FROM THE CORNER

Learn more about Reconciling Ministries Network: www.rmnetwork.org

August

19 Sunday – UMM Breakfast (8:30am)
24 Friday – Ches’s Closet opens (5:30pm)
27 Monday – UMW Potluck at The Barker’s (5:00pm)
29 Wednesday – Church Council (6:00pm)

September

1 Saturday – Soup kitchen (3:30-5:30pm); contact Annie (ahunter@stjohnsmidtown.org) to volunteer
3 Monday – Church office & food pantry closed for Labor Day
9 Sunday – Children and Youth Sunday School classes return (9:30am)

Announcements

Diapers Donations of diapers in all sizes except size 3 are needed for Operation Swaddling Clothes. Thank you!

Ches’s Closet Please help us bless this new ministry with your presence on Friday, Aug. 24, before The Way, as we open our clothing closet for the very first time! Ches’s Closet will open once a month during Way hours (5:30-7:30pm) to provide those in need with clean shirts, socks, or belts. Donations are appreciated and can be brought by during Way hours. Please direct any questions to Suzy Kilzer (suzykilzer@gmail.com)

Soup Kitchen In town for Labor Day? Spend a couple of hours serving in our soup kitchen on Saturday, Sept. 1, 3:30-5:30pm! Sign up with Annie (ahunter@stjohnsmidtown.org).

Pastor’s Study Join us for Sunday School at 9:30am! We’re diving into the history and theology of Methodism (and of St. John’s)! This class meets in the room outside the chapel.

UMW Potluck The United Methodist Women are gathering for food and fellowship at Kathy Barker’s home on Monday, Aug. 27, beginning at 5:00pm. Kathy will provide the entrée, so please bring a side or dessert to share! Bonus points for incorporating summer produce! Contact Janet with any questions (jhall38118@yahoo.com).

ARISE2Read Help 2nd-graders reach reading goals through ARISE2Read’s tutoring program at Bruce Elementary! They are in need of financial donations and volunteer reading coaches. Coaches give just a couple hours of their time a week to work one-on-one with a child. Register for coach training at arise2read.org. To give to this partnership financially, please designate ARISE2Read in the memo line.

This Friday at 6:00pm John Kilzer leads us with Steve Potts, Dave Smith, Jim Duckworth, and Chris Stephenson.

St. John’s

United Methodist Church
1207 Peabody Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee 38104
Office—(901) 726-4104
www.stjohnsmidtown.org

A Reconciling Congregation

St. John’s welcomes everyone. Our hearts, minds, and doors are open to people of all ages, races, nationalities, sexual orientations, gender identities, theological identities, economic status, disabilities, and people who sojourn on the way to recovery and wholeness. We are a diverse community whose commitment to servant ministry is demonstrated through our deep discipleship to Jesus Christ. We are a community whose discipleship to Jesus Christ is demonstrated through our deep commitment to servant ministry.

Today’s Ushers: Lloyd Hearn, Mike Coop, Charles Garisson, Herb Levy

Today’s Counters: Kimberly Moore, Carol Wright

Children’s worship materials are available at the front right of the sanctuary.

A Service of Word & Table

August 19, 2018 - Pentecost + 13

Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Ayre

Antonio Vilvaldi

Carol Craig, Organ

+ Call to Worship

Come into this household of God that we might all listen to God’s word and discern the wisdom that comes only from God.

How can we discover such wisdom?

Reverence for God is the beginning of wisdom. When we choose to live according to God’s will and plan, God will give to each of us a wise and discerning heart.

May God fill us with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs! We come to lift up in praise the songs and music from our hearts. Jesus is here in our midst as living bread. We want to be nourished and strengthened that we may remain with him. Jesus is so close to us that we can taste his presence.

Praise the Lord! Learn of God’s compassion and mercy.

Praise the Lord with our hearts! Praise the Lord! Let us pray:

How can we discover such wisdom?

“I am the bread of life.”

Praise the Lord with our hearts! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord with our hearts! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord with our hearts! Praise the Lord! We come to lift up in praise the songs and music from our hearts.

What can we discover such wisdom?

Children’s worship materials are available at the front right of the sanctuary.

Let us pray:

O Wisdom on High, by you the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly. Grant us, in all doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do, that we may be saved from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

+ Hymn - 140 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

+ Prayer for the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+ Amen

Let us pray:

O Wisdom on High, by you the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly. Grant us, in all doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do, that we may be saved from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

+ Amen
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.

Proclamation of the Word

Children’s Message

Psalm 111
Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the deeds of the LORD! They are studied by all who delight in them. Full of majesty and splendor is the work of the LORD, whose righteousness endures for ever. Gracious and full of compassion is the LORD, whose marvelous works are to be remembered. The LORD gives food to the God-fearing, ever mindful of the covenant. The LORD has shown the chosen people works of power in giving them the lands of the nations. The hands of the LORD work faithfulness and justice; all the commandments of the LORD are sure. The LORD sent redemption to the chosen people, commanding the covenant for ever; holy and awesome is the name of the LORD. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly have a good understanding; the praise of the LORD endures for ever.

Prayers of the People

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer - TFWS 2086
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

The Morning Prayer

Anthem
An “Old Time” Medley
How Great Thou Art, Old Time Religion
Swing Low Sweet Chariot, Standing On the Promises
Mike Neal, Saxophone

WORSHIP & MINISTRY STAFF

Rev’d Johnny Jeffords
Senior Pastor
Rev’d Mimi White
Associate Pastor
Rev’d John Kilzer
Recovery Ministries
Rev’d Rebekah Gienapp
Children’s Ministries
Alan Butler
Youth Ministries
Matthew Bogart
Music Ministries
Carol Craig
Organist
Lyn Stewart
Church Administrator
Annie Hunter
Communications/Volunteer Development
Cynthia Green
Office
Bill Dozier
Building & Maintenance
Robert Phillips
Custodian
Rose Holmes
Housekeeper
Sending Forth

**Epistle Reading** - Ephesians 5:15-20 (NRSV)

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Homily**

“Redeeming Our Time”  
Rev’d Rebekah Gienapp

**Invitation to Table**

Here is the table of the Lord, a foretaste of things eternal.
Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.
Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.
Come, children of God, there is room for all.

**Prayer of Confession**

All Wise God, we thank you for giving us this time to look into our words, thoughts and deeds. We confess that we fool ourselves into believing that we possess all of the knowledge that we need. As we go from place to place, we try to block you out. Even though we say we want to hear your word and speak with you, we fail to see that we are always in your presence. We stray seeking other gods, whose ways may be easy but cannot show us the ways of love and truth. We are afraid of being fed with the living bread of Jesus. Fill us with the Holy Spirit that we might live each day according to your will. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon and The Peace**

In God’s wisdom and compassion, we receive grace that we might live anew, unburdened by the obstacles and pride of the past. Continue to feast on the living bread which is given to us each day. Give thanks to God who lifts us up with the gift of forgiveness. And as forgiven people, let us forgive one another and share signs of the peace of Christ.

Sharing of God’s Tithes and Offerings  
Johann Sebastian Bach

Arioso  
Carol Craig, Organ

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*Invitation to Take the Journey*

+ **Hymn** - TFWS 2004  “Praise the Source of Faith and Learning”  
HYFRYDOL

+ **Benediction**

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**Postlude**

Marche Royale  
Carol Craig, Organ

Jean-Baptiste Lully

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*Marche Royale*  
Jean-Baptiste Lully
Doxology - 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts. Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanksgiving & Communion

The Great Thanksgiving - tfws 2257 a-d

Preface

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

~ Congregation is seated ~

… as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

… All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

The Great Amen

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

The Lord's Prayer (Contemporary Version)

Loving Creator

we honor you, and we honor all that you have made.
Renew the whole world in the image of your love.
Give us what we need for today, and a hunger to see the whole world fed.
Strengthen us for what lies ahead; heal us from the hurts of the past;
give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
For your love is the only power,
the only home, the only honor we need,
in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

Giving the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

When We Eat This Bread

Thomas Gouin

Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery, in which you have given
yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world, in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.