

FROM THE CORNER

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

FEBRUARY

9 SUNDAY– Safe Sanctuary Training (12:00pm)

16 SUNDAY– Family eXperience at Incredible Pizza (5:00pm)

17 MONDAY– Finance (6:00pm)

19 WEDNESDAY– Parents Night Out (6:00-7:30pm)

23 SUNDAY– United Methodist Men’s Breakfast (8:30am)

28 FRIDAY– Scripture for the Eyes Adult Sunday School Paint Night at Easel Town (6:00-8:00pm)

MARCH

7 SATURDAY– Soup kitchen volunteers needed (3:30-5:30pm); sign up with Annie (ahunter@stjohnsmidtown.org)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safe Sanctuary Anyone who wishes to volunteer with Children or Youth ministries must undergo Safe Sanctuary training. If you were trained in Safe Sanctuary over a year ago, you must attend another session before you can volunteer with these ministries again. Our next training session will be **today after worship**. Training should take less than an hour. Contact Josh (jshaw@stjohnsmidtown.org) with questions or if you’d like sign up for future trainings.

Family eXperience We’re offering more all-ages church family eXperiences, known as FX! On **Sunday, Feb. 16, 5:00pm**, we’ll be heading to Incredible Pizza for food, fun, and fellowship! The cost is \$12.00 per person, or \$10.00 per person for families of 4 or more. This includes a pizza and drink buffet AND a \$20.00 game pass! Come join the fun and experience the church beyond the doors! RSVP and payment due to Josh by **Feb. 13** (jshaw@stjohnsmidtown.org).

Parents Night Out Leave the kids with us! We’ve got a fun night of dinner, games, and more ahead on **Wednesday, Feb. 19, 6:00-7:30pm!** PNO is for kids 3-12; nursery is available. Sign up with Josh (jshaw@stjohnsmidtown.org).

Soup Kitchen Love on your neighbors by serving them a wonderful meal on **Sat., March 7, 3:30-5:30pm!** Sign up with Annie (ahunter@stjohnsmidtown.org).

Diapers Our diaper ministry, Operation Swaddling Clothes, is in great need of **diapers sizes 4, 5, & 6** to help families served through our food pantry. Please bring donations by the church office.



Johnny leads The Way this Friday at 6:00pm with Dave Smith, Steve Selvidge, Steve Potts, & Kurt Clayton.



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 discipleship to Jesus Christ is demonstrated through our deep commitment to servant ministry. Welcome Home!

TODAY’S USHERS:

Lloyd Hearn, Mike Coop,
Charles Garrison, Herb Levy,
Ralph Morgan

TODAY’S COUNTERS:

Counters Needed
+ Please stand as you are able.

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

A Service of Word & Table

February 9, 2020 ❖ 10:50 a.m.

Epiphany + 5

THE ENTRANCE

Words of Welcome

Prelude

John Behnke

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Carol Craig, Organ

+ *Call to Worship*

Let the Mystery of God draw us in:

Beautiful, Just, Merciful!

Let the Wisdom of God surprise us:

Vulnerable, Powerful, Searching!

Let the Glory of God shine through our work:

Salty, Bright and Good!

In the Mystery, the Wisdom, the Glory of God

Let us worship!

+ *Opening Hymn 332*

BEALOTH

“Spirit of Faith, Come Down”

+ *Statement of Faith*

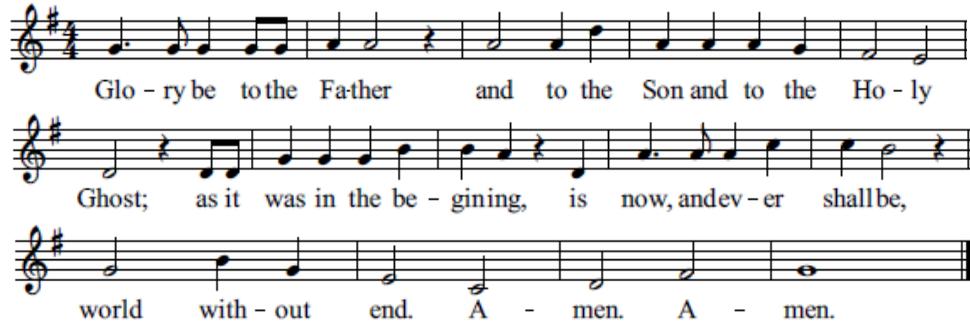
Iona Abbey Worshipbook

We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that awaits to enslave us all and whose love, defeating and deathless, holds a promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust; and in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the Earth and to share the commonwealth of God’s goodness,

to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love,
and in the company of the faithful, wherever found. Amen.

+ *Gloria Patri*



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly
Ghost; as it was in the be - gining, is now, and ev - er shall be,
world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Children's Message

Josh Shaw, Director of Children's Ministries

The Hebrew Bible Reading - Isaiah 58.1-9a

¹ Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. ³ "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴ Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in

sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha:
New Revised Standard Version
Oxford University Press



WORSHIP & MINISTRY STAFF

Rev'd Johnny Jeffords
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Carol Craig
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Bill Dozier
Robert Phillips
Rose Holmes

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Music Ministries
Organist
Youth Ministries
Children's Ministries
Office Manager
Communication
Reception
Building & Maintenance
Custodian
Housekeeper

Prayers of the People

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Call the Prayer - 462 v.1

“Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

TRUST IN JESUS

***‘Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, and to take him at his word;
Just to rest upon his promise and to know “Thus saith the Lord.”
Jesus, Jesus how I Trust him! How I’ve proved him o’er and o’er!
Jesus, Jesus, blessed Jesus! O for grace to trust him more.***

The Morning Prayer

Choral Anthem

“Come, Follow Me”

Chancel Choir

Joseph Martin

+ *The Holy Gospel Reading - Matthew 5.13-20*

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell

you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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Homily

Rev’d Dr. Jonathan L. Jeffords

“Motives or Intentions?”

Call to Confession

Draw near with faith, and with me make your confession, and receive the saving justice of God. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Isaiah reminds us that our prayer, fasting and pious rituals must be lived out in compassion and justice:

When we forget the fast you desire—
To do justice, and stand up for the powerless:

Lord, have mercy.

When we forget the prayer you love—
To show compassion, and care for those in need:

Christ, have mercy.

When we forget the rituals you require—
To create relationships of righteousness and peace:

Lord have mercy.

Silence is kept for personal confessions

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, the love of God revealed in Jesus
forgives us, heals us and sets us free
to rebuild, restore, and
raise up foundations for new generations.

With thanksgiving, let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

Passing the Peace

Offertory

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”
Carol Craig, Organ

Paul Manz

+ *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 AND COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving 13

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

Time of Receiving

Communion Music

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.

SENDING FORTH

Invitation to Take the Journey

+ *Hymn of Response 572*

PASS IT ON

”Pass It On”

+ *Benediction*

+ *Postlude*

“Now Thank We All Our God”
Carol Craig, Organ

John Behnke