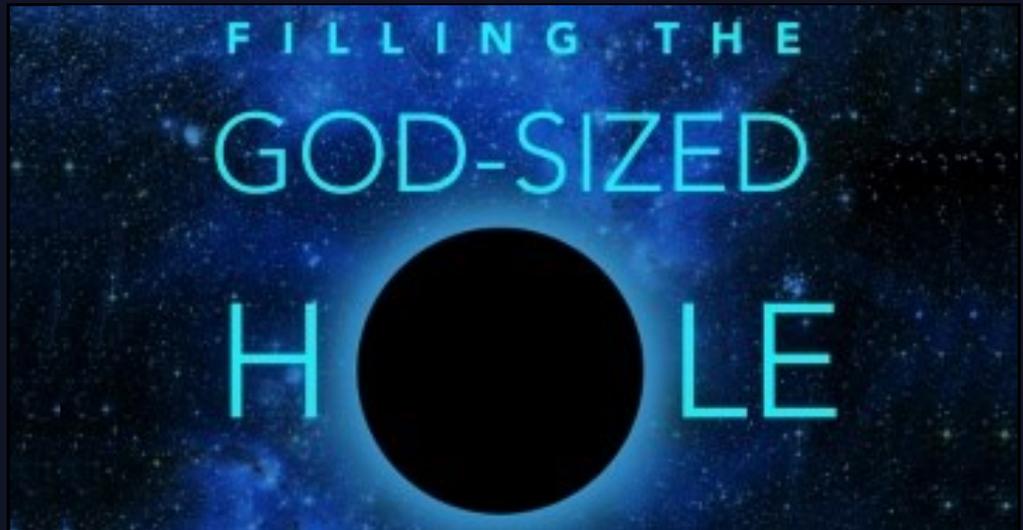




**August 23
10:50 a.m.**

**STEP 11
An Alternative
Mind**



*We welcome you to this
service of worship!*

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 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!

**Please silence all
electronic devices.**

TODAY'S USHERS:

Lloyd Hearn, Mike Coop,
Charles Garrison, Herb Levy

+ Please stand as you are able.

The Entrance

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING

"Be thou with me"
Betsy Carter, Trumpet

J.S. Bach

+ PRAYER OF INVOCATION

+ CELEBRATING IN SONG: UMH No. 183

"Jesu, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

ST. CATHERINE

+ CALL TO CONFESSION

The good news is this:

Christ came into the world to save sinners.

Let us therefore open ourselves to Christ's saving love as we humbly confess our sins and in faith receive cleansing

+ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal Splendor, Light of light and God of gods,
You have shone upon us and we have seen your glory,
shining in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Bathed in your light, our faith and our life are shown to be shrouded and tarnished.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
Yet, in your great mercy you forgive what we have been.
We pray that you now will amend what we are
and direct what we shall be,
that we may henceforth walk in your light,
delight in your will, and reflect your radiance,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

This morning's quote is taken from
page 95 of Richard Rohr's
*Breathing Under Water:
Spirituality and the Twelve Steps.*

Steps and Scriptures

- 1) We admitted we were powerless
...that our lives had become
unmanageable.
- 2) Came to believe that a Power greater
than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
- 3) Made a decision to turn our will and our
lives over to the care of God as we
understood God.
- 4) Made a searching and fearless moral
inventory of ourselves.
- 5) Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to
another human being the exact nature of
our wrongs.
- 6) Were entirely ready to have God
remove all of these defects of character.
- 7) Humbly asked God to remove
our shortcomings.
- 8) Made a list of all persons we had
harmed, and became willing to make
amends to them all.
- 9) Made direct amends to such people
wherever possible, except when to do so
would injure them or others.
- 10) Continued to take personal inventory
and when we were wrong promptly
admitted it.
- 11) Sought through prayer and meditation
to improve our conscious contact with God,
as we understood God, praying only for
knowledge of God's will for us and the
power to carry that out.

+ ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Trust in Christ's unfailing love;
rejoice because you have been rescued from your sins!
Sing to the Lord,
because we have been forgiven.
Alleluia!

+ GLORIA PATRI UMH No. 70

MEINEKE

*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.*

+ THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

Proclamation and Response

CENTERING HYMN TFWS 2086

OPEN OUR EYES

“Open Our Eyes”

SILENT PRAYERS

SERENITY PRAYER

**God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,
courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to
distinguish the one from the other.**

**Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a
pathway to peace, taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would
have it, trusting that You will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will,
so that I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with You
forever in the next.
Amen.**

BREATHING UNDER WATER

“The first mind sees everything through the lens of its own private needs and hurts,
angers, and memories. It is too small a lens to see truthfully or wisely or deeply. I am
sure you know that most people do not see things as they *are*, they see things as *they*
are! Take that as a given. So most spiritual traditions and religions taught prayer in
some form; but at its truest, it was always an alternative processing system. For many,
if not most, Christian believers, however, it became a pious practice or exercise that you
carried out with the same old mind and from your usual self-centered position. This
practice was supposed to “please” God somehow. God needed us to talk to Him or Her,
I guess. Prayer was something you did when you otherwise felt helpless, but it was not
actually a *positive widening of your lens for a better picture*, which is the whole point.”

