

St. John's at Worship Palm Sunday

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Hosanna" *Leinbach*

Answering God's Call to Worship

One: On this day, Jesus marched;

**All: in between the city walls and the Temple,
in between joyful hosannas and doubtful whispers,
in between oppressive poverty and greedy power,
in between rampant fear and unfurled hope.**

One: On this day, Jesus marched in between what *had been* and what *could be*.

All: May we lay down our coats, wave our palms, and meet him there.

One: Hosanna in the highest!

All: Hosanna in between!

*Hymn 278 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

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

**We believe that many years ago
a peaceful parade wove its way through the streets of Jerusalem.
We believe that on that day the people cried out,
longing and praying for a better world.
We believe that these longings came from a place of deep hope,
and we believe that hope cannot be silenced.
So we listen for the Spirit.
We sing Hosanna.
We pay attention.
For in between the silence and the song,
we believe the Spirit is still speaking. Amen.**

Scripture Reading Luke 19:29–40 (pg. 83, N.T.) Brian Bouvier

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 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" *Elvey*

Sermon SHOUTING & SILENCE Rev. Joyner

Lenten Sermon Series:

Everything in Between: Navigating the Polarities of Life and Faith

*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 280 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

*Benediction

*Postlude "Chief of Sinners Though I Be" *Redhead*

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Music Director Janet Kaido

The Devon Brass Mark Ator, Jeff Estabrook, Frank Mercurio, Paul Steege

Greeter Kate Johnson

Usher Tom Higgins

Coffee Jean Converse, Lynne Brown

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

No matter who you are, where you're from, what you look like, or what you are wearing, you are welcome here! No matter where you are in your faith, you belong here. All we want is to help you experience the presence and love of Jesus Christ! 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–12 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.

EASTER LILIES

For \$10, you can sponsor a lily to enhance the beauty of the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Jeanne Lynam and Nancy Wolfe will be in Fellowship Hall at coffee hour for signups. You can also email Jeanne at cwlynam@msn.com. The lily is yours to take home after worship on Easter Sunday.

HOPE FEST AT THE COMMON PLACE – POSTPONED DUE TO WEATHER

Over the years Cornerstone Christian Academy and the Common Place have worked together in serving the Southwest Philadelphia community. The Common Place provides holistic support to children and their families in southwest Philadelphia through educational programs, food sovereignty, community collaboration, and a welcoming space. The Common Place will be hosting "Hope Fest," a service day on their campus. If you are interested in learning more, see our weekly email for a link to register!

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet **this Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House. They are reading, *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler, and will be discussing chapters 12–14. All men are welcome!

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY – 2 OPPORTUNITIES!

The Sunday book group meets from 8:15–9:20 a.m. (**excluding the first Sunday of every month**) in the Kean Room. They are currently reading "Elusive Grace: Loving Your Enemies While Striving for God's Justice" written by Scott Black Johnston. Contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net) with any questions.

The Monday group is doing a Lenten study of the book *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms*, by Elizabeth Caldwell. They meet at 10:00 a.m., both in person in the Kean Room and on Zoom (use the church Zoom room link on the website). A copy of the book is available in the Book Nook in Fellowship Hall, if you want to check it out. Contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net or 610-550-9547) for more information.

The Monday Book Group is taking a field trip! On **Thursday, April 17** (Maundy Thursday) at 10 a.m. some of the group is going to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church to take part in a prayer labyrinth walk. If you are interested in finding out more or joining us, please contact Nancy Arico.

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

Years ago, St. John's had a Peace & Social Justice group that focused on how we can better advocate for peace and justice in the community and world around us. In recent weeks, a growing desire has been expressed to reform this group! Join us in the Kean Room after worship on April 27 to meet with others who are interested in re-forming this group! For more information, contact Pastor Ridgley (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com).

NEW WAYS TO CONNECT WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Do you have a special skill, interest, or hobby that you would like to share with your St. John's family? Would you like to know who else shares a common interest? If so, please take five minutes to indicate your skills and interests on the survey below. You are not signing up for anything; we just want to connect people with shared interests! Everyone who participates will receive a link providing them with a compilation of our church family's many talents, hobbies, and interests.

<https://mator.wufoo.com/forms/skills-interests-inventory/>

If you would prefer to fill out a paper copy of the survey, just contact Annie in the church office.

LUNCH & LEARN – MONDAY, APRIL 28

Mark your calendars for our next Lunch & Learn on Monday, April 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pastor Ridgley will be sharing about her sabbatical travels on the Portuguese Camino. A link to RSVP will be available in the coming weeks.

WOMEN'S TEA – SUNDAY, MAY 4

April showers bring May flowers as well as the Women's Tea! All women, including youth in fifth grade and above, are welcome to join Women's Fellowship on the afternoon of May 4 at 3:00 p.m. for an afternoon of tea, tea sandwiches, fruit, and baked goods. In lieu of a craft this year we are asking that everyone bring in a bag of food donations for the Chester County Food Bank. Advanced sign-ups are encouraged and will be downstairs during coffee fellowship. We hope to see you there!

IMMIGRATION FORUM – SATURDAY, MAY 10

St. John's has supported the work of the Wellspring Caritas Foundation in Mexico for many years. Their work building community-based programs for food, education, and jobs has been life changing for homeless and near-homeless families. Please join us in the Carriage House on Saturday, May 10 at 4:00 p.m. for a special gathering to examine the roots of migration and how we can help cultivate sustainable alternatives. How can we build opportunities for people to stay at home? Please contact Betsy Friend (betsyfriend23@aol.com) or Sandy Forbes (54sandyjo@comcast.net) with any questions.

ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE DINNER – SATURDAY, MAY 17

It's almost time for one of our favorite fellowship events! The Annual Progressive Dinner will take place on Saturday, May 17. To prepare to make this awesome event a reality, we are looking for hosts! If you are available to host, please email Lauren Feldman (laurengfeldman@yahoo.com).

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AT ST. JOHN'S

Happy birthday to those in our church family who are celebrating birthdays this month! Please consider wishing them a happy birthday in person or sending them birthday wishes by text, email, or a card in the mail.

- April 2** Lynne Hay
- April 14** Dwight Jaggard
- April 21** Janette Scott
- April 21** Mary Caroline Ward
- April 23** Finn Holcomb
- April 26** Cindy Kerr
- April 27** Emma Kaido
- April 28** Christina Fish

If you have an April birthday and would like to be included on this list, please contact Barbara McConnell (blbmccconnell@aol.com).

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

TRUE NORTH: TRUSTING JESUS IN A WILD WORLD

We will once again be partnering with St. Luke Lutheran Church in Devon for Vacation Bible School! Join us August 4–8 from 9 a.m. to Noon at St. Luke for music, Bible study, games, crafts, and FUN, as we navigate how to trust Jesus in a wild world full of twists and turns. Registration is open now through May 28, and there is a registration link in the weekly email. We are also looking for volunteers to help with shepherding, station leading, and more! We have a volunteer position for everyone, even those who can only come one day. To sign up to volunteer click the same link you use to register! For more information, contact Pastor Ridgley.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship of St. John's reaches out at this time each year to seek your financial support for our activities, including year-round coffee fellowship each Sunday, the February Blanket Drive, the Ladies Lenten Luncheon on Ash Wednesday, the Women's Tea in May, and the Family Strawberry Festival in June. Your contribution allows this ministry to continue its work. You can contribute via the church website, drop your envelope in an offering plate, or place it on the coffee bar during fellowship after church. Please list "Women's Fellowship" on a cash envelope or check memo line. Thank you for your generous support.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

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| Sun, Apr. 13 | Palm Sunday
8:15 am Trustees Meeting (Kean)
8:15 am Women's Book Group (Carr. House)
9:30 am Worship & Sunday School
10:30 am Egg Hunt (Memorial Garden)
11:15 am Task Force Chair Meeting (Kean) |
| Mon, Apr. 14 | 10:00 am Women's Book Group (Kean) |
| Tues, Apr. 15 | 5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall) |
| Thurs, Apr. 17 | Maundy Thursday
5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fell. Hall)
7:00 pm Worship |
| Fri, Apr. 18 | Good Friday - Office Closed
7:00 pm Worship (Covenant Presbyterian) |
| Sat, Apr. 19 | 9:00 am Exercise Class (Fell. Hall) |
| Sun, Apr. 20 | Easter Sunday
8:15 am Women's Book Group (Carr. House)
9:30 am Worship & Sunday School |
| Mon, Apr. 21 | Easter Monday – Office Closed |

This Week in the Church Office

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's 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

610-688-5222

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



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

If You Really Listen...
by Rev. Sarah Speed

In the city you'll hear horns,
the clatter of the subway,
mothers calling to their children, saying,
"Take my hand before we cross the street."
You'll hear church bells, Salvation Army bells,
people asking for spare change,
while others ask for directions.
You'll hear the whistle from the traffic cop,
the exhaust from the bus,
that a train is arriving in two minutes.
You'll hear mothers selling fresh mango,
theater kids selling tickets,
and religious groups selling ideas.
But even with all that shouting,
even with all that noise,
the birds still sing.
Against all odds,
thanks be to God,
the birds still sing.

April 13, 2025

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