

St. John's at Worship

3rd Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Revive Us Again" *John Husband*

* Call to Worship Based on Psalm 116

One: We love the Lord because God has heard our voices and our supplications.

All: God's ear was inclined to us, therefore we will call on the Lord as long as we live.

One: What shall we return to the Lord for all God's goodness to us?

All: We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. We will pay our vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

One: O Lord, we are your servants. You have loosed our bonds.

All: We will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. Praise the Lord!

One: Christ is *still* risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Let us worship God!

*Hymn 303 "The Day of Resurrection"

*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

**The good news of Easter can wear off quickly,
and even after the celebration and transformation of that day,
we soon find ourselves walking down all the old paths of life;
the paths that lead not to life, but to death;
not to forgiveness, but to sin.**

Do not let us go back to the tomb, Lord.

Do not let us look there anymore.

You are *still* risen! May *we* be risen, too!

You are *still* alive! May *we* be alive, too!

Remind us of our redemption in Christ.

Set our feet back on your path of righteousness,

**and continue to overcome the power that sin and death
attempt to hold in this world and in our lives.**

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**

*Affirming Our Faith from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (1983)

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit,

we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,

whom alone we worship and serve.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 37:1–14 (pg. 806, O.T.) Betsy Miller

Children's Time Rev. Joyner

As Pre-K–12th 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 "My Lighthouse" *Llewellyn/Gilkeson*

Scripture Reading Luke 24:36–44 (pg. 90, N.T.)

Sermon BODY AND SPIRIT 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 318, vss. 1, 3, 5 "Christ is Alive!"

*Benediction

*Postlude "Shine" *Ed Roland*

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Ushers Jen & Dan Lortz

Greeter Wanda Odom

Music Director Iris Blanco-Urgelles

Flowers Given by Lynne Brown and Jean Converse in honor of their parents, Gwendolyn W. & Kramer M. Johnson

Coffee Servers Alberto & Stella Urbino

Joy Messengers John Senior, Nancy Higgins, Troy Fisher, Lisa Howell, Linda Duncan, Pam Schafer, Jeff Wagner

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 and youth K–12th 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 4th grade and under in the back of the sanctuary before worship begins.

CHURCH TREASURER UPDATE

We are happy to share that Nancy Arico will be taking over the role of Treasurer, with our Church Administrator Roseann Christian also assuming some of the responsibilities, to help lighten the load. Nancy and Roseann have been training with Brian Bouvier in recent weeks, and we will let you know when an official transfer date has been set. We are so grateful to Nancy and Roseann for their willingness to serve the life of our church in this way! We are also incredibly grateful to Brian Bouvier for his 12 years of faithful service as Treasurer. Brian has done an exceptional job, even as the role has changed significantly since he first started. Please take the time to send Brian a note or thank him in person for the ways that he has faithfully stewarded the finances of our church family!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SURVEY

The Christian Education Committee is working to re-assess congregational faith formation needs post-Covid. We have compiled a survey that was emailed out last week and will be available in our weekly e-newsletter. Please consider helping us by taking just ten minutes to complete the survey. The survey will be open until May 14.

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

The Women's Book Group meets on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and Mondays at 11:30 a.m. (you are welcome to bring your lunch). These groups are open to all women. This week the group is starting a new study on the book of Isaiah, using the study guide *Isaiah for Everyone* by John Goldingay (available on Amazon). If you have questions, please contact Nancy Wolfe

MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of our new Men's Group will be **Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House. We will be reading chapter 8 of Derek Maul's book *10 Life-Charged Words: Real Faith for Men*. Men of all ages are welcome, and you can contact Pastor Patrick for a copy of the reading.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP – TONIGHT (4:30–6:00 P.M.)

Youth in grades 5–12 are invited to join us at church tonight for a fun mission project! We will be putting seedlings in the church garden to grow for the local foodbank. If you have some gloves, bring them! We will have extras as well.

UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS – SAVE THE DATES!

Ladies' Tea – Sunday, May 7 (3:00 p.m.)

All ladies of St. John's aged 10 and older are invited to join us in the Carriage House for our second annual Ladies' Tea. We will be incorporating our LIFT event into that afternoon, too. Pat Marshall will be taking sign-ups today during coffee time, or you can email her (pmmarshall@hotmail.com).

Progressive Dinner – May 20 (5:30–9:30 p.m.)

Seize the moment before unexpected events take the opportunity away!

That is what we have learned in recent years! And that's why St. John's Progressive Dinner is coming out of hiatus after 4 years with a bang! Once again, we will enjoy being together with our friends and make new ones while sharing a meal in a very special time together! But we need YOU there! Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or send an email to susanne.engheta@gmail.com. Also, please consider hosting! You will only make the main dish (we will suggest an easy recipe). Or you can just come and be our guest!

Annual Strawberry Festival – Sunday, June 11

Join us after worship in the Carriage House for delicious strawberry shortcake or just a bowl of strawberries if you prefer.

SUMMER YOUTH TRIP MEETINGS

Youth registered for Massanetta Youth Conference need to mark their calendars for Sunday, May 21 at 4:00 p.m. for a parent meeting at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Frazer. Those registered for Montreat Youth Conference need to mark their calendars for Monday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. (on Zoom). Final deposits are due Monday, May 1. You can leave a check made out to St. John's in the box next to Pastor Ridgley's office.

DEVON HORSE SHOW PARKING

It is that time of the year again! From **Thursday, May 25** through **Saturday, June 3**, we will be parking cars on the church grounds from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. We are currently recruiting Day Leaders for each day. Day Leaders do not have to be here all day. They simply oversee the volunteers for each shift. If you are interested in volunteering as a Day Leader or learning more about it, please email Pastor Ridgley.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (JUNE 26–30)

Children ages 4–4th grade are invited to join us for a fun-filled week of faith formation as we learn about being Changemakers for God's World! Registration opens May 1. If you would like to volunteer at VBS, please contact Pastor Ridgley. We would love to have you!

4:

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

3rd Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Women's Book Study (Kean Room)
9:30 am Worship, Sunday School
3:45 pm Youth Advisory Council (Carriage House)

4:30 pm Youth Group

Mon, Apr 24

11:30 am Women's Book Study
12:30 pm A Case for Smiles (Fellowship Hall)

Tues Apr 25

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Wed, Apr 26

9:00 am Companions in Prayer (Kean Room)

Thurs, Apr 27

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sun, Apr 30

4th Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Women's Book Study (Kean Room)
9:30 am Worship, Sunday School
10:45 am Christian Fellowship (Carriage House)

This Week in the Church Office

Pastor Patrick will be out of the office Wednesday and Thursday on a retreat.

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 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **If you have a pastoral emergency pertaining to a death, hospitalization, or crisis situation when the office is closed or on a Saturday, you can call 484-604-049.**

Any announcements for next week's bulletin or email are due by Noon on Wednesday.



www.stjohnsdevon.com

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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

“...left to ourselves we lapse into a kind of collusion with entropy, acquiescing in the general belief that things may be getting worse but that there's nothing much we can do about them. And we are wrong. Our task in the present...is to live as resurrection people in between Easter and the final day, with our Christian life – corporate and individual, in both worship and mission – as a sign of the first and a foretaste of the second.”

— N.T. Wright, *Surprised by Hope*

April 23, 2023

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