

St. John’s at Worship
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

*Answering God’s Call to Worship
One: Jesus never said that God won’t give us more than we can handle.
All: The promise of our faith is that we do not have to handle it alone.
One: Jesus never said that God helps those who help themselves.
All: The promise of our faith is that God helps those who cannot help themselves.
One: In this there is good news:
All: God is with us, and God is good, always!
One: Let us celebrate the goodness of God with our worship and praise!

*Hymn 694 (Insert) “Great God of Every Blessing”

Prayer of Invocation & Confession

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.

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 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 the 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 Luke 10:25–37 (pg. 71, N.T.) Nancy Davis

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

Sermon BEARING ONE ANOTHER’S BURDENS Rev. Dr. Marshall

*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 306 (Insert) “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

*Benediction

*Postlude

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD
Organist Nancy Kimmons
Greeter Joe & Nancy Arico
Coffee Servers Susanne & Nader Engheta
Joy Messengers Linda Duncan, Lauren Feldman, Nancy Kimmons,
Pam Schafer, John Senior

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 scripture reading, children and youth in 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.

OFFERING & PRAYER CARDS
If you would like to support the life and ministry of St. John’s, there are offering trays located at each door in the sanctuary. You can also give electronically through our website (click the “Donate” button at the top right), or through the Church Center app. Prayer request cards can be placed in one of the offering trays before worship or during the greeting time.

FALL FESTIVAL – TODAY! 4:00–6:00 P.M.
Children of all ages are invited to join us in their costumes for a Fall Festival at St. John’s! We will gather for games, a service project, and dinner together as we “trick or treat” from station to station. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Cindy Kerr (cindy@caseforsmiles.org). Please feel free to bring friends and family!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE
Earlier this month, Alex Engheta, son of Susanne & Nader Engheta, won awards in six categories given by the Chester County Self Determination Committee, which recognizes individuals with learning differences. Alex won awards in all categories: Leadership, Community Involvement, Kindness, Self-Advocacy, Employment, and Against All Odds. Way to go Alex! Your St. John's church family is so very proud of you!

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE SEEKING A CHURCH FAMILY?
In November, St. John’s will host classes led by our pastors for those interested in learning more about our church community and becoming a member. This two-class series will be held on Sunday, November 17 and Sunday, November 24 at 11:00 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. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Barbara McConnell (blbmccconnell@aol.com).

SANCTUARY FLOWERS
The Deacons have purchased two silk flower arrangements from Valley Forge Flowers to use on Sundays. We will still have poinsettias in December and lilies at Easter. Real flower arrangements will still be made for those members who have traditionally given on specific Sundays. Flowers can also be purchased to dedicate with a message in the bulletin. If you wish to do this, please contact Jeanne Lynam at cwlynam@msn.com or text at 610-724-2704, and a member of our recently formed Flower Guild will create an arrangement for you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY!
As a church family, it would be nice to know and to recognize each other’s birthdays! To that end, we will be posting a Birthday Calendar in Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in participating, please be sure to neatly print your name on the appropriate month and day of the calendar. (No years please...we don't want to give away your age!) Or you can email your birthday to Barbara McConnell (blbmccconnell@aol.com) so that she can add your birthday to the calendar. Please sign up by November 30, so we can start publishing each month’s birthdays in our weekly email in December!

MEN’S GROUP
The Men’s Group will meet on Wednesday, November 6 at 7:00 a.m. in the Carriage House to discuss chapter 14 of Romans. All men are welcome!

WOMEN’S BOOK STUDY – 2 OPPORTUNITIES!
The Sunday group meets at 8:00 a.m. to discuss Simply Jesus: A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did, and Why He Matters by N. T. Wright. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net).

The Monday group meets at 10:00 a.m., both in person in the Kean Room and on Zoom (Use the church Zoom room link on the website). Starting Monday, October 28, we will be reading and discussing Encountering God in Tyrannical Texts: Reflections on Paul, Women, and the Authority of Scripture by Frances Taylor Gench. If you would like to find out more contact Nancy Arico (nacy.arico@verizon.net or 610-550-9547).

