We are a forgetful people.

**All: Forgive us, we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (to the refrain tune of Angels We Have Heard on High)  
**Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

Anthem "Carol of the Bells"  
*Joy Messengers*

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-20 (pg. 58) Rev. Joyner

Midrash Joseph's Story Jim Tiede

**\*Hymn 229 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"**  
*Joy Messengers will begin with the first verse,  
congregation will join on second verse*

Midrash Mary's Story Ellie Fisher

Solo "Still, Still, Still"  
*Cat Duncan, Soprano & John Senior, Guitar*

Midrash Shepherd's Story Rev. Joyner

**\*Hymn 245 "The First Nowell"**

\*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 and Prayers of the People

**\*Hymn 246 "Joy to the World"**  
*Devon Chapel Bells*

\*Postlude "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" *arr. Sondra Tucker*

### ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

**Guest Organist** *Nancy Kimmons*  
**Ushers** *Jim Ryland, Pete Crawford*  
**Devon Chapel Bells** *Lauren Bain, Susan Bain, Christina Fish,  
Jim Tiede, led by Betsy Miller*  
**Joy Messengers** *John Senior, Linda Duncan, Cat Duncan,  
Pam Schafer, Troy Fisher, led by Nancy Kimmons*

### WELCOME 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. 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. 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!

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you would like to sign up to sponsor flowers in 2022, please contact Lisa Archbold. Cowan's Flowers creates the bouquets and bills the sponsor directly at a cost of \$48. You may take the flowers home, or donate them to one of our homebound or hospitalized members.

### CONTAINERS NEEDED

Attention yogurt lovers! The Deacons are collecting empty 24 oz and 32 oz containers for the flower ministry. As you have empties, please drop them off in fellowship hall, there will be a box with a sign.

### ANNUAL BLANKET DRIVE

We will begin our annual Women's Fellowship blanket drive on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Please consider a contribution for Church World Service. Donations will be taken using the envelope included in your bulletin during the offering in worship, or at coffee hour. All around the world, Church World Services helps impoverished communities with the basic tools they need to sustain their families. Your gifts provide warm blankets, hygiene kits, clean-up buckets, seeds and tools for farming, and food for those in need. Checks may be made payable to St. John's, with "Women's Fellowship" in the memo.

### JAN 2: EPIPHANY PARTY!

Children ages 5-4th grade are invited join us on January 2nd in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday School for a special Epiphany Party! We will learn all about the Magi and the celebration of Epiphany. Youth in 5-7th grade are welcome to join to help the Sunday School teachers with the class.

### JAN 9: 12PM-5PM YOUTH KICKOFF-SNOW TUBING TRIP

Youth grades 5-12 are invited to join us for our Youth Kickoff! We will travel to Blue Mountain Ski Resort for an afternoon of snow tubing! Cost is \$30 per youth. Please RSVP with Ridgley (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com) by January 5.

### MANSE SALE UPDATE

The Manse Task Force is happy to report that the closing on the sale of the Manse occurred on December 16, 2021!



**FOR OUR BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS – THANK YOU!**

*Peter & Nancy Crawford  
 Andy & Lee Walsh  
 Jean Converse  
 Chuck & Jeanne Lynam  
 John & Barbara Alexander  
 Kathy Johnson  
 Jim & Sue Tiede  
 Jeff & Lisa Estabrook*

*Bruce & Nancy Phillips  
 Lynne Brown  
 Dick & Chris Oliver  
 Dave & Libby Dalrymple  
 Kate Johnson  
 Joe & Nancy Arico  
 Barbara Beucler  
 Tom & Nancy Higgins*

**OFFERING ENVELOPES AND YEAR-END GIFTS**

Offering envelopes for 2022 are now available in Fellowship Hall. If there is not a set with your name on it, and you would like one, please contact Ken Dilloway. Year-end gifts will be credited in the 2019 tax year if they are postmarked by December 31. Some members and friends of St. John’s donate shares of stock or mutual funds at the end of the year. If you are interested in this option, please contact Brian Bouvier.

**PASTORAL UPDATE**

As we shared in an email and letter, the Session has approved a medical leave of absence for Pastor Patrick, beginning Wednesday, Nov.10, and lasting up to 90 days. If you were unable to attend our Q&A sessions, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Ridgley or any of the elders with your questions. We ask that you keep Patrick, his family, our church leadership, and our whole church family in prayer during this time.

**ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR**

**Tues, Dec 28<sup>th</sup>** 5:00 pm Exercise Class  
 7:00 pm Nominating Committee (Zoom)  
**Wed, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>** 9:00 am Companions in Prayer (Kean)  
**Thurs, Dec 30<sup>th</sup>** 5:00 pm Exercise Class  
**Sun, Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>** **Epiphany Sunday**  
 9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

Please note that the church office will be closed the week after Christmas. We will be reachable by email and phone via the office line: 610-688-5222, or if you have a pastoral emergency, you can call 484-604-0499.



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Rev. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (currently on medical leave)  
 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



*Ordinary Glory by Lauren Wright-Pittman*

*" In this familiar narrative, what stuck out for me in this reading was the juxtaposition of human and divine, the mundane and extraordinary, the humbleness of a manger and the glory of a multitude of heavenly hosts... the everyday, intimate, tender scene of new parents and their yawning baby, enveloped by the glittering, awe- striking magnificence of God."*

**December 26, 2021**  
 For the latest information and news about St. John's:  
[www.stjohnsdevon.com](http://www.stjohnsdevon.com)  
[facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa](https://facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa)