

St. John’s at Worship
Resurrection of the Lord

Prelude “Crown Him with Many Crowns” Elvey, arr. Harvey
“Morning Has Broken” Trad. Gaelic, arr. Harvey
“Lead On, O King Eternal” Smart, arr. Harvey

Welcome

Introit “A Joyful Introit” Praetorius, arr. Liebergen

Scripture Reading Luke 24:1–12 (pg. 90, N.T.) Susan Chudy

Answering God’s Call to Worship
One: We have all known grief. We have all known loss.
We have all known the long road, tired and winding.
We have all whispered prayers on bended knees.
We have all stared at the sky, empty of stars.
All: But today we know hope!
Today we know life!
Today we know the sound of Alleluias!
Today we know that death does not have the last word!
Today we know that nothing can separate us from God’s love!
One: For today Christ is risen!
All: He is risen indeed!
One: May that good news meet you here,
and may you know, deep in your bones,
that today is a new day.
All: Alleluia! Amen.

*Hymn 302, vss. 1, 3, 5 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

*Prayer of Invocation & 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.

Scripture Reading Romans 8:18–25 (pg. 158, N.T.) Jim Ryland

Children’s Time Rev. Joyner

Anthem Vivaldi, arr. Hopson
“All Earth Rejoice with a Gladsome Voice”

Sermon GRIEF & HOPE Rev. Dr. Marshall
Sermon Series – Everything in Between:
Navigating the Polarities of Life and Faith

*Affirming Our Faith
In the dark before dawn,
we believe that God is alive.
In the midst of our grief,
we believe the Spirit is at work.
In the chaos of our broken world,
we believe that love is on the loose.

For just as no stone could keep Jesus confined,
nothing can keep God’s love from us.
So today we sing, “Alleluia!”
For somewhere in between our belief and doubt,
hope lives.
Christ has died, and Christ has risen.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

*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 & Prayers of the People

*Hymn 318, vss. 1, 3, 5 “Christ Is Alive!”

*Benediction

*Postlude “Toccata from Symphony V” Widor

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD
Music Director Janet Kaido
Ushers Teagan Bullock,
Greeters Barbara McConnell, Alice Bell, Cindy Kerr, Gavin Kerr
Coffee Servers Nancy Phillips, Bruce Phillips
Guest Musicians Cassia Harvey (cello), Myanna Harvey (violin),
Miyuki Hashimoto (soprano), Chaka Allen (bass)

WITH THANKS FOR OUR BEAUTIFUL EASTER LILIES:	
John & Sharon Griffin	Peter & Nancy Crawford
Chuck & Jeanne Lynam	Frank Lewandowski & Ann Roberts
Gavin & Cindy Kerr	Skip & Marianne McClennen
Jean Converse	Joe & Nancy Arico
Peggy Billian	John & Julie Arico
Chris & Judy Mileto	Charlie & Janette Scott
Nancy Davis	Lynne Brown
Ken & Nancy Coradi	Alberto & Stella Urbina
Kermit & Earline Eck	Kathy Johnson
Gail Nelson	Lee & Virginia Holt
Doris Humphrey	Herb Thal
John Adams & Susan Liu	Lee & Barbara McConnell
Jeff & Lisa Estabrook	John Senior & Nancy Kimmons

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN’S!
We are so happy that you have joined us to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ this morning, and we hope that you experience the new life that this day brings! No matter who you are, where you come 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. Happy Easter!

SUNDAY SCHOOL
There is no Sunday School today, so that we can all celebrate Christ’s resurrection together as a church family. As always, nursery care is provided for children ages 5 and under.

MEN’S GROUP
The Men’s Group will meet **this Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House to discuss chapters 12–14 of *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler. All men are welcome!

WOMEN’S BOOK STUDY – 2 OPPORTUNITIES!
The Sunday book group meets from 8:15–9:20 a.m. in the Kean Room to read *The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World* by Desmond & Mpho Tutu. Contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net) with any questions.

The Monday group meets at 10:00 a.m., both in-person in the Kean Room and on Zoom. They will be starting a new book after Easter, so it would be a great time to join them! Contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net or 610-550-9547) for more information.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to end hunger, repair after disasters, and promote the self-development of all people all around the world through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

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. If you would prefer to fill out a paper copy of the survey, just contact Annie in the church office.
<https://mator.wufoo.com/forms/skills-interests-inventory/>

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE INTEREST MEETING
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. For more information, contact Pastor Ridgley.

SUPPORT THE CHESTER COUNTY FOOD BANK
Due to recent federal funding cuts, the Chester County Food Bank has announced that they are going to be experiencing a \$250,000 shortfall over the next three months. Please consider donating non-perishable items such as: cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, strawberry or grape jelly, marinara sauce, spaghetti, granola bars, juice boxes, tuna, canned fruit, Tastycakes or cookies, crackers, pretzels, cleaning supplies, paper towels, and toilet paper. There are donation bins in the Fellowship Hall where you can drop them off (on Sundays or during the week). Check out other ways to support CCFB in the weekly email!

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT – APRIL 27 (4–6 P.M. NOTE TIME CHANGE)

Join Pastor Ridgley at the church for a movie night upstairs in the youth room! We will have a homemade popcorn buffet and ice cream sundaes while we watch a classic favorite: *Cars*! Don't forget to RSVP using the link provided in the weekly emails!

LUNCH & LEARN – MONDAY, APRIL 28

Join us for Lunch & Learn on Monday, April 28 from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. as Pastor Ridgley shares about her Camino de Santiago pilgrimage while on sabbatical. A link to RSVP will be available in the weekly email.

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, dessert, and a lovely vocal performance. 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. Our church administrator, Annie Carruthers, will be singing. Please confirm your attendance at <https://mator.wufoo.com/forms/womens-tea-signup/> or by calling the church office at (610-688-5222). 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).

BINGO TO END ALZHEIMER'S – MAY 1, 6–9 P.M. AT PUDDLER'S KITCHEN

Join Pastor Ridgley for a night out to dinner with free Bingo! Puddler's Kitchen (3 Dekalb Street, Bridgeport) will donate 10% of food and beverage profits to the Alzheimer's Association. There will be raffle baskets from a variety of local businesses, and anyone from St. John's who comes to the event will get one free raffle ticket per family unit! Please consider coming and bringing your friends, so that together we can help end Alzheimer's Disease. For more information, contact Pastor Ridgley.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

TRUE NORTH: TRUSTING JESUS IN A WILD WORLD

Join us August 4-8 from 9 a.m. to Noon at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Devon for Vacation Bible School! We will gather 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. Please click the link in the weekly email to register. 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.

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 23	Finn Holcomb
April 14	Dwight Jaggard	April 26	Cindy Kerr
April 17	Ardath Belzer	April 27	Emma Kaido
April 21	Janette Scott	April 28	Christina Fish
April 21	Mary Caroline Ward		

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

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Mon, Apr. 21	Church Office Closed	
Tues, Apr. 22	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fell. Hall)
Wed, Apr. 23	7:00 am	Men's Group (Carriage House)
Thurs, Apr. 24	5:00 pm	Exercise Class (Fell. Hall)
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Sat, Apr. 26	9:00 am	Exercise Class (Fell. Hall)
Sun, Apr. 27	8:15 am	Women's Book Group (Kean)
	9:30 am	Worship & Sunday School
	11:00 am	Peace & Social Justice Group (Kean)

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 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, 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

In the Direction of Hope
by Rev. Sarah Speed

I am on my way.
Wait for me in the garden;
I will be there soon.

I'm not the fastest runner,
Lord knows that,
but these legs are moving.

I suppose I could blame my weary spirit for the slow speed.
I could blame the grief I've shoved into my pockets and
laid around my neck.
I could blame my own hesitation to hope,
a hesitation that clings like mud.

But I don't know that Jesus cares about my speed.
So tell God I am on my way.
Wait for me in the garden.
I will be there soon.

April 20, 2025
For the latest information and news about St. John's:
www.stjohnsdevon.com
facebook.com/stjohnspresbyteriandevonpa