

St. John's at Worship Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

*Answering God's Call to Worship

Psalm 138

One: We give you thanks, O Lord, with our whole heart;
before the gods we sing your praise!

**All: We 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 we called, you answered us.
You increased our strength of soul.

**All: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.**

One: For though the Lord is high, God regards the lowly;
but the haughty God perceives from far away.

**All: Though we walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve us against the wrath of our enemies;
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers us.**

One: The Lord will fulfill his purpose for us;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Let us worship God!

*Hymn 384, vss. 1, 3, 4 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*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

**You have mercy on us, Lord,
despite the ways that we fail to show mercy.
You forgive us, despite the ways that we fail to forgive.
You love us, despite the ways that we fail to love.
Heal the wounds in the world and in our lives that open us to sin,
and extend to us the grace that we fail to extend to others.**

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.**

*Affirming Our Faith

The Apostle's 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

Exodus 1:8–22 (pg. 49, O.T.)

Nancy Arico

Blessing of Students Returning to School

Rev. Joyner

During the prayer, please join when prompted with:

One: Loving God,

All: Hold us and our prayers.

*Hymn 605

"Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

Scripture Reading

Exodus 2:1–10 (pg. 49, O.T.)

Sermon

SET FREE

Rev. Marshall

Offering (Ushers will also collect blue prayer request cards at the time of the 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 (If you need to sit for the prayer, please feel free.)

*Hymn 332 (Insert)

"Live Into Hope"

*Benediction

*Postlude

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Ushers

Chrissy & Brian Bouvier

Greeter

Alice Bell

Flowers

Given by Jim & Kate Little, in loving memory of June
Tartala, Kate's mother.

Coffee Server

Kathy Johnson

Organist

Nancy Kimmons

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! **Sunday School resumes on September 17.**

SUMMER SUNDAY OF SERVICE – TODAY!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for our final 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 provides assistance to 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!

USHER & SCRIPTURE READER SIGN-UPS

We are always looking for volunteers to help usher and read scripture in worship. There will be a link in today's email update where you can look at the available dates and sign up online to do one or both! We hope that you will check it out and pick a Sunday (or two!).

MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of our Men's Group will be **Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House. We will be discussing chapter 8 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!

CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING

Parents of eligible confirmands are invited to join Pastor Ridgley in the Kean Room on Sunday, September 17 after worship to learn more about this year's Confirmation Class. Please email Pastor Ridgley to RSVP.

HOSTS FOR HOSPITALS

Hosts for Hospitals (who did a Minute for Mission here in March) is looking for people to provide lodging for patients and families traveling to Philadelphia for medical care. If you are interested in helping, you can contact them by phone (484-380-2999) or email (lodging@hostsforhospitals.org).

SUPPER AT ST. JOHN'S

Our weekly Wednesday night supper program returns at 6:00 p.m. on September 20. Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for more details soon!

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.

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!

Thursday, Sept. 7 (7:00 p.m.) AM Radio Band – Wilson Farm Park

SAVE THE DATE: ST. JOHN'S FALL FESTIVAL

We hope you'll join us on **Sunday, September 24** for food, fellowship, and fun at this year's Fall Festival! Check the weekly email in the coming weeks to learn more.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Aug. 27	9:30 am	Worship & Blessing of Students
	10:30 am	Summer Sunday of Service (Fell. Hall)
Tues, Aug. 29	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
Wed, Aug. 30	9:00 am	Companions in Prayer (Kean Room)
Thurs, Aug. 31	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
Sun, Sept. 3	9:30 am	Worship & Communion
Mon, Sept. 4		Church Office Closed for Labor Day

This Week in the Church Office

Pastor Patrick will be on vacation starting tomorrow. He will be back in the office on Tuesday, September 5. During that time he will not be available by email or phone.

Friday is Pastor Patrick and Pastor 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. **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.**

Our Church Administrator Roseann Christian is in the office Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Any announcements for next week's bulletin or email must be sent to her by Noon on Wednesday.



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Roseann Christian, Church Administrator (Admin@stjohnsdevon.com)
Sue Chudy, Clerk of Session (susan.chudy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

Old pirates, yes, they rob I,
sold I to the merchant ships,
minutes after they took I
from the bottomless pit.
But my hand was made strong
by the hand of the Almighty.
We forward in this generation,
triumphantly.

Won't you help to sing
these songs of freedom?
'Cause all I ever have:
Redemption songs,
Redemption songs.

– From "Redemption Song"
by Bob Marley

August 27, 2023
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa