

## St. John's at Worship Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude "A Christmas Lullaby"  
The Devon Chapel Bells *arr. Ingram*

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "The First Noel"  
The Rejoicing Ringers *arr. Krug*

Lighting the Advent Candles Laurie and Courtney Cato

\*Answering God's Call to Worship:

One: Come and fill our hearts with your love;  
you alone, O Lord, are holy.

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your love.  
Alleluia!**

One: May it be so. Come, Lord Jesus!

\*Hymn 213, vss. 1–3 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates"

\*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.**

Confessing Our Sin Together

**In this season of waiting, we have a hard time being patient  
with each other, with ourselves, and even with you.**

**We live in a world where we can have whatever we want,  
whenever we want it, and you don't work that way.**

**So we force our will on the world around us,  
seeking control, because so much is out of our control.**

**And because we cannot control,  
we act rashly, speak harshly, and live selfishly.**

**You who are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
be so with us, that we may be so with all, in Jesus' name.**

Confessing Silently

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

The Promise of Forgiveness

\*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.**

\*Confessing Our Faith

from 1 John 4

**Love is from God.**

**Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.  
God's love was revealed among us in this way:**

**God sent his only son into the world  
so that we might live through him.**

**In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us  
and sent his son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

**Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.**

**No one has ever seen God;  
if we love one another, God lives in us,  
and his love is perfected in us.**

**We have seen and do testify  
that the Father sent his Son as the savior of the world.**

**So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.**

**God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God,  
and God abides in them.**

Scripture Reading Isaiah 7:10–16 (pg. 636, O.T.) John McClintick

Children's Time Rev. Joyner

*As Pre-K–12<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 "O Come, Emmanuel" arr. McDonald

Scripture Reading Matthew 1:18–23 (pg. 1, N.T.)

Sermon DREAMING OF LOVE Rev. Marshall

\*Presenting Our 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 11 (Insert) "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

\*Benediction

\*Choral Response "Surely the Presence of the Lord"

\*Postlude "And the Glory of the Lord" arr. Hayes

### ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

**Music Director** Iris Blanco-Urgelles  
**Ushers** Sarah Marvin, Abbey Marvin  
**Greeters** Mildred Del Valle, Abi Irizarry  
**Flowers** Given by Nader & Susanne Engheta in honor of their mothers, who instilled in them a love of learning and living in freedom!

**Coffee Server** Christa Fisher  
**Devon Chapel Bells** Susan Bain, Sue Chudy, Christina Fish, Laura Gellrich, Sue Johnson, Jim Tiede

**Rejoicing Ringers** Courtney Cato, Sophie Coradi, Sarah Duncan, Avery Hillier

### 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!

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

After the children's time, children in K–12<sup>th</sup> grade will leave with their teachers. If this is your child's first time in Sunday School, the ushers have pamphlets that tell you everything you need to know. As always, nursery care is provided for children ages 5 and under. Please be sure to check in children in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and under in the back of the sanctuary before worship begins.

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Today is the last day to purchase poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. The cost is \$10 per plant, and the poinsettia is yours to take after the 8 PM Christmas Eve service. If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia, please contact Lisa Estabrook (JECardi@aol.com or 610-608-2842).

### CHRISTMAS CAROLING – TUESDAY, 6:45 P.M.

We are going to spread the Christmas cheer among our neighbors on Tuesday, December 13. We will gather at the church at 6:45 p.m. to pick up the song sheets and map and pour a cup of hot beverage (you may want to bring your own insulated cups). Then we will drive to nearby areas for caroling. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall so we know to expect you. You may also sign up by contacting Susanne Engheta (susanne.engheta@gmail.com or 610-203-9161.)

### BRING A FRIEND NEXT SUNDAY!

Next Sunday, December 18 will be our Annual Christmas Cantata. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend to worship! We hope you will consider inviting a friend to come discover St. John's and worship God with a morning of beautiful music.

### DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE SEEKING A CHURCH FAMILY?

In January, St. John's will host a series of classes led by our pastors and Elders for those interested in learning more about our church community and becoming a member at St. John's. These classes will be held January 8, 15, and 22 at 10:45 a.m. in the Kean Room. We will be talking about what it means to be Presbyterian, what it means to be a member of a church, and telling you more about St. John's. For more information, contact Wanda Odom (wmodom@verizon.net).

