

## St. John's at Worship Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship From Psalm 37

One: Take delight in the Lord,  
and God will give you the desires of your heart.

**All: Let us commit our way to the Lord and trust in God.**

One: Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for God.

**All: We gather as God's beloved children  
to give of ourselves in praise.**

One: Come, friends, let us worship God!

\*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.**

Musical Offering "I Come to the Cross" *Scott/Dexter*

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, forgive us for living like tomorrow doesn't matter –  
for abusing creation,  
neglecting relationships,  
exhausting ourselves,  
putting faith last.**

**Teach us to live as if our labors aren't for nothing  
but are part of your eternal purpose to redeem creation.**

**Invite us into your resurrection life,  
in the name of Christ, who paved the way. 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.**

\*Affirmation of Faith From the Belhar Confession (1986)

One: We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who  
gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.  
This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to  
the end.

**All: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest  
in the Church, as the community of believers who have been  
reconciled with God and with one another;**

One: That unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church  
of Jesus Christ.

**All: We believe that this unity of the people of God must be  
manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love  
one another, and that we experience, practice, and pursue  
community with one another.**

One: We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities,

backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and  
cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities  
for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of  
God.

**All: Jesus is Lord. Amen.**

Scripture Reading Genesis 45:3–11, 15 Nancy Arico

Children's Time Rev. Marshall

*As Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> 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 "As the Deer Pants for Water" *Nystrom*

Sermon THE COSTLY GIFT OF RECONCILIATION Rev. Dr. Brown

\*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 the Prayers of the People

\*Hymn 577 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

\*Benediction

Postlude "Shout to the Lord" *Zschech*

### ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

**Director of Music** Iris Blanco Urgelles

**Ushers** Pete Crawford, Virginia & Lee Holt

**Flowers** Given by the Millers, to the glory of God,  
and in loving memory of our parents and sister.

**Guest Musician** Alexandr Kislitsyn (violin), John Senior,  
Nancy Kimmons

### WELCOME TO THE REV. DR. SALLY A. BROWN

Our guest preacher this morning is the Rev. Dr. Sally A. Brown, who is recently retired from Princeton Seminary, and now lives in West Chester. She has been a professor of preaching and worship for 25 years. Prior to that, she spent 18 years in parish and non-parish ministries in the PCUSA in Plainfield, NJ, and Bethlehem, PA. In her first years after seminary, she served on the Student Life staff at Eastern University and chose St John's as her home church. She was ordained here in this sanctuary on September 28, 1980, only the second woman to be ordained by the Presbytery of Donegal. Back then, it was a progressive step on the part of this congregation and its Session – one for which she is ever grateful! Please welcome Rev. Dr. Brown back to her church home!

### 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. 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!

### COVID PRECAUTIONS

As cases in our area begin to decrease, the Covid Task Force has updated some of our precautions:

- Worship will remain in-person with a livestream option. Congregants will need to wear surgical masks or N95/KN95/KF94 masks. Those coming to worship with a cloth mask will be given a surgical mask to wear instead of/in addition to the cloth mask.
- We will not be providing coffee hour or nursery care.
- Hybrid and in-person meetings resumed on February 13. Those attending meetings in person need to wear surgical masks or N95/KN95/KF94 masks (cloth masks are not permitted).

Please email Lara (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com) if you need to reserve time on the St. John's Zoom account.

### EPIPHANY SERMON SERIES – THE GIFTS OF FAITH

On the heels of Christmas, we have been following a worship series that offers us a chance to open up the presents that our faith gives us – some we love, some that confuse us, and some we might never have put on our wish list! Following the Revised Common Lectionary for Epiphany (Year C), this nine-week sermon series highlights the wonderful and surprising gifts of God in our lives, if we can only learn to see them.

### “SUPPER” AT ST. JOHN’S

Please join us for an 8-week discussion of Rob Bell's book *Love Wins* facilitated by Brian Bouvier. This virtual course explores one of the most pressing questions for people of faith: Is there hell and an afterlife, and would a loving God send people to eternal torment forever? Bell puts hell on trial with a hopeful message – eternal life doesn't start when we die; it starts *right now*. And ultimately, LOVE WINS! Join us on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM for thoughtful, loving discussion and a connection to the love that is at the heart of our faith. The Zoom link is in the weekly newsletter!

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Our women's book group has just started reading *The Beautiful Work of Learning to Pray–31 Lessons* by James C. Howell. We are meeting by Zoom, and anyone is welcome to “drop in” for one or all sessions. We invite and encourage all women to be part of the group. It is casual and wonderful conversation, and the reading each week is short. If you have questions, and to get the Zoom link, please email Carolyn Repke.

### PASTORAL UPDATE

We were so happy to welcome Pastor Patrick back last Sunday! He is taking some time to reacclimate and will begin preaching again in March. Now that he is back, Pastor Ridgley is on a much-deserved vacation and will be unavailable by email or phone until next Sunday, February 27. If you have a pastoral care emergency, please contact the church office. If it is after hours or on Saturday, you can call the pastoral care emergency line at 484-604-0499.

### LENT 2022: CULTIVATING AND LETTING GO

Lent is a season of spiritual gardening, inviting God to unearth in us what lies fallow, what needs to be tended, and what needs to die for new life to emerge. This Lent, we are embracing the literal and spiritual practices of cultivating and letting go, beginning with an Ash Wednesday Service on March 2 at Noon at St. John's. We will be partnering with our neighbors at Trinity Presbyterian Church. This service will be livestreamed for those who cannot make it at Noon, and we will have a drive-by imposition of ashes in the church driveway from 12:30–1 PM, with a treat from Women's Fellowship to take home with you. We hope you will join us as we begin the Lenten season.

### GUEST PREACHER AND Q&A NEXT SUNDAY

The Outreach Committee is excited to welcome Jed Koball back to St. John's as our guest preacher next Sunday! Jed and his wife Jenny are PC(USA) Mission Co-Workers, serving in Peru since 2009 as partnership facilitators for the Presbyterian Hunger Program. St John's has been supporting their work for several years, and they were last with us in 2015. Jed will also be holding a Q&A after worship at 10:45 AM in the Carriage House for us to learn more about their ministry. A Zoom link will be provided in the weekly email.

### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Tonight is Bible Study Night! Grades 5–7 are invited to join us at 4 PM Trinity Presbyterian Church in Berwyn. Grades 8–12 will meet on Zoom at 5 PM. We hope you will join us!

### YOUTH GROUP SWAG

The sweatpants designed by our very own Sarah Duncan are finally here! Pick up yours from Ridgley today! If you haven't made your payment, please leave a check in the dropbox next to Ridgley's office.

### SUMMER TRIPS

Early Registration has opened for our Summer Youth Trips. If you register for either our Middle School Conference at Massanetta Springs (June 16-19) or our High School Mission and Youth Conference at Montreat Conference Center (July 30-August 6) by March 13, you can save \$50! For more information, reference Ridgley's weekly email for Youth, Children, and Families, as well as our Weekly eNewsletter. A \$100 deposit is needed to secure your discounted rate. Please leave a check in the dropbox outside Ridgley's office.

### VBS SAVE THE DATE

Join us for VBS August 15–19 from 9 AM to 1 PM. We hope you'll join us! If you are interested in helping plan VBS this year, please contact Ridgley (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com)

### ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

<b>Sun, Feb 20</b>	8:00 am	Women's Book Club
	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	4:00 pm	MS Youth @ Trinity
	5:00 pm	HS Youth on Zoom
<b>Mon, Feb 21</b>	<b>President's Day – Office closed</b>	
<b>Wed, Feb 23</b>	9:00 am	Companions in Prayer (Kean)
	7:00 pm	"Supper" at St. John's (Zoom)
<b>Sun, Feb 27</b>	8:00 am	Women's Book Club
	9:30 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Confirmation Meeting
	10:45 am	Outreach Q&A (Carr. House)
	4:00 pm	Youth Fellowship
<b>Wed, March 2</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	
	9:00 am	Companions in Prayer (Kean)
	12:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship (Sanc.)
	7:00 pm	"Supper" at St. John's (Zoom)

