

## St. John's at Worship Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice! (2x)*  
*Rejoice, Rejoice, again I say rejoice! (2x)*

\*Answering God's Call to Worship

One: Come as you are, broken and burdened,  
**All: and find healing in God's goodness.**  
One: Come as you are, gifted and beloved,  
**All: and find purpose in God's calling.**  
One: Come as you are, gifted and beloved.  
**All: And find comfort in God's embrace.**  
One: Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
**All: and worship God with joy!**

\*Hymn 8 (Green) "Gather Us In"

\*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

*St. Augustine*

**God of life,  
there are days when the burdens we carry  
are heavy on our shoulders and weigh us down;  
when the road seems dreary and endless,  
the skies gray and threatening;  
when our lives have no music in them,  
and our hearts are lonely,  
and our souls have lost their courage.  
Flood the path with light;  
turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise,  
and tune our hearts to brave music,  
so that we may be able to encourage all who journey with us  
on the road to life.**

Confessing Silently

**Lord, thank you for your mercy!  
Christ, thank you for your mercy!  
Spirit, thank you for your mercy!**

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.**

\*Please stand as you are able.

\* Affirmation of Faith *From the Confession of Belhar (1982)*

One: We believe in the triune God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
who gathers, protects and cares for the church  
through Word and Spirit.

**All: We believe that we need one another  
and build up one another,  
admonishing and comforting one another;  
that we suffer with one another  
for the sake of righteousness,  
pray together,  
and together serve God in this world.**

One: We believe that God,  
in a world full of injustice and enmity,  
is in a special way the God of the destitute,  
the poor, and the wronged.

**All: We believe that God calls the church  
to follow God in this;  
for God brings justice to the oppressed  
and gives bread to the hungry. Amen.**

### REFLECTIONS ON JOY

Scripture Reading Luke 15:3-10 *Bruce Phillips*  
*Claiming Joy: Where Does Joy Come From?*

Scripture Reading Philippians 4:4-20  
*Complicated Joy: How Can Joy Survive?*

Scripture Reading: Luke 17:11-19  
*Cultivating Joy: How Do I Find Joy?*

Scripture reading: 2 timothy 4:9-18  
*Communal Joy: Where do we find joy?*

Scripture Reading Acts 8:26-40  
*Contributing to Joy: Why Does Our Joy Matter?*

Hymn 92 (Green) "He Came Down"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

Offering (Ushers will also collect blue prayer request cards at the time of the offering.)

Offertory "Blest Are They" *Haas*

\*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 (If you need to sit for the prayer, please feel free.)

\*Hymn 80 (Insert) "We Will Go Out With Joy"  
*(Sung 4 times)*

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "One Bread, One Body"

### ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

**Ushers**

Chrissy & Brian Bouvier

**Greeter**

Alice Bell

**Flowers**

Given by Marie Cantafio in memory of her beloved husband, Ralph, and her beloved daughter, Gemma.

**Coffee Server**

Kathy Johnson

**Guest Musicians**

Nancy Kimmons, John Senior, Troy Fisher,  
Rich Scott, Cat Duncan

### 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!

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

This Summer, our children and youth will stay in worship for the full service as we worship as a church family. This will give our wonderful teachers some well-deserved rest during the summer months. We will still have a children's sermon for our kids (Grades 4 and under) to connect and learn about God. We have activity bags with children's materials, located in the coat closet in the back of the sanctuary. If you have trouble finding them, an usher will be happy to help you!

### COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will be sharing the Lord's Supper today. This is not just for Presbyterians or members of St. John's. Everyone who seeks to know and love Jesus Christ is welcome to share in this meal! **You will be invited to come forward up the center aisle, take a piece of bread, and dip it in the cup (all of the bread is gluten-free). There is also a basket of pre-sealed juice cups, if you would prefer not to do intinction.**

### MONTREAT SUNDAY

This morning our youth will be sharing what they learned about God at the Montreat Youth Conference (MYC). For the past week we have spent time in the mountains of North Carolina playing, serving, worshipping, engaging in small group discussion, and growing in faith. Our theme this year was "In Joy," and our liturgy this morning is from each night's worship services at Montreat. We hope this will give you a glimpse into their time at MYC!

### PASTOR PATRICK'S DOCTORAL PROJECT

The time has come for Pastor Patrick to do a project that will provide the research for his doctoral thesis paper, and he needs your help! He will be holding an informational session after worship on Sunday, September 10 for those who are interested in hearing more and potentially participating in the project. The project itself will be a series of group discussions that take place on Sunday, September 17 after worship for about two hours. Patrick is looking for at least ten people who will commit to being at both of those gatherings. Please contact him with any questions.

### ONLINE GIVING

We are in the process of implementing a new app called *Giving* that will be used to track financial contributions to the church. This app will also give you the ability to give online (you will still be able to give the way you currently do, if you wish). One of the steps in migrating to this new system is "joining" couples in the system, so that regardless of who makes a particular donation, the couple as a whole is credited. As your couple is "joined," you will receive an email letting you know that this administrative step has occurred. There is nothing you need to do in response to this email. If your "couple" has not been joined correctly, please contact Roseann in the church office so a correction can be made. More information about the *Giving* app, including how to use it, will be shared in September, once the migration is complete.

### MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of our Men's Group will be **Wednesday, August 9 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House. We will be discussing chapter 6 of Carol Dweck's book *Mindset*, which is available on Amazon or at Barnes & Noble. Men of all ages are welcome, even if you haven't done the reading!

### USHER & SCRIPTURE READER SIGN-UPS

We are always looking for volunteers to usher and read scripture in worship. If you would like to help with one or both, you can sign up using the link in today's email update.

### SUMMER SUNDAY OF SERVICE

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship on Sunday, August 27 for our next Summer Sunday of Service. We will be packing meals for the Great Valley Food Cupboard. Located in the Great Valley Baptist Church on N. Valley Forge Road, the Food Cupboard helps people in our community who are experiencing food insecurity. St. John's has partnered with the GVFC for many years by providing volunteers, produce from our vegetable gardens, and financial assistance. We hope that you will join us!

### URGENT NURSERY CARE NEEDED

This Summer, our nursery workers are getting a much-needed sabbath in July and August. We are in need of a volunteer to serve in the nursery on August 27 during worship. Please contact Pastor Ridgley (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com) if you would like to volunteer.

### YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART – SUMMER CONCERTS

Join us for free local outdoor concerts this summer as we relax and enjoy good music together. Bring a pizza or picnic, a friend, your family (kid friendly!), or just yourself and join us on the dates below. No RSVP is required, but please reach out to Lauren Feldman (laurengfeldman@yahoo.com) with questions and how to connect at each event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Wednesday, August 9 (7:30 p.m.) Reggae Thunder – Rose Tree Park  
Thursday, Sept. 7 (7:00 p.m.) AM Radio Band – Wilson Farm Park

### ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

<b>Sun, Aug 6</b>	9:30 am	Worship & Communion
<b>Tues. Aug 8</b>	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
<b>Wed. Aug 9</b>	7:00 am	Men's Group (Carriage House)
	9:00 am	Companions in Prayer (Kean Room)
<b>Thurs, Aug 10</b>	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
<b>Sat. Aug 12</b>	9:00 am	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
<b>Sun, Aug 13</b>	9:30 am	Worship

### This Week in the Church Office

**Pastor Ridgley is leaving on Thursday for the Women's Conference in Montreat, NC. She will be back on Tuesday, August 15.**

Friday is Pastor Patrick'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 484-604-0499.**

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



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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)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

May you learn to find joy right here in the mess of things.

May you learn to trust that even here,  
breathing deep and laughing unexpectedly  
is a sign of progress, release.

You are free to have hope for tomorrow.

You are allowed to go dancing in the shadows.  
You do not need permission from anyone to have joy.

Bold, unbridled joy that shows up in  
everything, even waiting.

You do not have to explain why you choose to hope.

Have hope, just because you can.  
Have hope with the hope that it will have a  
ripple effect in the lives of the hopeless.

You do not have to wait for someone to give  
you permission to start looking where  
the Light pours in...

You are free to thrive in the change,  
and you are free to find joy here.

You are free to find joy here.

– Morgan Harper Nichols

August 6, 2023

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

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

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