

St. John's at Worship Christ the King Sunday

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Canon in F" *Mozart*

*Answering God's Call to Worship Psalm 146

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**All: I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

One: Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.
When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.

**All: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;**

One: who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

**All: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.**

One: The Lord watches over the strangers;
God upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked God brings to ruin.

**All: The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!**

*Hymn 154, vss. 1, 4, 6 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

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 *A Declaration of Faith (PCUSA)*

**Jesus announced the coming of God's kingdom
and its hidden presence in the midst of the world's kingdoms.**

He taught his disciples to seek God's kingdom first.

**We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom.**

We are in the world, but not of the world.

**Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people
do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world,**

**but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom.
Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom:
to serve as he has served us;
to take up our cross,
risking the consequences of faithful discipleship;
to walk by faith, not by sight;
to hope for what we have not seen.**

Scripture Reading John 18:33–38a (pg.106, N.T.) Judy Mileto

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 "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" *Mozart*

Sermon CHRIST BEFORE PILATE 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 327 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

*Benediction

Postlude "Le Christ Roi" Dom Paul Benoit

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Organist Mary Elizabeth Campbell

Greeter Barbara McConnell

Musicians The Devon Brass: Mark Ator (French Horn),
Jeff Estabrook (Trumpet), Frank Mercurio (Trumpet)

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, 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.

CHOIR REHEARSAL – THURSDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.

Join us on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for choir rehearsal as we prepare to sing pieces on December 1, December 22, and December 24.

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.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet on **Wednesday, December 4 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House to discuss chapter 15 of Romans. All men are welcome!

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY – 2 OPPORTUNITIES!

The Sunday group meets in the Carriage House from 8:15–9:20 a.m. We encourage you to join us for a four-week study, continuing next week, **December 8 with Lesson 2: A Time to Repent.** NT Wright's book *Advent for Everyone: Matthew*, can be purchased via Amazon for \$11. Questions can be addressed to Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net) or Libby Dalrymple (cadalrymple85@gmail.com). We hope you will join us!

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) to discuss *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 (nancy.arico@verizon.net or 610-550-9547).

FRAUD PREVENTION SEMINAR – TODAY!

Our church Financial Secretary Brian Bouvier has been hosting a series of seminars to help arm you against some of the most common forms of fraud we face daily. The next session will be today at 11:00 a.m. in the Carriage House, and the topic will be password safety. Please contact Brian for more information (brianbouvier57@gmail.com).

PARENT MEETING – SUMMER TRIPS

There will be a meeting for parents on December 15 at 11:30 a.m. in the Kean Room to discuss upcoming summer trips for the Children & Youth Program. Contact admin@stjohnsdevon.com for additional information.

LUNCH & LEARN- DECEMBER 16 (11:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M.)

We hope you'll join us for the second Lunch & Learn of the year! Guests will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a light lunch (soup and sandwiches). We will be joined by Ohev Shalom Synagogue's Rabbinical Intern Lesley Pearl and Rev. Ridgley Joyner as we talk about "Lights of the World" and learn more about the celebration of Advent and Hannukah. Please RSVP using the link on our website or the weekly newsletter. If you can make a soup to share, even better! Indicate that on the form. For more information, contact Pastor Ridgley.

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).

PICK UP YOUR ADVENT DEVOTIONALS TODAY!

We have three opportunities for you to devote yourself to God this Advent. You can find all of these in the Fellowship Hall on the table underneath the bulletin boards:

Children – Advent Storybook features an interactive way to learn about the characters of the Christmas story.

Youth – Sanctified Art’s “Choose Joy” Advent Calendar features an activity for you to do to embody joy in a weary world. (Adults may take this home, too.)

Adults – Kate Bowler’s *The Weary World Rejoices* features daily scripture readings and reflection prompts. You can get a hard copy of this or download one by scanning a QR code (Youth may take this home, too.)