VOCAL WORKSHOP WITH DR. MICHAEL SCARCELLE

Join us **this Tuesday, October 29 from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary for a vocal workshop led by Dr. Michael Scarcelle. Michael shared his gifts in worship with us over the summer, and he will soon be using our space to teach voice lessons. As a gift to the congregation, he is hosting a vocal workshop for all interested in improving their ensemble singing in the choir as well as for those who want to improve individually on solo singing. If you have ever wanted to learn how to sing, brush up on your vocal skills, or even just enjoy watching the process, please join us. Michael would also love to hear your input and interests for the choir’s repertoire. If you are interested in working with Michael to sing once or twice a month in worship as a choir and for future music projects such as recitals and concerts, please consider attending this workshop. If you have any questions or if you would like to work on a solo in class, please contact Michael directly (michaelscarcelle@gmail.com).

SUPPER AT ST. JOHN’S

Supper at St. John’s meets every Wednesday night through **November 20**. We begin at 6:00 p.m. with a meal followed by a class starting at 7:00 p.m. and conclude promptly at 8:00 p.m. Childcare is available with one week’s advance notice.

Pastor Patrick is leading a class called, “Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time.” We are reading through Mark’s gospel, trying to shed our preconceived notions of Jesus and seeing him as he actually is. If you don’t know much about Jesus, this will be a great introduction, and if you *do* know Jesus, this might help you see him in a new way. We hope that you will join us!

ELECTION DAY PRAYER SERVICE

Tuesday, November 5 is Election Day, and St. John’s Carriage House will once again serve as a polling place. But we also want to provide space for prayer for those who need it that day. Starting at 8:00 a.m., our sanctuary will be open for anyone who would like to stop in. We will provide a card with a printed prayer on it, or you can just sit in silence and pray your own prayer. At 7:00 p.m., Pastor Patrick will lead a brief prayer service. We hope that you will stop in at some point during the day!

CONSECRATION SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 10

Consecration Sunday is on November 10! We will dedicate our pledges for the coming year during worship. Immediately following worship, we will celebrate with a catered brunch in Fellowship Hall. You may turn in brunch RSVP cards in the envelope on the church office door, or on our website. There are copies of the letter describing Consecration Sunday on the usher’s table in the back of the sanctuary, along with yellow RSVP cards. We hope that you will join us for this wonderful day in the life of our church family!

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

St. John’s is partnering with Lauren Tiede to host a support group through CaringKind, a nonprofit that creates, delivers, and promotes comprehensive and compassionate care and support services for individuals and families affected by Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. The group will start meeting in January, meeting weekly for 10 weeks, for those who are/have been caregivers for loved ones who have Alzheimer’s and related dementias. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Lauren Tiede (ltiede@cknyc.org).

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – NOVEMBER 17

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, November 17, immediately following worship, for the purpose of voting on the Pastors’ Terms of Call for 2025. This is normally done at the Annual Meeting in January, but due to changes in the PC(USA) Board of Pensions medical plan, the Terms of Call need to be approved before January 1, so that our pastors can enroll in these new plans. The actual Terms of Call, as well as a description of the changes to the medical plans, will be available in advance of the meeting.

ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR

Sun, Oct 27	8:00 am	Women’s Book Group
	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	11:00 am	Session meeting (Carriage House)
	4:00 pm	Fall Festival (Fellowship Hall)
Mon, Oct 28	10:00 am	Women’s Book Group (Kean Room)
	7:00 pm	Highlands HOA Meeting (Fell. Hall)
Tues, Oct 29	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 pm	Vocal Workshop (Sanctuary)
Wed, Oct 30	6:00 pm	Supper at St. John’s (Fell. Hall)
Thurs, Oct 31	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
Sat, Nov 2	9:00 am	Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
Sun, Nov 3	8:00 am	Women’s Book Group
	9:30 am	Worship & Communion
	1:45 pm	Fall Family Fun Day at Linvilla

This Week in the Church Office

Any announcements for next week’s bulletin or email can be sent to admin@stjohnsdevon.com 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, please call 484-604-0499.



www.stjohnsdevon.com

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Rev. Dr. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
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Church Administrator (Admin@stjohnsdevon.com)
Sue Chudy, Clerk of Session (susan.chudy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

“The Christian must bear the burden of the other. We must suffer and endure the other. It is only when another person is a burden that they are really a brother or sister and not merely an object to be manipulated.

The burden of humanity was so heavy for God that God had to endure the Cross. God bore our burdens in the body of Jesus Christ. But God bore them as a mother carries her child, as a shepherd enfolds the lost lamb that has been found. Christ took us upon himself, and we weighted him to the ground, but God remained with us, and we with God. In bearing with us, God maintained fellowship with us.

It was the law of Christ that was fulfilled in the Cross. And Christians must share in this law.”

– Paraphrased from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*

October 27, 2024
For the latest information and news about St. John’s:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandeonpa