



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

Reflecting God's unconditional love to all!

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Devon, PA 19333  
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October 11, 2026

Twenty-eighth 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 "Let the Giving of Thanks Be Our Sacrifice to God" *John L. Bell*

### Answering God's Call to Worship

One: Come, all you who have been lost...

**All: For God is searching for you and calling you home.**

One: Come, all you who have been found...

**All: For God rejoices that you are here.**

One: Come, all of us—lost and found, wandering and returning, seeking and being sought.

**All: For we are welcomed by a God whose love never lets us go.**

One: Let us worship God!

^ Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

### 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.**

In response to the good news of our forgiveness in Jesus Christ, we profess our faith in Christ each week through the Affirmation of Faith. Today's Affirmation comes from the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.'s *A Brief Statement of Faith*, written in 1983.

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

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

Longtime St. John's member **John McClintick** will be our featured stewardship speaker today, sharing what he is grateful for in the life of our church family

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!

^ Affirming Our Faith  
**In life and in death we belong to God.**  
**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**  
**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**  
**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**  
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Scripture Reading Luke 15:11-32 Kate Johnson

Children's Time  
*As Pre-K-7th 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 "I've Just Come from the Fountain" Daniel Kallman

Sermon "The Prodigal Son" Rev. Dr. Marshall

^ 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 "Amazing Grace"

^ Benediction

^ Postlude "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Max Reger

**Enriching Our Worship of God**  
**Music Director** Janet Kaido  
**Usher** Brian Bouvier  
**Greeter** Kate Johnson  
**Coffee Servers** Nancy & Bruce Phillips

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no

3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.

hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound 280

AMAZING GRACE CM

Stanzas 1-4, John Newton, 1779

Stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790

*Virginia Harmony*, 1831

Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900



1. A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re - lieved;
3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al - read - y come;
4. The Lord has prom-ised good to me, His word my hope se - cures;



I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.  
How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.  
He will my shield and por - tion be As long as life en - dures.



## Announcements

### Congregational Life

#### October 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).

|                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>October 1</b> Steve Oliver   | <b>October 15</b> Jim Little         |
| <b>October 1</b> Joe Loomis     | <b>October 17</b> Patrick Marshall   |
| <b>October 7</b> Garrick Bellew | <b>October 19</b> Andrew Ward        |
| <b>October 8</b> Nader Engheta  | <b>October 21</b> Christian McGreevy |
| <b>October 12</b> John Shaw     | <b>October 23</b> Ben Loomis         |
| <b>October 13</b> Troy Fisher   | <b>October 26</b> Tom Higgins        |
| <b>October 15</b> Jim Little    | <b>October 28</b> Matt Crill         |

#### Supper at St. John's

Join us on Wednesday at 6 p.m. for a delicious dinner, followed by a class at 7:00. From now through October 21, the Rev. Miriam Diephouse-McMillan is leading 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!

#### Lunch & Learn

Join us on **Tuesday, October 20 from 11:30-1:00** for lunch and a presentation by Rev. Dr. Jeff Smith from *Love Justice International*, who will share the realities of human trafficking and how we can pray, partner, and participate in this life-saving mission. Please RSVP using the link in the weekly email, so that we know how much food to prepare.

#### Fall Fun Day at Linvilla Orchards

We hope you'll join us on **Sunday, November 1 from 1:45-3:00 p.m.** for an afternoon at Linvilla Orchards as a church family. We will ride in a private hayride together, wind our way through a corn maze, enjoy apple cider donuts, and catapult apples in the field! To RSVP, click the link in the weekly email.

### Children & Youth

Scan to subscribe to our Children & Youth Newsletter:



**Sunday School** - After the children's time, children in grades 1-7 will leave for Sunday School. Youth in grades 8-12 gather for weekly Bible Study on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. in the youth room.

#### CCYC: (Chester County Youth Collective) 4:30-6 PM

Grades 5-12 are invited to join us for dinner, games, and a lesson for both middle and high schoolers called "Faith Questions" at Covenant Pres (400 Lancaster Ave). YAC will at 3:45 p.m. before youth group!

### Faith Formation

#### Pop-up Sunday School on Exodus - October 18 & 25

Join us after worship in the Carriage House on Sunday, October 18 & 25 for a two-week Pop-up Sunday School on the book of Exodus! The class will be led by Rev. Dr. Brennan Breed, the Associate Professor of Old Testament at Princeton Seminary. Brennan will also be preaching for us on October 18.

#### 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 18. 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. Contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net) for more info.

#### Men's Group

The Wednesday morning men's group meets on Wednesday, October 21 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

**Pastor Patrick will be out of the office on vacation starting tomorrow, Monday, October 12, returning on Tuesday, October 20. During that time he will be unavailable by email or phone.**

The church office is open Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Friday 9:00 a.m. to Noon. 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

### 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. If you don't live near a Walmart store, their gift cards are also available at CVS.

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!

## 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!

## Music

### Choir Rehearsals

The choir rehearses on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Email Janet Kaido at music@stjohnsdevon.com for more information.

### Adult Handbells are back!

The Devon Chapel Bells (older teens and adults) rehearse on Thursday evenings from 6 to 7 in the Music Room. New ringers are always welcome! Contact Betsy Miller with any questions.

## Looking Ahead

### Sunday October 18

Sunday Serve - Grocery Bag Packing for Gemma

### Tuesday October 20

Lunch & Learn (11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall)

### Sunday October 25

Pop-Up Sunday School on Exodus with Brennan Breed  
Fall Festival

### Saturday, November 14

David Sheep Memorial Service (10:30 a.m.)

### Sunday, November 15

Consecration Sunday (worship & brunch)

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



## 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, October 11

8:30 am Trustees Meeting (Kean Room)  
8:30 am Deacons Meeting (Carriage House)  
9:30 am Worship  
4:30 pm Youth Group (Covenant Pres. Frazer)

### Monday, October 12

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

### Tuesday, October 13

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

### Wednesday, October 14

6:00 pm Supper at St. John's (Fellowship Hall)  
7:00 pm Sacred Balance Class (Carriage House)  
Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)

### Thursday, October 15

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 pm Adult Bells Rehearsal (Bell Room)  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Saturday, October 17

9:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

### Sunday, October 18

9:30 am Worship  
11:00 am Pop-Up Sunday School with Brennan Breed (Carriage House)  
4:30 pm Youth Group (Covenant Pres. Frazer)

## 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

## Luke 15:11-32

<sup>20</sup>“So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

## Notes

[illegible]