FAMILY ADVENT CALENDAR

St. John’s is partnering with Home of the Sparrow, an Exton organization that helps women in need of housing, supplies, educational advice, and support. **Starting next Sunday, December 1**, you can find a red and green poster board “calendar” on the wall in Fellowship Hall with 24 days listed. You can lift off one of the decorations, revealing an item you can purchase. Kindly put your name on the form next to the calendar, corresponding to the date/gift you’ve selected. Please bring **unwrapped** items back to Fellowship Hall and place in the container marked “Advent Calendar Gifts” by December 22.

ADVENT SERMON SERIES – “HOW DOES A WEARY WORLD REJOICE?”

Advent is a four-week season of preparation for Christmas, in which we remember the way that Christ came 2,000 years ago bringing hope, peace, joy, and love. But when we look at the world around us – or even our own lives – we find that hope, peace, joy, and love are often in short supply. On Sunday, December 1, we will be starting a sermon series that asks the question, “How does a weary world rejoice?” Even in the midst of trepidation, fear, or grief, we can find joy in the coming of Christ! We hope that you will join us!

ADVENT CRAFTERNOON – DECEMBER 8

Youth, children, and families of all ages (including adults!) are invited to an afternoon (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.) of crafting following worship as we begin the season of Advent. A light brunch will be served. Families will be able to pick up their Advent Devotional at this event. Please RSVP by using the link provided in the weekly email and on the church website.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & FAMILY SERVICE – DEC. 24 (4:00 P.M.)

Avery Hillier, a senior and member of our Youth Advisory Council, will be coordinating the Christmas Eve Pageant with our youth and children this year! Children and youth who wish to participate are invited to join us at church at 3:50 p.m. on Christmas Eve and come to the Kean Room to pick out a costume. Throughout the service, the children and youth progressively create a nativity scene. We hope you’ll join us!

UPCOMING YOUTH AND FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Dec. 8 – Advent Crafternoon (11 a.m.–1 p.m., Fellowship Hall)

Dec. 15 – Summer Trips Parent Meeting (11:30 a.m., Kean Room)

Dec. 15 – Youth Christmas Party (4:30–6 p.m., Fellowship Hall) Join us for an evening of dinner (waffle bar!), games, and fellowship. Please wear your favorite Christmas Jammies and bring a gift between \$10–15 for the White Elephant Gift Exchange!

ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR

Christ the King Sunday

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| Sun, Nov 24 | 11:00 am | New Member’s Class, Part 2 (Kean) |
| | 5:00 pm | Youth Return from Massanetta |
| | 11:00 am | Fraud Prevention Seminar (Carr. House) |
| Mon, Nov 25 | 10:00 am | Women’s Book Group (Kean Room) |
| Tues, Nov 26 | 5:00 pm | NO EXERCISE CLASS |
| Thurs, Nov 28 | All Day | Thanksgiving – Office Closed |
| Fri, Nov 29 | All Day | Office Closed |
| Sat, Nov 30 | 9:00 am | NO EXERCISE CLASS |
| Sun, Dec 1 | | The First Sunday of Advent |
| | 8:15 am | Women’s Book Group |
| | 9:30 am | Worship & Communion |

This Week in the Church Office

Pastor Patrick will be out of the office on vacation from Monday, November 25 through Monday, December 2. During that time he will be unavailable by email or phone. Pastor Ridgley will be available for any pastoral care needs.

Any announcements for next week’s bulletin or email can be sent to Annie at 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

217 Berkley Road | Box 399 | Devon, PA 19333

Rev. Dr. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
Rev. Ridgley Joyner, Associate Pastor (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com)
Annie Carruthers, Church Administrator (admin@stjohnsdevon.com)
Sue Chudy, Clerk of Session (susan.chudy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

“The King and I”
by Tom Blair

In a world of rough and tumble living,
claims of power attract.
Your message, King Jesus, is clothed in humility;
you claim nothing
but a desire for my soul to be given over
to the point of deepest need.
You are a mirror to the unknown territory of my heart.
No muscle here, no force,
only the magnetism of your holiness in flesh and blood,
drawing me toward your way.

November 24, 2024

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