



FAITH • LOVE • SERVICE
ST. JOHN'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Reflecting God's unconditional love to all!

217 Berkley Road
PO Box 399 (for mail)
Devon, PA 19333
610.688.5222
www.stjohnsdevon.com

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Worship Notes

There are offering trays located at each entrance to the sanctuary. If you would like to give, you can put your offering there before worship. You can also give online using this QR code:



If you have a prayer request, there are blue prayer cards in your pew racks that can be put in the trays, as well.

The ^ symbol indicates that you are invited to stand, as you are able.

Today is the fourth Sunday in Lent. Lent is a 40-day season (not counting Sundays) in which we prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus. It comes from an Old English word that means, "spring," after the season in which it is observed. The 40 days are modeled on Jesus' time in the wilderness, but Sundays are treated as "little Easters" of joy, renewal, and rest.

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 greeters located at the sanctuary doors. We would love for you to join us for refreshments downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship. We are so glad that you are here and hope you will worship with us again soon!

Welcome & Announcements

Introit "How Firm a Foundation" *arr. Eithun*

Answering God's Call to Worship

One: God loves the field mouse.

All: God loves the crows that take flight when church bells ring.

One: God loves the baby, cooing in the back pew.

All: God loves the child who rocks and claps.

One: God loves the one with wrinkled hands and soft eyes.

All: God loves the bumblebees and the tabby cats.

One: God loves those who walk, crawl, and use mobility aids.

**All: God loves the giant oaks and the evergreens,
standing strong over all of us.**

One: God loves the young, the impressionable,
the earnest and the well seasoned

All: There is no bit of creation that God does not love.

One: So let us worship this good-news God!

All: Amen!

^ Hymn "These Treasured Children"

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 in the red hymnal)

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

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

It sounds like welcome and feels like home.

It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.

**It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

I have seen it alive in the world.

**And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,**

**I remember the one who welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.**

I remember the one who

cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him.

**I remember that the good news really is good news,
for I have seen it alive in the world.**

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 19: 13-15

Baptism

Noah Alexander Carty and Caroline Grace Carty
son & daughter of Meredith and Jim Carty

Anthem

"Come One, Come All, Come Follow"

Dietterich

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 24: 17-22

Sermon

"They Belong to God and They Belong to Us".
Sermon Series: "Tell Me Something Good"

Rev. Beckett

Sermon Interlude

^ 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

"As Christ Has Welcomed Us"

^ Benediction

^ Postlude

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Enriching Our Worship of God

Music Director

Janet Kaido

Liturgists

Logan Carty, Emma Kaido, Cam Oliver, Colvin Oliver,
Pierce Oliver, Emilia Primiano, Cora Tiede

Usher

Ginger Black, Brynn Yoder

Greeters

Cindy Kerr and Jim Little

Coffee Servers

Sharon and John Griffin

Rejoicing Ringers

James Adams, Teagan Bullock, Sophie Coradi,
Emily Marshall, Jewel Owusu-Ntow, Nana Owusu-Ntow,
Papa Owusu-Ntow, Claire Tiede

Flowers

The flowers are given by Pam Schafer in loving memory of
her mother and father with gratitude, love, joy and sorrow.

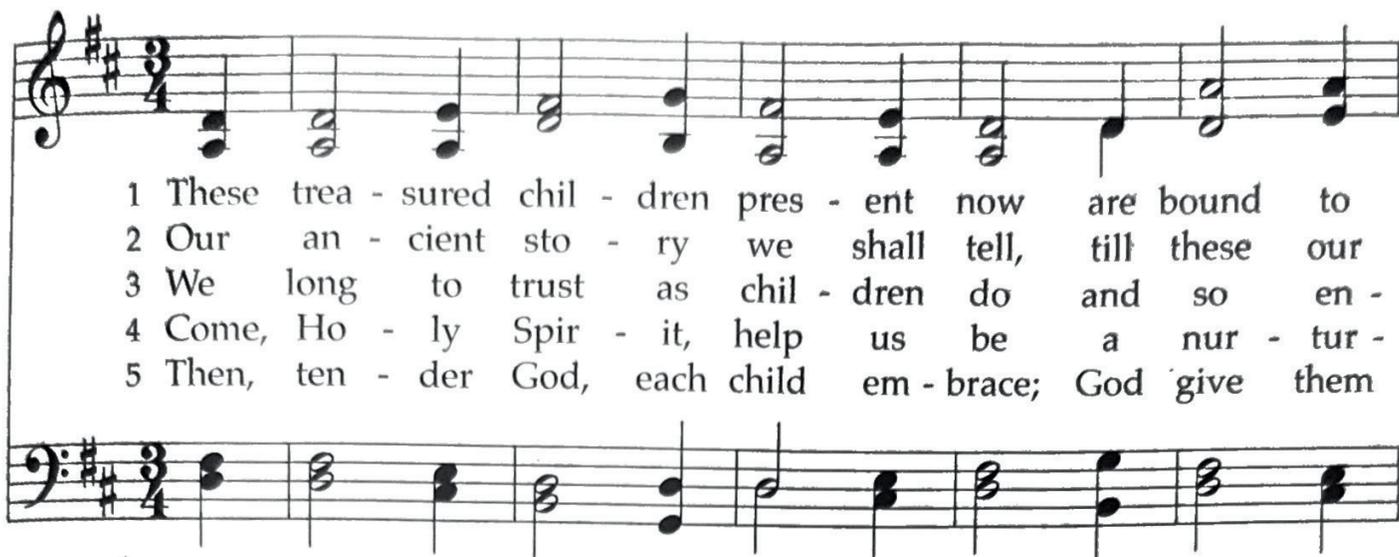
*After the baptism,
let us in sing together:*

**Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ
our king;
born of one Father,
we are his children -
joyfully now God's praise we
sing.**

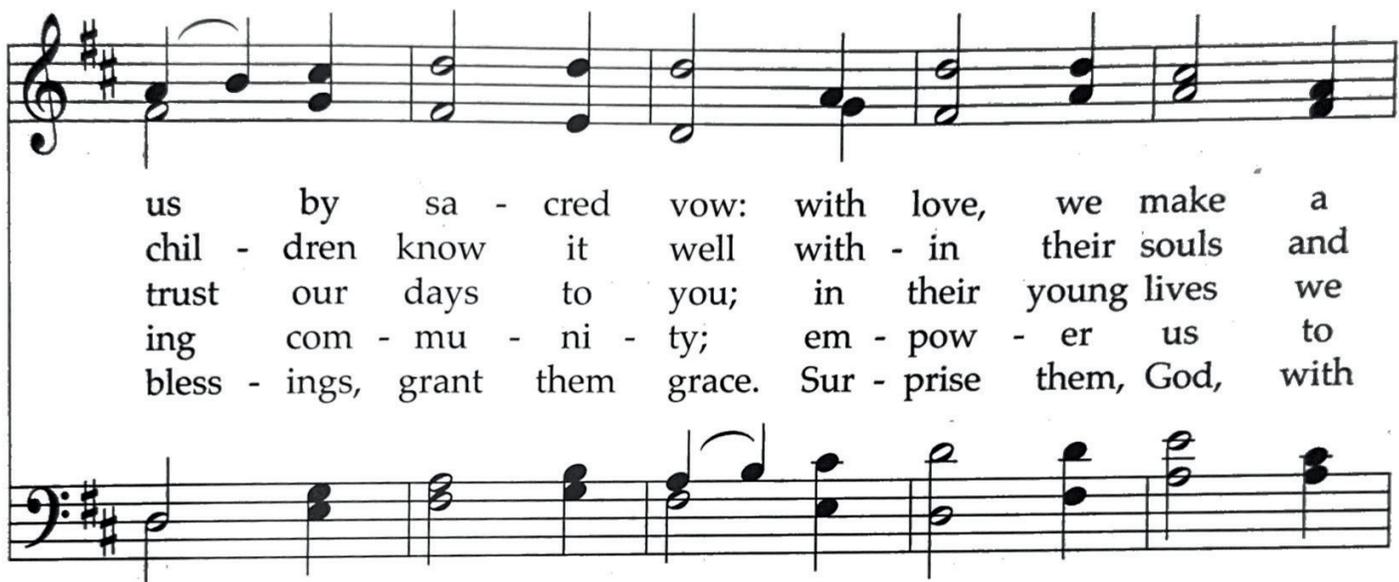
After the Postlude, you are encouraged to greet one another (especially people you don't already know!) and come downstairs for a time of refreshments and fellowship.

These Treasured Children

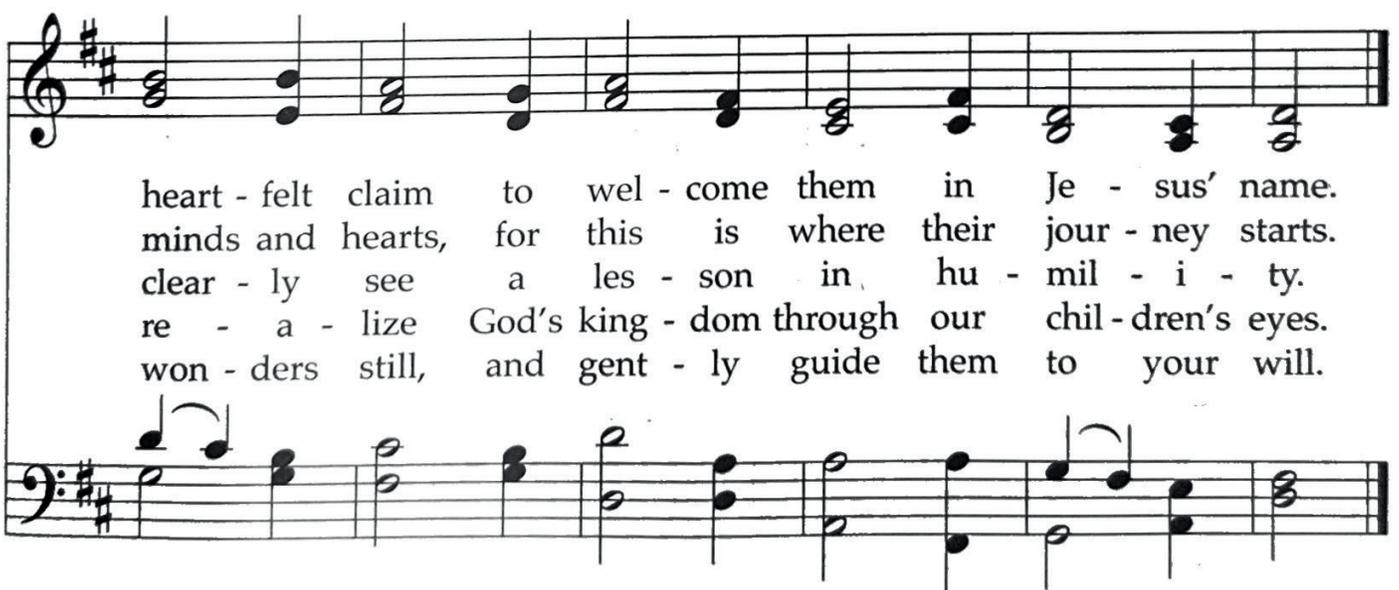
487



1 These trea - sured chil - dren pres - ent now are bound to
 2 Our an - cient sto - ry we shall tell, till these our
 3 We long to trust as chil - dren do and so en -
 4 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, help us be a nur - tur -
 5 Then, ten - der God, each child em - brace; God give them



us by sa - cred vow: with love, we make a
 chil - dren know it well with - in their souls and
 trust our days to you; in their young lives we
 ing com - mu - ni - ty; em - pow - er us to
 bless - ings, grant them grace. Sur - prise them, God, with



heart - felt claim to wel - come them in Je - sus' name.
 minds and hearts, for this is where their jour - ney starts.
 clear - ly see a les - son in hu - mil - i - ty.
 re - a - lize God's king - dom through our chil - dren's eyes.
 won - ders still, and gent - ly guide them to your will.

AS CHRIST HAS WELCOMED US

DENNIS

Johann G. Nägeli, 1773-1826

Arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Ruth Duck

1. As Christ has wel - comed us, we wel - come
2. Since Christ has of - fered us the rich - es
3. Our chil - dren lead the way with wel - come
4. Our door is o - pen wide; our hands reach
5. O Spir - it, shape our life that all may
6. When we are called to part, O Spir - it,

one and all. To love, O God, as
of your grace, so may we tru - ly
full and free. They show us how to
out in care, to - geth - er lift - ing
take their part, that we may lis - ten,
guide us still to love the world with

you have loved: This is our gos - pel call.
wel - come all of ev - 'ry age and race.
sing your song and live in har - mo - ny.
joys and tears to you, O God, in prayer.
speak with care with o - pen minds and hearts.
o - pen hearts, to do your right - eous will.

Announcements

Congregational Life

St. John's Guitar Club

The next gathering of our new Guitar Club will be on Wednesday, March 25 at 7 pm (after Supper at St. John's). Whether you are a beginner, an experienced player, or are just curious, this is open to all levels of ability. We just want to have fun, play together, and learn from each other. For questions, contact Brian Bouvier or John Senior.

March Birthdays

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 at church or sending them birthday wishes by text, email or a birthday card in the mail.

March 4 Janice Rosencrance
March 5 Steve Scolari
March 7 John Lieberman
March 8 Chris Oliver, Ryan Marshall
March 10 Colvin Oliver
March 11 Peter Oliver
March 17 Charlie Scott
March 20 Jen Marshall
March 21 Susanne Engheta
March 25 Jared Holcomb
March 27 Pat Churchill
March 29 Ellie Fisher

Livestream/Weekly Email Change

Starting on Saturday, April 11, the livestream email and the weekly email update will be combined into one email that goes out on Saturdays. So be sure to look for the weekly update on Saturdays instead of Sundays!

Book Exchange

In celebration of Earth Day next month, St. John's will be hosting a book exchange on Sunday, April 19 after worship in Fellowship Hall. Simply bring in books that Sunday that you are ready to pass on to others and pick up new ones to read. Recycling at its finest! If you are interested in bringing in books, please contact Pam Schafer (pschafernl@gmail.com)

Easter Lilies

If you would like to sponsor a lily for Easter Sunday, please contact Jeanne Lynam (cwlynam@msn.com) or use the link in the weekly email. The cost is \$10 per lily, and it is yours to take home after worship.

Congregational Life (cont.)

All Ages Game Night

Join us on March 22 from 4-6pm in Fellowship Hall for a community game night! All ages are welcome. If you have a board game or card game to share, please bring it with you! If you would like to attend, please RSVP using the link in the weekly email or contact Lauren Feldman (laurengfeldman@yahoo.com) for more information. RSVP's will be open until March 19 (THIS Thursday!)

Discussion on Iran with the Enghetas - Again!

Join us at 7pm after Supper on March 25 in the Carriage House for a discussion on Iran led by Nader & Susanne Engheta. They will discuss the recent Iranian political turmoil, exploring its effects not just on the people within Iran but also on Iranians globally. The discussion will also include a segment about the bestselling book, "The Lion Women of Tehran." This even will also be available on Zoom. Please RSVP for this event to receive the zoom link. If you're planning on coming for supper, please RSVP for that too!

Service

Coffee Drive for Great Valley Food Cupboard

Starting today, we are accepting ground coffee or Keurig cups (decaf and caffeinated) for the Great Valley Food Cupboard. A collection box will be in Fellowship Hall.

Calling all Bakers...

Great Valley Food Cupboard would love for us to provide home-baked cookies for each of their 40 families, so we need help from all interested bakers! Please bring a batch or two of your favorite cookies to church on Sunday, March 22 and drop them on the collection table in Fell. Hall. Please package in zip-lock bags. If you're away on March 22, freeze your cookies and email Nancy Higgins (nrhiggins76@gmail.com) for an earlier drop-off.

Clothing Drive

The Deacons will be collecting items for Cradles to Crayons through April 12. If you would like to help, please choose one more from the following list and drop it off at the church in the drop box by the elevator:

- new children's socks (all sizes)
- new children's underwear (all sizes)
- diapers/pull ups (all sizes)
- gently used children's pajamas

Congregational Care

Former long time member, **David Markle** passed away on Thursday afternoon. Please keep the Markle family in your prayers. Cards can be sent to:

4728 11th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407

Faith Formation

Supper @ St. John's

We would love for you to join us on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. for a delicious "home cooked" meal in Fellowship Hall. There will not be a class after supper for these final three weeks, as we want you to be able to take your time and enjoy being in fellowship together!

Women's Book Study – 2 Opportunities

The Sundry book study meets at 8:15 a.m. in the Carriage House (except the first Sunday of each month). They are discussing "Appreciate these Things" by Jill Duffield. 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 Resources). They are discussing "Questions God Asks", a study focusing on questions God asked his people in the Old Testament and he is still asking us today. There is no book to buy, but a hand out is available. Contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net or 610-550-9547) for more information.

Men's Group

The Men's Group will meet Wednesday, March 18 at 7 a.m. in the Carriage House to continue their study on the book of Isaiah. Contact Pastor Patrick to get more information.

This Week in the Church Office

Please note: Pastor Patrick will be on vacation through Sunday, March 15. During this time he will be unavailable by email or phone.

Any announcements for next week's bulletin or email must be sent to Annie 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

Giving

Offering

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.



Financial Update for February

A financial update for February will be available in this afternoon's weekly email. Thank you for all the ways that you make the life and ministry of our church family possible!

Children & Youth

Subscribe to our Children & Youth Newsletter here:



Youth Bible Study - Meet us in the Youth Room at 7 pm after supper. We will be reading the Holy Week stories!

Upcoming Children/Youth Activities

Mar. 20-22: Confirmation Retreat

Mar. 21: Rise Against Hunger @ Covenant Pres (10 a-12 p)

Mar. 22: All Church Game Night 4-6pm (RSVP by 4/19)

Mar. 29: Palm Sunday Parade & Egg Hunt

Save the Date

April 2 & 3

Maundy Thursday Worship at St. John's (7 pm)

Good Friday Worship at Covenant Presbyterian (7 pm)

April 17-19

Youth Mission Trip with the Philly Project

April 20

Lunch & Learn with Rev. Jed Koball (missionary in Peru)

April 26

Education Seminar: "Faith, the Brain, and Mental Well-Being" by Rev. Miriam Diephouse-McMillan

May 16

St. John's Annual Progressive Dinner

Church Staff

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

Nancy Arico

Treasurer (outgoing funds)

treasurer@stjohnsdevon.com

Brian Bouvier

Financial Secretary

(incoming funds)

brianbouvier57@gmail.com

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, March 15 (Fourth Sunday in Lent- Children's Sunday)

8:15 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

11:00 am Youth Advisory Council Meeting (Kean Room)

11:00 am Youth Study Club (until 1 pm)

Monday, March 16

10:00 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

6:00 pm Faith Formation Committee Meeting (Kean Room)

7:00 pm Session (Kean Room)

Tuesday, March 17

5:30 pm Set up for Supper at St. John's (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, March 18

3:00 pm Youth Study Club (Youth Room)

6:00 pm Supper at St. John's (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)

Thursday, March 19

7:00 pm Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, March 20

2:30 pm Youth Meet & Depart for the Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, March 21

10:00 am Rise Against Hunger (Covenant Presbyterian)

Sunday, March 22 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

8:15 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

4:00 pm All Ages Game Night (Fellowship Hall)

Scan this QR Code
for the complete
church calendar:



St. John's Mission Statement

Reflecting God's unconditional love to all!

Core Values

Faith

We seek to grow in our faith and to recognize God's presence in our lives through scripture, worship, music, fellowship, study, and prayer.

Love

All people are welcome here. We are a caring, inclusive, intergenerational community, following Jesus Christ's example to love everyone, to be with one another in difficult times, and to share in each other's joys.

Service

We are passionate about helping those in need within our church family, in our local communities, across the country, and throughout the world.

Led by the Holy Spirit, we are generous with our time, talents, and resources to bring hope to others in tangible, transformative ways.

Vision Statement

A spiritual home for the community where...

- everyone is welcomed with open hearts, showing each other grace in a complicated world
- people find belonging as they are known, valued, and loved
- together, we grow in our knowledge and love of God
- Jesus inspires us to serve others with compassion

