

St. John's at Worship Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Morning Has Broken" *Adams*

*Call to Worship Psalm 138

One: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart!
Before the gods I sing your praise.

All: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

One: On the day I called, you answered me.
You increased my strength of soul.

All: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

One: They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

All: For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he perceives from far away.

One: Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies.
You stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

All: The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me. Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

*Hymn 25 (Green), vss. 1, 3, 4 "Come, 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.

Unison Prayer of Confession From the Book of Common Prayer

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart,
and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Silent Confession

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

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 The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father, Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Scripture Reading Luke 11:1–13 (pg. 72, NT) Jim Ryland

Children's Time Rev. Joyner

As Pre-K–4th grade leaves for Summer 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 "Still Be My Vision" *Belliston*

Sermon PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER Rev. Marshall

*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 395 "Take Time to Be Holy"

*Benediction

*Postlude "Where He Leads Me/He Leadeth Me" *Adams*

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Music Director Iris Blanco-Urgelles
Ushers Laurie Cato, Jim Ryland
Greeter Alice Bell
Flowers Given by a grateful congregation in loving memory of Irene A. McElreavy and her parents.
Coffee Server Kathy Johnson
Guest Musicians Jeff Estabrook (tenor), Paula Gonzalez (alto), Alexander Kistlitzyn (violin)

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. 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 would love for you to join us for refreshments downstairs in the Fellowship Hall following worship. We are glad that you are here and hope you will worship with us again soon!

COVID PROTOCOL

Masks remain optional but welcome. We do ask that if you are not feeling well or experiencing any symptoms such as a sore, scratchy throat or cough (even if you think it is just allergies or a cold), please worship from home via the livestream to ensure the wellbeing of your church family. If you find that you test positive for Covid within 2–3 days after attending worship or a church event, please contact the church office, so that we can notify the congregation about a possible exposure. Your privacy will be maintained.

SUMMER BOOK STUDY

Pastor Patrick will be leading a three-week study of Brian Zahnd's book *When Everything's on Fire: Faith Forged from the Ashes*, on August 7, 14, and 21, after worship. The book can be purchased on Amazon (there will be a link in the weekly email).

Book Description: Is it possible to hold on to faith in an age of unbelief? Intellectual certainty has long been a cornerstone of the Christian faith. But in an age of secularism, skepticism, and cynicism, our worldviews have been shaken. Various solutions exist – some double down on certainty, while others deconstruct their faith until there is nothing left at all. But Brian Zahnd offers a third way: what is needed is not a *demolition* but instead a *renovation* of faith. Written with personal and pastoral experience, Zahnd extends an invitation to move beyond the crisis of faith toward the journey of reconstruction. As the world rapidly changes in ways that feel incompatible with Christianity, *When Everything's on Fire* provides much-needed hope. A stronger, more confident faith is possible when it is grounded in the beauty and truth of Christ. Zahnd permits us to risk the journey of deconstruction so that God can forge something more beautiful in its place.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP – SUNDAYS AT 8:00 AM

The Women's Book Group is taking a break for the summer. We will resume our Sunday Morning Book Study on Sunday, September 11. 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, please email Carolyn Repke.

MEN'S MINISTRY

If you are interested in being part of a new men's ministry at St. John's, you are invited to an informational meeting after worship on Sunday, September 11. You are not committing to anything...just come hear more about it! Our hope is to gather a group of men who, through conversation and study, can support one another and grow in faith and friendship. More information will be coming soon!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer Sunday School runs through August 7. Children in Pre-k–4th grade are invited to go downstairs after the children's time for a lesson and activities.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We are currently in need of volunteers to serve in the nursery in August so that our nursery workers can take a much-deserved sabbath. Please consider giving your time on a Sunday morning to help fulfill your baptismal vows to our little ones! Contact Marianne McClennen (mdmclennen@gmail.com) for more information.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

There is still time to contribute toward the cost of the backpacks and supplies for the children served through Gemma Services. You can write a check, payable to St. John's, with "School Supplies" in the memo line. Please contact Nancy Higgins (nrhiggins76@gmail.com) with any questions.

Upcoming Youth Events

Montreat Youth Conference

We will meet at 7:30 A.M. on Saturday, July 29 to embark on a week full of mission work, bible study, worship, and fun!

SUMMER ART CLASSES AT ST. JOHN'S

This summer, St John's will be hosting art classes for adults. This is a great chance to learn something new, hone your natural skills, or just have fun with your church family. The following classes will be offered:

Mixed media: Explore the abstract in you! Learn to develop original creative artwork and concepts. Unwind and unburden your soul in self-expression.

Beginner Level – 2 Lessons

Cost of materials: \$36.00 (made out to St. John's Presbyterian Church)

Dates: Wednesdays, July 20 and 27 at 5:00 PM

Watercolor: Have fun with one of the most fluid mediums and learn a little about water techniques in the process.

Beginner Level – 2 Lessons

Cost of materials: \$38.00 (made out to St. John's Presbyterian Church)

Dates: Wednesdays, August 3 and 10 at 5:00 PM

On Sunday, August 14 there will be a small display of the students' work during coffee hour, so that we can all enjoy the talent our church has to offer. Seats are limited, so if you are interested, please email Darien Irizarry at di501industries@gmail.com.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, July 24	8:00 am	Women's Book Study (Kean Room)
	9:30 am	Worship & Summer Sunday School
Wed, July 27	9:00 am	Companions in Prayer (Kean Room)
	5:00 pm	Summer Art Class (Fellowship Hall)
Sun, July 31	9:30am	Worship & Summer Sunday School

Reminder

Friday is both 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 Roseann Christian is in the office Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. **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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StJohnsDevon.com

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Roseann Christian, Church Administrator (Admin@stjohnsdevon.com)
Sue Chudy, Clerk of Session (susan.chudy@stjohnsdevon.com)
Iris Blanco-Urgelles, Director of Music (iris.blanco@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

My Lord God,
I have no idea where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end.
Nor do I really know myself,
and the fact that I *think* I am following your will
does not mean that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please you in fact please you.
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,
though I may know nothing about it.
Therefore will I trust you always,
though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

– Thomas Merton (1915–1968)

July 24, 2022
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
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