

St. John's at Worship

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Ode to Joy" Beethoven/arr. Angerman

*Answering God's Call to Worship

One: We have come to worship God, the living God,
All: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.
One: We have come to praise God, the almighty God,
All: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of love.
One: We have come to worship God, the all-gracious God,
All: Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope.
All glory to God!

*Hymn 89 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

*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

**Loving and merciful One,
we thank you for the community in which you have placed us,
for the brothers and sisters with whom we walk this pilgrim journey.
Yet, we confess that we fail to love as you love.
We push aside those whom we believe are the least in your kingdom.
We fail to see your kingdom in parables,
because we fail to see your kingdom in each other.
Form in us a new vision of community,
in which there is neither east nor west, neither south nor north.
We pray for the sake of your kingdom that both *is* and *is not yet*.**

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 Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22

**New life in Christ
takes shape in a community
in which people know
that God loves and accepts them
in spite of what they are.
They therefore accept themselves and love others,
knowing that no one has any ground
on which to stand, except God's grace.**

Children's Time

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

Scripture Reading John 15:1-8 (pg.109, N.T.) Jim Ryland

Sermon ABIDE IN LOVE Rev. Joyner

Offering (Blue prayer request cards can be placed in the offering trays.)
Offertory "Simple Gifts" arr. Widmar

*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

*Hymn 300 (Insert)

"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

*Benediction

*Postlude "Postlude on Italian Hymn" Broughton

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Organist Nancy Kimmons
Ushers Earline & Kermit Eck
Greeter Bob Miller
Flowers Given by Joan Anderson in remembrance of the gifts of Preston & Elizabeth Stover, who focused so much care and energy in bringing new folks into the St. John's Fellowship
Coffee Servers Christa Fisher
Rejoicing Ringers Betsy Miller (Director), James Adams, Garrick Bellew, Genevieve Bellew, Rowan Bellew, Sophie Coradi, Christina Fish, Avery Hillier, Brandon Marshall, Emily Marshall, Ryan Marshall, Claire Tiede

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

We are so happy that you have joined us this morning to celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ, and we hope that you experience the new life that this season of Easter brings! 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 each of the sanctuary doors. We would love for you to join us downstairs for refreshments and fellowship immediately 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, grades K-12th 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.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

Throughout the season of Easter, we are receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, which goes to provide water, food, and disaster relief for those in need around the world. Please use the envelopes located in the pew rack or visit <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs> to learn more and give online.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Nancy Davis has been in Bryn Mawr Hospital with pneumonia and bronchitis. Cards can be sent to: 308 Valley Place, Radnor, PA 19087

Marilyn Benton has moved to Dock Woods-Harmony House, a memory care facility. Her new address is:

Marilyn Benton
Harmony House
275 Dock Drive
Lansdale, PA 19446

WOMEN'S TEA - NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 5 (3:00 P.M.)

Women of all ages, including children and youth ages 10 and up, are invited for a time of fellowship and crafts as we enjoy tea sandwiches, fruit, scones, cookies, and of course an assortment of teas in the Carriage House. Hats and gloves are optional! Please sign up in advance during coffee fellowship following worship.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER - SATURDAY, MAY 18

Join us for this annual tradition to gather and share a wonderful evening together! We are still looking for a host for appetizers, as well as dinner hosts for small groups. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact Lauren Feldman (484-620-9911 or laurengfeldman@yahoo.com).

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The 2024 Flower Sponsorship Chart is posted in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to sponsor the flowers in the sanctuary on a Sunday, just write your name by the date. You can contact Jeanne Lynam (cwlynam@msn.com) or text 610-724-2704 with any questions.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will be this **Wednesday, May 1 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House to discuss chapter 5 of Romans. All men are welcome.

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY – 2 OPPORTUNITIES!

