



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

September 20, 2026

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

The hymns can be found on pages 3 and 4 of the bulletin.

Please note: This service is being live-streamed and archived through our social media channels. While the video focuses on the worship leaders, participants may also appear in the recordings.

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

"Thee With Tender Care"

J.S. Bach

Answering God's Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name —

All: we come to make known the wondrous works of God!

One: Sing praises, tell the story, let your hearts rejoice —

All: we come seeking the face of the One who is faithful!

One: Remember what God has done —

how God led a people through wilderness and want,
and brought them out with joy and singing.

All: we praise the Lord, who has not forgotten us.

One: For God has remembered the holy promise,
from Abraham to Moses to this very day —

All: and we are the people of that promise.

One: So come, let us worship the Lord our God —

All: with glad hearts, we come!

^ Hymn

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

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 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"



^ Affirming Our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father, Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The scripture reading can be found on the back of the bulletin.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 16:2-15

Children's Time

Anthem

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

arr. Marchand

Sermon

"Provisional Grace"

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

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

^ Benediction

^ Postlude

"God Be With You 'til We Meet Again"

arr. Hesse

Enriching Our Worship of God

Music Director Janet Kaido

Usher Brian Bouvier

Greeter Chrissy Bouvier

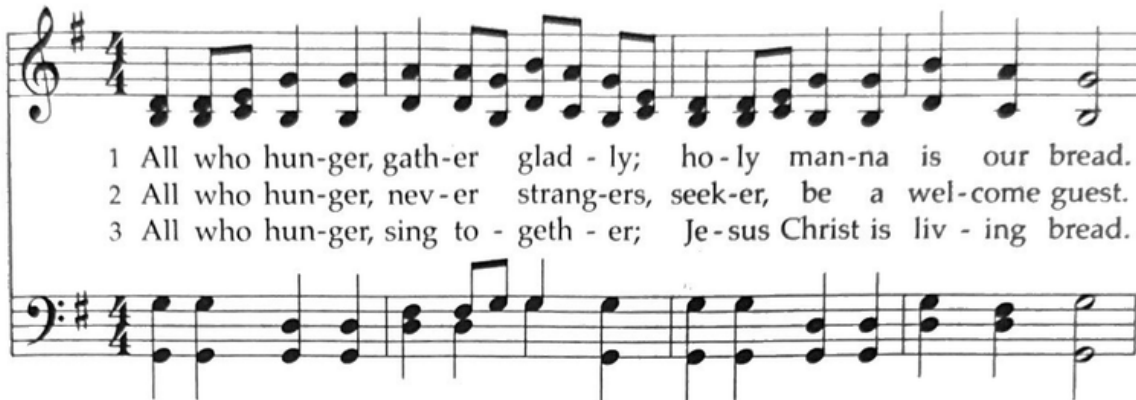
Coffee Servers Nancy & Tom Higgins

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

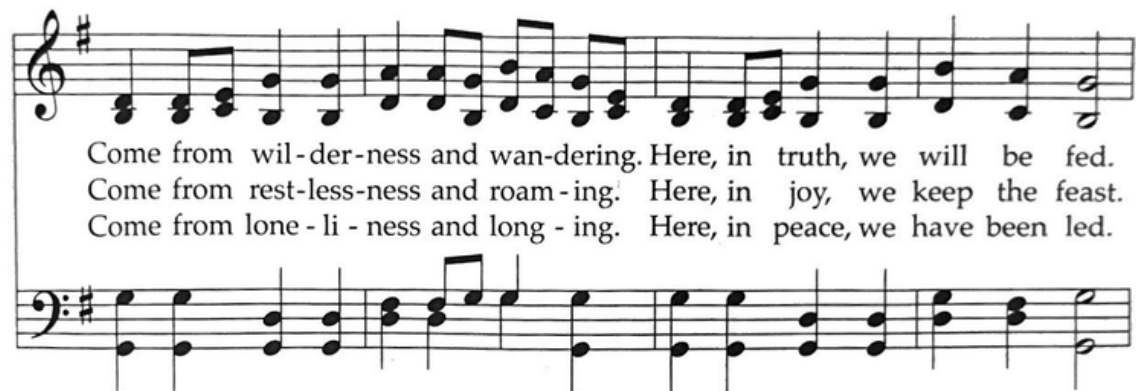
After the sermon, there will be a brief musical interlude, offering time for reflection.

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!

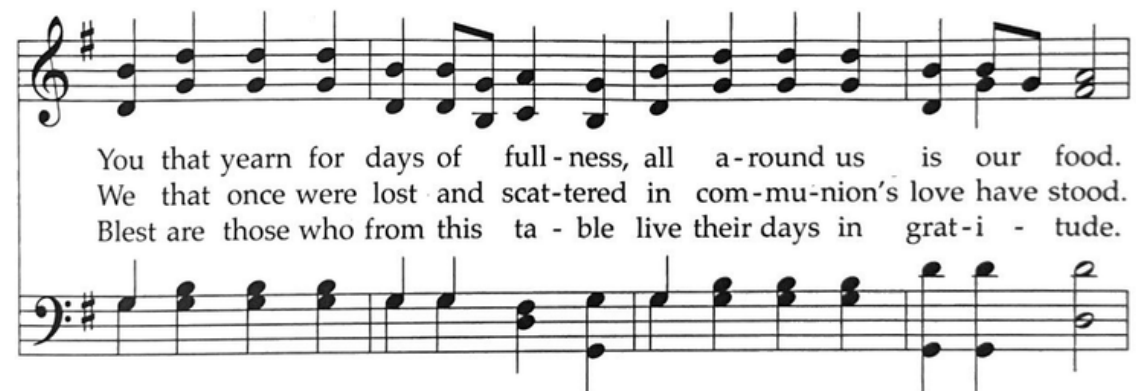
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je-sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

Announcements

Congregational Life

September 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. If you would like to be included in our birthday lists, please contact Barbara McConnell (blbmccconnell@aol.com).

Sept. 2 Stephanie Crill
Sept. 5 Linda Groves
Sept. 7 Stella Urbina
Sept. 7 Jim Ryland
Sept. 8 Liz Ward
Sept. 9 Nana Owusu-Ntow
Sept. 10 Pete Crawford
Sept. 11 Richard Hangen
Sept. 15 Virginia Holt
Sept. 16 Mark Ward
Sept. 17 Michael Whalen
Sept. 18 Katy Love

Sept. 19 Connor Feldman
Sept. 20 John Adams
Sept. 20 Chrissy Bouvier
Sept. 21 Cat Duncan
Sept. 22 Wanda Odom
Sept. 22 Pam Schafer
Sept. 23 Linda Duncan
Sept. 25 Sophie Coradi
Sept. 27 John McClintick
Sept. 28 Matthew Loftus
Sept. 29 Alice Bell
Sept. 29 Rowan Bellew

Supper at St. John's

Our Wednesday night supper program returns this week! Join us on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. for a delicious dinner, followed by a class at 7:00. For the first five weeks, the Rev. Miriam Diephouse-McMillan will lead us in a class on the mental health benefits of spiritual practices. You can come just for dinner, just for the class, or for both! We hope that you will take a break in the middle of the week and join us for a wonderful evening together!

Looking Ahead

Sunday October 18

Guest Preacher Rev. Dr. Brennan Breed
Pop Up Sunday School on Exodus with Brennan Breed
Sunday Serve - Grocery Bag Packing for Gemma

Tuesday October 20

Lunch & Learn

Sunday October 25

Pop Up Sunday School on Exodus with Brennan Breed
Fall Festival

Children & Youth

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



Sunday School for grades 1-7 begins today! Youth grades 8-12 will gather for weekly Bible Study on Wednesdays after supper from 7-8 p.m. in the youth room.

Youth Fall Kick-Off is Sunday, September 27 at SkyZone in Oaks, PA. RSVP using the link in the weekly email!

College Care packages will be packed by our youth in the Carriage House after church on October 4

Faith Formation

Camino de Santiago Interest Meeting

Last year Pastor Ridgley shared about her pilgrimage experience on the Camino de Santiago in Spain. Since then, other church members have expressed an interest in walking the Camino. So we decided to see if there is interest in putting together a church-wide trip open to anyone who wants to go! Join us **next Sunday, Sept. 27 at 11:00 a.m.** for an informational meeting with *Progressive Pilgrimages* to learn more about walking the Camino de Santiago with your St. John's family!

Women's Book Study – 2 Opportunities

The Sunday group meets at 8:15 a.m., both in person in the Carriage house and on Zoom. They will be starting the book *Braving the Truth* by Rachel Held Evans on Sunday, October 11. If you would like to find out more or are interested in attending, please contact Nancy Wolfe at nj.wolfe@verizon.net.

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 reading *From Widows to Warriors: Women's Stories from the Old Testament* by Lynn Japinga. Copies are available in the church office. If you would like to find out more, Contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net) for more info.

Men's Group

The Wednesday morning men's group resumes this Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 a.m. in the Carriage House. All men are welcome!

Interested in Joining St. John's?

We would love for you to become a part of our church family! You can indicate your interest on the Fellowship Pad or contact one of our pastors. They will get in touch with you to set up time for coffee to discuss your interest.

This Week in the Church Office

Annie will be out of the office tomorrow, Monday, September 21, and Ridgley will be at a Stewardship Conference Monday-Wednesday. The church office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Any announcements for next week's bulletin or email must be sent to Annie by Noon on Wednesday.

Friday is Patrick and 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

Outreach

Pillowcase Sewing Event - September 28

This September, in honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Ryan's Case for Smiles is hosting their Miles of Pillowcase Smiles Campaign. Their goal is to sew 40,000 pillowcases – one for every child in treatment. Join us on Monday, September 28 as the RCFS/St. John's group resumes its monthly gathering in Fellowship Hall from 1:00-4:00 p.m. We need sewers (bring your own machine or use one of ours), pinners, ironers, and baggers. There is a job for anyone! Contact Kathy Johnson with questions: kjohnson.1725@comcast.net

Gemma Services Classroom Volunteers Needed!

Gemma Services is looking for classroom volunteers for their new autism-centered program for students in grades K-5. The program is housed at the Plymouth Meeting campus of the Martin Luther School. For more information, please contact Nancy Higgins at nrhiggins76@gmail.com.

"Everything but the Turkey" with Gemma Services

This year, the Outreach Committee is working with the "Everything but the Turkey" project at Gemma Services to provide the supplies to help 30 Philadelphia families enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving dinner. You can help in two ways:

1. Plan to join us after church on Sunday, October 18 to pack the food into bags
2. Donate \$25 Walmart gift cards so families can shop for fresh items.

After you purchase the Walmart Gift Card(s), you can return them to Nancy Higgins during coffee fellowship, or to the church office no later than October 18. If you would like a receipt from Gemma Services for your donation, please include a note with your name and address. Thank you so much for your generous support for these families!

Scan this QR code to subscribe to our weekly email update:



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 August 31, year-to-date operating income from all sources totaled \$505,264, above budget by \$34,098.

Expenses year-to-date are \$494,335, under budget by \$12,369.

Income minus Expenses yielded a surplus of \$10,929. Thank you for all the ways that you make the life and ministry of our church family possible!

Stewardship

Last week we kicked off our 2027 stewardship campaign, Gratitude in Action! Over the next six weeks, you will be hearing from members of the St John's community who will reflect on their gratitude for the life and ministry of our church family. If you have any questions about this year's campaign, please contact stewardship chair Jim Tiede (jim.tiede@gmail.com).

Music

Choir Rehearsals

The choir is back for the year! Join us at 7pm in the Sanctuary for rehearsals. Email Janet Kaido at music@stjohnsdevon.com for more information.

Youth Handbells Orientation - September 27

The Bible tells us to make a "joyful noise." Now's your chance! The handbells will be out in the Music Room right after worship next Sunday, September 27 for ANYONE - young and not so young - who would like to ring a bell. No commitment - just joyful, noisy fun. Do come try them!

Adult Handbells are back!

The Devon Chapel Bells (older teens and adults) resume rehearsals this Thursday evening from 6 to 7 in the Music Room. New ringers are always welcome! Email Betsy Miller with any questions.

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

Scan this QR Code for the complete church calendar:



Sunday, September 20

9:30 am Worship

10:30 am Fall Kickoff Brunch (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, September 21

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

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Kean Room)

Tuesday, September 22

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, September 23

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

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

7:00 pm Sacred Balance Class (Carriage House)

Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)

Thursday, September 23

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

6:00 pm Adult Bells Rehearsal (Bell Room)

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Saturday, September 26

9:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, September 27

9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Youth Handbells Orientation (Music Room)

4:30 pm Youth Kickoff (Skyzone in Exton)

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

Today's Scripture Reading

Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." ⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" ⁸And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord."

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.' " ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.' "

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Notes

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