MUSICAL OFFERING UMH No. 522

LEAVE IT THERE

“Leave It There”
Walk-Up Choir

“Be still, and know that I am God.”
~ Psalm 46:10

“You must put aside your old self which
has been corrupted by following illusory
desires. Your mind must be renewed by a
spiritual revolution.”
~ Ephesians 4:22-23

“In the morning, long before dawn, he got
up, left the house, and went off to a
lonely place to pray.”
~ Mark 1:35

Today’s communion offering goes to
support Bruce Elementary School and
Workers Interfaith Network.

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.**

A gluten free option is available for
request on the intinction side.

After the service, visitors are invited to
bring their GET CONNECTED
CARDS to a member of the ministry
staff so that we may come to know
one another. Alternatively, visitors may
place their GET CONNECTED CARDS
in the offering plate.

STEPS AND SCRIPTURES

HOMILY

Rev’d Johnny Jeffords
“Step 11– Conscious Contact”

Love by Any Other Name

SHARING GOD’S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

arr. Moses Hogan

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”
Scott Elsholz, Tenor

+ DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*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!*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: UMH No. 13

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD AND SHARING THE CUP

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

+ CLOSING HYMN UMH No. 664

THE ASH GROVE

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

+ LIFE OF THE CHURCH: PARISH NOTICES

+ BENEDICTION

+ SENDING FORTH

G.F. Handel

“La Rejouissance”
Betsy Carter, Trumpet



1207 Peabody Ave.
 Memphis, TN 38104
 (901) 726-4104
 www.stjohnsmidtown.org

FROM THE CORNER

The news of our life, growth, and discipleship

August 23, 2015

Sunday, August 30 is a great day to be at St. John's! Mark your calendars!

- **Community Breakfast** This summer's final community breakfast will take place before worship service in the Narthex. Serving begins at 10:15am. Get your morning off to a great start by taking advantage of fellowship and food!
- **End-of-Summer Cookout at St. John's** Come to our fun, flavorful, and family-friendly cookout from 5-7pm! The Young Adult group is providing burgers, veggie burgers, and all accompaniments. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Kids can look forward to water games, and all can look forward to a great time! RSVP via our St. John's FaceBook page where you'll find the End-of-Summer Cookout event.
- **Meeting for Youth Parents** At 9:30am Zach Ferguson will lead an informational meeting in the youth room to discuss plans for the upcoming semester.
- **Chancel Choir Resumes** Choir rehearsals will resume in the choir room at 12pm. The choir at St. John's needs new or returning singers to be a part of this dynamic group. This year is not all about rehearsals and worship; it's also about community and family. We want you with us!
- **Little Artisan Sale** Our St. John's children have been creating art and craft treasures that you will want to take home with you! Proceeds from this year's sale will support the Streetdog Foundation's mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and re-home stray and abandoned dogs in Memphis. Shop before or after worship in the Hospitality Room.



Clergy Chase 5K Run/Walk

St. John's is sponsoring the annual 5K Clergy Chase benefitting the Methodist South Diabetes Wellness & Prevention Center. You can participate in the officially timed 5K Run/Walk or in the 1 mile Fun Run/Walk. Join (or chase) Johnny and Renee on *September 5* at the Overton Park Pavilion to represent St. John's. Registration begins at 7:30am. The race begins at 9am.

Upcoming Ministry Team Meeting

Ministry teams will meet on Wednesday, *September 2* at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be provided to fuel energetic and constructive conversation. If you're a team member, see you then!

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Care Team | Evangelism Team |
| Worship Team | Communications Team |
| Recovery Team | Youth & Young Adult Team |
| Formation Team | Children's Ministry Team |
| Missions Team | Community Garden Team |

Empty Bowls Interest Meeting Today After Worship

If you are interested in being part of a fun and transformational fundraiser to that works to end hunger in Memphis, join Jaime Winton in the Hospitality Room after the service.

WIN Picnic Tickets

Workers Interfaith Network will be holding its Faith and Labor Picnic on Labor Day, *September 7* from 11am - 2pm. See Rebekah Gienapp for tickets to this fun, family-friendly event filled with food, music, and kids' activities. Proceeds from the picnic will help WIN uphold the rights of workers facing wage theft and unsafe working conditions.

WORSHIP & MINISTRY STAFF

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Rev'd Johnny Jeffords | <i>Senior Minister</i> |
| Rev'd Renee Dillard | <i>Discipleship Ministries</i> |
| Rev'd G. Scott Morris | <i>Associate Minister</i> |
| Rev'd John Kilzer | <i>Recovery Ministries</i> |
| Matthew Bogart | <i>Music/Worship Ministries</i> |
| Scott Elsholz | <i>Organist</i> |
| Zachary Ferguson | <i>Youth/Young Adult Ministries</i> |
| Lyn Stewart | <i>Church Admin./Finance</i> |
| Emma Martin | <i>Office Manager</i> |
| Kristen Berning | <i>Office Asst./Communications</i> |
| Bill Dozier | <i>Building & Maintenance</i> |
| Robert Phillips | <i>Weekend Custodian</i> |

For further staff information and contacts visit:
WWW.STJOHNSMIDTOWN.ORG



This Friday at 6pm
 John Kilzer leads us with
 Kim Trammell, Scott Bomar,
 Paul Taylor, and Eric Lewis.

Get Connected Online
 St. John's United Methodist
 Church - Midtown Memphis
 @stjohnsmidtown

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

Monday- Mary Ann Sandidge
Wednesday- Earline Matthews
Friday- Allen Wilkinson