The Sunday Morning Book Group is now reading *The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery* by Sarah Augustine. The group will be meeting at 8:00 a.m. Sunday mornings for the next 4 weeks: April 28 (Chapters 1, 2), May 5 (Chapters 3, 4, 5), May 12 (Chapters 6, 7), May 19 (Chapters 8, 9, 10). We will then take the summer off and begin with a new book in September. Please contact Nancy Wolfe if you have any questions (nj.wolfe@verizon.net).

The Monday group meets at 11:30 a.m. in the Kean Room to read *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net).

HORSE SHOW PARKING IS COMING!

It is that time of the year again! From **Wednesday, May 22** through **Saturday, June 1**, we will be parking cars on the church grounds from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. We are in need of Day Leaders 5/23, 5/24 and 5/27. Day Leaders do not have to be here all day. If you are interested in volunteering as a Day Leader, please email Pastor Ridgley. **Signs up for shifts to sell parking are now live!** Volunteer today by visiting our website or at Coffee Hour Fellowship starting May 5th!

DEACONS FOOD DRIVE

The Deacons are holding a food drive to support the Great Valley Food Cupboard. There are large plastic bins in Fellowship Hall to collect 1-pound cans of coffee, Keurig cups, boxes of hot chocolate packets, and boxes of iced tea or lemonade packets. Please contact Betsy Friend with any questions (610-647-4142).

BOOK NOOK – WE WANT YOUR HELP!

As we prepare for our Summer Book Nook in Fellowship Hall, we are asking for your help. Send us the titles of your favorite books, and we will include them throughout the summer. It doesn't just have to be "church books." It can be novels, history, poetry, science, even cookbooks...all genres are welcome! Just email your submissions to Pastor Patrick (Patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com).

YOUTH MISSION NIGHT – TODAY! (4:30-6:00 P.M.)

Youth grades 6–12 are invited to join us at the church for a mission project for Great Valley Food Cupboard followed by a dinner prepared by Betsy Friend and Earline Eck! Prior to youth group, the Youth Advisory Council will meet at 3:45 p.m. in the Youth Room.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Would you be interested in hosting an international exchange student next school year? Conestoga High School will be welcoming foreign exchange students this fall, and they are still in need of host families! If you have room in your home and are interested in learning more about hosting a student for the school year, please contact Sandy Forbes (54sandyjo@comcast.net).

SAVE THE DATES – CHANGEMAKERS KIDS CLUB

June 25, July 23, August 20 from 5:30–8:00 p.m. (with dinner)

This summer we will be partnering with St. Luke Lutheran Church in Devon to provide a once-a-month bible camp for busy families. We will explore, experiment, and observe all the ways God loves us and how we can change the world for better. This event is for children 2 years old to rising 5th graders. Youth in grades 6 to 12 are invited to come and help as counselors! Registration begins on May 1.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE ENNEAGRAM?

The Enneagram is a framework for better understanding yourself and others that dates all the way back to the early Christian mystics known as the desert fathers. It provides insight into our motivations and helps us cultivate compassion for others and ourselves! Pastor Ridgley just completed a certification course on the Enneagram and has access to free exams to administer. If you are interested in learning more and taking an assessment, email her at rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Apr 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)
9:30 am Worship, Sunday School
4:30 pm Youth Fellowship

Tues, Apr 30

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Wed, May 1

7:00 am Men's Group (Carriage House)

Thurs, May 2

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sat, May 4

9:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sun, May 5

Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)
9:30 am Worship, Sunday School, Communion

This Week in the Church Office

Pastor Patrick has been away on a retreat and will be back in the office tomorrow.

Our Church Administrator Roseann Christian is in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. She works virtually on Mondays and Wednesdays, available by phone and email. If you call the church office, she will still answer. Any announcements for next week's bulletin or email must be sent to her by Noon on Wednesday.

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.**



www.stjohnsdevon.com

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Rev. Dr. 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



*So now faith, hope, and love abide,
and the greatest of these is love.*

April 28, 2024
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa