



May 17, 2026

Ascension of the Lord Sunday

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.

You can find the hymns on pages 3 and 4 of the bulletin.

This past Thursday was Ascension Day, when Jesus ascended from the earth into heaven. We observe this holy day today, in worship together. There are records of this day being celebrated by Christians as early as the 4th century, although it is thought to be much older than that.

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!

Prelude "Praises Ring" *arr. Kinyon*

Welcome & Announcements

Introit "In Christ Alone" *arr. Larson*

Answering God's Call to Worship From Psalm 47

One: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy!

All: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

One: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

All: Sing praises to God, sing praises; Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

One: For God is king of all the earth.

All: God is king over the nations; God is highly exalted!

One: Let us worship God!

^ Hymn "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"

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.

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

**God keeps his promises and gives us hope.
In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God kept his promises.
All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ.
But the work of God in Christ is not over.
God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen.
The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence
that supports us when lesser hopes fail us.
In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth,
certainty of victory over death,
assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death.
This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.
We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom.
But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil
that are possible now in the world, the church,
and our individual lives.
Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition,
however invincible it may seem,
for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.
Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end. Even now, he is Lord.**

The scripture reading is printed on the back of the bulletin.

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:3-14

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

"The Trumpet Shall Sound"

Handel

Sermon

"Sacred Pause"

Rev. Beckett

^ 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

"Go to The World"

^ Benediction

^ Postlude

"Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

Fedak

Enriching Our Worship of God

Music Director Janet Kaido

Usher Brian Bouvier

Greeter Barbara McConnell

Coffee Servers Sandy Forbes, Jeanne Thompson

Devon Chapel Bells Diane Alleva, Ryan Crill, Stephanie Crill, Christina Fish,
Karen Huang, Emily Marshall, Jim Tiede, Nancy Veronesi

After the sermon, there will be a brief musical interlude, offering time for reflection.

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. If you see someone standing alone, go talk to them!

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise 312

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. There the glo - rious tri - umph waits, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. See! the heaven its Lord re - ceives, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. See! he lifts his hands a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

To his throne a - bove the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Al - le - lu - ia!
 See! he shows the prints of love, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ hath con - quered death and sin, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Though re - turn - ing to his throne, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!

Re - as - cends his na - tive heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Take the King of glo - ry in, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Still he calls the world his own, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Bless - ings on his church be - low, Al - le - lu - ia!

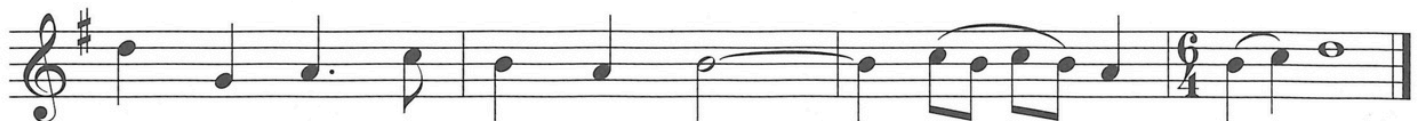
Go to the World!



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth; go preach the
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place; go live the
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray; the nights of
 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am



cross where Christ re - news life's worth, bap - tiz - ing
 word of God's re - deem - ing grace; go seek God's
 tears give way to joy - ful day. As ser - vant
 with you till the age shall end, when all the



as the sign of our re - birth.
 pres - ence in each time and space.
 Church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men."

Al - le - lu - ia!

Announcements

Congregational Life

Horse Show Parking

Starting this Wednesday through Saturday, May 30, we will be parking cars on the church grounds from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. You can sign up to volunteer for shifts on our website or at coffee time after worship.

May Birthdays

Happy Birthday to everyone in our church family who is celebrating a birthday this month! Please wish them a happy birthday in person at church or send them birthday wishes by text, email, or a card in the mail. Join us after worship today for cake in Fellowship Hall to celebrate our May birthdays.

May 3 Kristen Loftus	May 20 Barbara McConnell
May 4 Alex Engheta	May 21 Judy Milletto
May 4 Graham Hillier	May 22 Dan Lortz
May 8 Christa Fisher	May 23 Betsy Friend
May 9 Rev. Ridgley Beckett	May 27 Ashlee Oliver
May 10 Lynne Brown	May 28 Barbara Hicks
May 13 Marianne McClennan	May 29 Lee Holt
May 13 Nancy Higgins	May 29 Jewel Owusu-Ntow
May 16 Lisa Scolari	May 31 Nancy Davis

St. John's Guitar Club

The next gathering of our Guitar Club will be Wednesday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m. 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.

Celebrating our Graduates

We will be recognizing our graduates in worship on Sunday, June 14. If you have a child or a grandchild who has recently graduated from high school, college, or graduate school, please email Annie their name, degree and school by **June 8**.

Service

Coffee Drive for Great Valley Food Cupboard

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.

Children & Youth

Scan the QR code to subscribe to our Children & Youth Newsletter:



Vacation Bible School 2026

OPERATION RESTORATION: Mending God's World

Join us August 3-7 from 9 a.m. to Noon at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Devon for VBS! We will gather for music, Bible study, games, crafts, and FUN. Registration for students and volunteers is open now. You can register through May 30 using the link in the weekly email through. We are 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. For more information, contact Pastor Ridgley.

Faith Formation

Pop-Up Sunday School - We Believe - Today!

Each year the confirmation students write faith statements outlining what they believe at this point in their faith journey. This year they have challenged the congregation to do the same! Youth and adults are invited to meet in the Carriage House after worship to discuss what we believe.

Women's Book Study - 2 Opportunities

Sundays at 8:15 a.m. in the Carriage House (except the first Sunday of each month). They are working through a 5-week series titled "Shall We Long Endure," based on a sermon series from Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York. They listen to the sermons at the beginning of each class, followed by discussion. You can also listen to the sermons on the FAPC website at fapc.org. Contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net) for more information.

Mondays at 10:00 a.m., in the Kean Room and on Zoom. They are reading, "From Daughters to Disciples: Women's Stories from the New Testament" by Lynn Japinga. Copies are available in the church office. Contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net) for more information.

Men's Group

Wednesday, May 20 at 7 a.m. in the Carriage House. Contact Pastor Patrick to get more information.

Giving

If you would like to support the life and ministry of St. John's, you can scan this QR code to give online.



Financial Update

As of April 30, year-to-date operating income from all sources totaled \$304,511, above budget by \$77,146, due largely to some people already giving their full pledges for the year. That always slightly inflates the financial picture in these first few months, but will average out over the course of the year.

Expenses year-to-date are \$253,872, under budget by \$1,628.

Income minus Expenses yielded a surplus of \$50,639. Thank you for all the ways that you make the life and ministry of our church family possible!

This Week in the Church Office

With Horse Show parking starting this week, things tend to get a little crazy around here! We appreciate your patience if your phone call does not get answered right away. Please leave a message, and we will call you back as soon as we can.

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

Looking Ahead...

Sunday, June 7 - In worship we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and commission the Middle and High School youth who will be going to Massanetta and Montreat this summer.

Sunday, June 14 - We will be celebrating our graduates and giving thanks for our Sunday School teachers in worship. After worship is our annual Strawberry Festival!

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Patrick Marshall

Senior Pastor

patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com

Rev. Ridgley Beckett

Associate Pastor

rbeckett@stjohnsdevon.com

Annie Carruthers

Church Administrator

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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

Scan this QR Code for the complete church calendar:



Sunday, May 17 - Ascension of the Lord Sunday

8:15 am Women's Book Group (Carriage House)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

11:00 am Pop-Up Sunday School - We Believe (Carriage House)

Monday, May 18

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

Tuesday, May 19

7 am-8 pm Election Day (Carriage House)

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, May 20

7:00 am Men's Group (Carriage House)

9 am-9 pm Horseshow Parking

Thursday, May 21

9 am-9 pm Horseshow Parking

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Saturday, May 23

9 am-9 pm Horseshow Parking

9:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, May 24 (Pentecost)

8:15 am Women's Book Group (Carriage House)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

12-9 pm Horseshow Parking

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