### THANK YOU FROM T&E CARE

"T&E Care has just completed another successful Holiday Drive, and we want to express our appreciation to everyone at St. John's for permitting us to use the Carriage House this week. We apologize for any inconvenience you may have experienced, but thanks to your generous hospitality, we were able to collect and distribute gifts and household supplies for more than 110 local families. Merry Christmas to the St. John's community!"

### ANGEL TREE – RETURN GIFTS TODAY

Today is the deadline to return the gifts you purchased for Angle Tree. Please drop off your wrapped gifts in the Fellowship Hall **with the angel attached**. We also have a **virtual Angel Tree** that supports children whose parents are incarcerated (a link can be found in today's weekly email update). Thank you to everyone who has helped share Christ's love with a child in need!

### CHRISTMAS MARKET – HANDMADE CRAFTS COLLECTION

We had such a great response to our Christmas Market last week that we have decided to extend it! Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship to check out an amazing variety of paintings, baked goods, jewelry, quilts, handmade Christmas ornaments, and more. All of the proceeds go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help heal communities after natural disasters.

### PARENT'S NIGHT OUT – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 (3–6 PM)

St. John's Youth would like to give the parents a night off to do some last-minute holiday shopping! Drop off your kids (4<sup>th</sup> grade and younger) for a movie (*Polar Express*) and a craft! Please RSVP by today using the link in this week's Weekly Roundup email, so we can make sure adequate care is available for your child's safety.

### PLEDGES FOR 2023

It's not too late to make a pledge for 2023! You can submit a pledge on our website or by using one of the green cards on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

### OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2023 are available for pickup in Fellowship Hall. If you do not have a pack of envelopes but would like one, please contact Ken Dilloway (dilloway1@aol.com).

### FINANCIAL UPDATE

At the beginning of November, the church was running a \$32,423 deficit, even though we have kept expenses significantly under budget. Thanks to your generous giving through the month of November, that deficit has been reduced to \$8,417! We are so grateful for all the ways you continue to make the life and ministry of our church family possible!

### CHURCH TREASURER

Brian Bouvier will be ending his time as Church Treasurer at the end of this term, March 31, 2023. If you (or someone you know) has gifts that you think might fit the needs of this position, we encourage you to talk to Jeff Wagner (President of the Trustees) or to Pastor Patrick.

### UPCOMING CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, Dec. 18 (9:30 am)

Christmas Cantata

Tuesday, Dec. 20 (7 pm)

Longest Night Service (with communion)

For those who are struggling to celebrate this season.

Saturday, Dec. 24 (4 & 8 pm)

Christmas Eve Services (both candlelight)

Sunday, Dec. 25 (9:30 am)

Christmas Worship & Communion

### ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

**Sun, Dec 11**

#### Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Women's Book Study (Kean Room)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

5:00 pm Session Christmas Party (Carriage House)

**Mon, Dec 12**

11:30 am Women's Book Study (Kean Room)

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Kean Room)

**Tues, Dec 13**

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:45 pm Meet for Caroling (Fellowship Hall)

**Wed, Dec 14**

9:00 am Companions in Prayer (Kean Room)

**Thurs, Dec 15**

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

**Sun, Dec 18**

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Worship (Cantata) & Sunday School

8:00 am Women's Book Study (Kean Room)

### 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 4:00 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

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

Rev. Ridgley Joyner, Associate Pastor (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com)

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

From "Come, Lord Jesus"  
by Jill Duffield

As the days get shorter and the nights deeper,  
I long for the angels to announce to the shepherds  
that Jesus has finally arrived.  
I hope I will be close enough to overhear their chorus,  
the good news of great joy for all of us.  
I hope I can peek out my window and see that glowing star.  
Too often I forget to look up  
because I am concentrating so hard on the ground,  
trying not to stumble in the dark.

December 11, 2022

For the latest information and news about St. John's:

[www.stjohnsdevon.com](http://www.stjohnsdevon.com)

[facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa](https://facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa)