

An asterisk (*) indicates that you are invited to stand, as you are able.

Welcome & Announcements

Introit "Of the Father's Love Begotten" arr. Marchand

*Answering God's Call to Worship

One: We have celebrated the coming of Christ, the birth of God with us!
But still...we wait.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus! Make all things new!**

One: We wait with hope for God to come again to complete the work that began in Jesus.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus! Make us new!**

One: As we wait, let us continue to celebrate the way that God has come among us in Christ!

*Hymn 246 "Joy to the World"

Prayer of Invocation & Confession (ending with 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 71 (Red)

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 *Affirmation for the New Year*

God is the eternal rock.

From year's beginning to its end, God is faithful.

In each day God is present.

In each action, God comes close.

Through all eternity, God is trustworthy.

Yesterday, today, and forever, sustaining, enlivening, making all things new,

God is the eternal rock.

Scripture Reading Philippians 2:5–11 (pg. 197, N.T.) Lynne Hay

As Pre-K–4th 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 "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" J.S. Bach

Scripture Reading Matthew 1:1–16 (pg. 1, N.T.)

Sermon BEGAT Rev. Dr. Marshall

After the sermon, a brief musical interlude will offer time for reflection.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

*Presentation of Offering & Doxology (Hymn 95, Red)

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 234

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*Benediction

*Postlude

"Allegro Maestoso"

Handel

Please take time after the Postlude to greet one another, especially people you don't already know!

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Organist

Janet Kaido

Greeter

Barbara McConnell

Ushers

Jen & Dan Lortz

Devon Brass

Mark Ator, Jeff Estabrook, Frank Mercurio, Paul Steege

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

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!

COMMUNION SUNDAY

We will be sharing the Lord's Supper today. This is not just for Presbyterians or members of St. John's. Everyone who seeks to know and love Jesus Christ is welcome to share in this meal! You will be invited to come forward up the center aisle, take a piece of bread, and dip it in the cup (all of the bread is gluten-free). There is also a basket of pre-sealed juice cups, if you would prefer not to dip in the common cup.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

After the scripture reading, grades K–4 will leave with their teachers. Grades 5–12 will remain for communion. 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.

NEW CHILDREN'S WORSHIP RESOURCE STATION

Our littlest worshippers are now able to customize their worship experience. In the coat closet in the sanctuary, kids can pick out a bag to fill with a children's bulletin, art supplies, fidget toys, books, and games to enrich their time. Please return to the brown basket when finished! In a hurry? Pre-made bags are available.

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 by scanning this QR code. Prayer request cards can be placed in one of the offering trays.



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING ENDS TODAY

Today is the last day to give to the PC(USA)'s *Christmas Joy Offering*, which supports at-risk youth, provides assistance to current and retired church workers in need, and develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, particularly equipping communities of color. You can use the envelope in your pew rack and place it in one of the offering trays. Online giving is also available. Just go to our website (stjohnsdevon.com), click the "Donate" button, and select "Christmas Joy Offering" from the dropdown menu.

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY – 2 OPPORTUNITIES!

The Sundy book study meets at 8:15 a.m. in the Carriage House, apart from the first Sunday of every month. Contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net) for more information.

The Monday group meets at 10:00 a.m., both in person and on Zoom (use the church Zoom link found on the website under Quick Links). They are discussing *Elusive Grace: Loving Your Enemies While Stiving for God's Justice* by Scott Black Johnston. If you would like to find out more or order a book, contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net or 610-550-9547).

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will meet Wednesday, January 7 at 7:00 a.m. in the Carriage House to continue their study on the book of Isaiah. Contact Pastor Patrick to get more information.

TEAM OLIVER'S 7TH ANNUAL PILLOWCASE SEWING EVENT

Help brighten the day of a critically ill child by joining us on MLK Day, Monday, January 19, as we sew pillowcases to support Case for Smiles. No experience is needed, and all are invited to participate. We will pair novice volunteers with others who can help guide you. Sign up for one or more sessions. Food and fun music will be provided. Donations are gladly accepted to help cover the cost of fabric. Please sign up using the link in the weekly email. If you have a Team Oliver shirt, please wear it!

GETTING RID OF A CHRISTMAS TREE?

If you have a live Christmas tree that you are looking to get rid of, Pastor Ridgley would love to cut some branches from it first! Email her to let her know.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of St. John's is called for **Sunday, January 25 immediately following worship**, for the purpose of distributing the Annual Report, presenting the 2026 budget, and electing Elders, Deacons, and Trustees.

All members of St. John's are encouraged to attend. The Annual Report will be distributed by email before the meeting (there will also be paper copies available for pickup). The names and biographies of the nominees for Elder, Deacon, and Trustee will also be made available in advance.

For those currently serving as Elders, Deacons, and Trustees, committee reports to be included with the Annual Report should be emailed to Annie in Word document format no later than Friday, January 16.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AT ST. JOHN'S

Happy Birthday to members and friends of our St. John's 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. Contact Barbara McConnell (blbmcconnell@aol.com) if you would like to be added to the list!

January 5 **Bob Chudy**
January 11 **Noah Carty**
January 12 **Sam Hillier**
January 16 **Ginger Black**
January 19 **Sarah Duncan**
January 22 **Jen Lortz**
January 26 **Kathy Johnson**
January 28 **Annie Carruthers, Skip McClenen**

PLEDGES FOR 2026

Thank you to everyone who has already pledged to support the life and ministry of our church family in the coming year. It's not too late to make a pledge for 2026! You can submit a pledge on our website or by using one of the cards on the usher's table in the back of the sanctuary.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2026 are available for pickup in Fellowship Hall. If there is not a box of envelopes with your name on it, but you would like one, please email Brian Bouvier (brianbouvier57@gmail.com).

Sun, Jan. 5

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

The Second Sunday of Christmas

9:30 am Worship & Communion
Sunday School (Pre-K-4th)
5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 pm Implementation Team (Kean Room)
5:00 pm Exercise Class (FH)
9:00 am Exercise Class (FH)

Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord Sunday

9:30 am Worship
Sunday School (Pre-K-12th)
11:00 am Planned Giving Seminar

Tues, Jan. 6

Thurs, Jan. 8

Sat, Jan. 10

Sun, Jan. 11



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

This Week in the Church Office

The church office is open Monday-Friday (9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.). Please send any bulletin announcements 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, Senior Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)
Rev. Ridgley Beckett, Associate Pastor (rbeckett@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)

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God,

 trod gladly into the night.
And God led me towards the hills
 and the breaking of day in the lone East.

From "The Gate of the Year"
by Minnie Louise Haskins

**Sunday, January 4, 2026
The Second Sunday of Christmas**