Reminder: Friday is Patrick and Ridgley's sabbath day, and the church office is closed on Saturday. If you email or call on those days, you will not get a response until they are back in the office. Our Church Administrator Lara Kennedy is in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, and works virtually (available by email/phone) on Monday and Thursday. **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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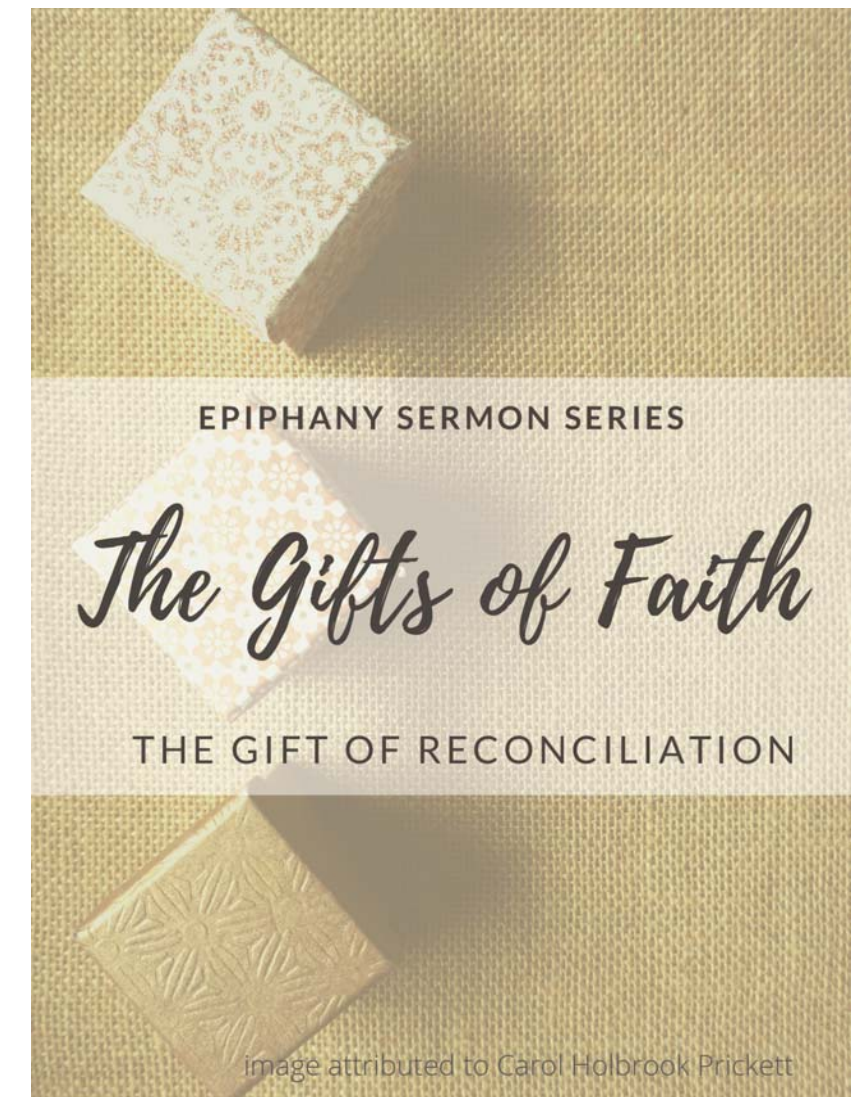
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Iris Blanco-Urgelles, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)  
Lara Kennedy, Church Administrator (lara.kennedy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH



February 20, 2022  
For the latest information and news about St. John's:  
[www.stjohnsdevon.com](http://www.stjohnsdevon.com)  
[facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandeonpa](https://facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandeonpa)