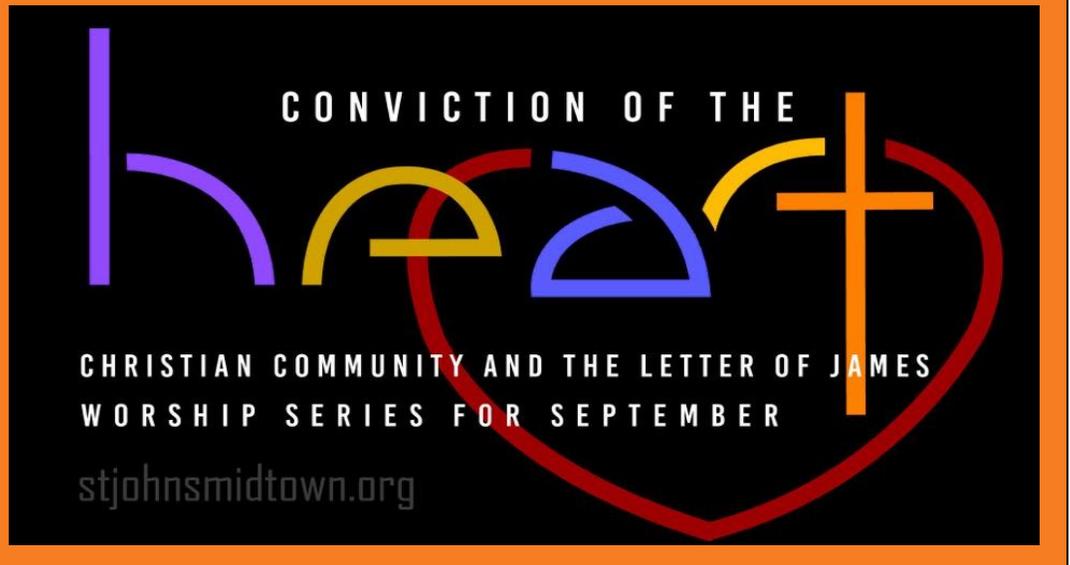




September 13
10:50 a.m.

**16th Sunday After
Pentecost**



*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!

TODAY'S USHERS:

Don Tyson, Bill Denton,
John Buxton, Carla Shirley,
Bob Miller, Walter Day

TODAY'S ACOLYTES:

Vincent Levy, Linden Bump

ALTER FLOWERS:

Given by Jim New in memory of his beloved wife, Karen New, who passed away on September 9, 2013.

The Entrance

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

John Stanley

“Trumpet Voluntary”

Betsy Carter, Trumpet

CALL TO WORSHIP—Psalm 19: 1-4, 14

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

+ PROCESSIONAL HYMN: TFWS No. 2001

DARWALL'S 148th

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways”

Please stand after the organ begins.

vs. 1: Melody
vs. 2: Harmony
vs. 3: Harmony
Interlude
vs. 4: Melody

When In Our Music God Is Glorified

*When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried
Alleluia!*

*How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!*

*So has the Church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue,
Alleluia!*

*And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the Light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight,
Alleluia!*

*Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always
Alleluia! Amen.*

Gracious Spirit Dwell With Me

*Gracious Spirit, dwell with me,
I would gracious be;
help me know Thy grace to see,
I would be like Thee;
and, with words that help and heal,
Thy life would mine reveal;
and, with actions, bold and meek
for Christ my Savior speak.*

*Truthful Spirit, dwell with me,
I would truthful be;
help me now Thy truth to see,
I would be like Thee;
and, with wisdom kind and clear,
Thy life in mine appear;
and, with acts of charity,
speak Christ's sincerity.*

*Holy Spirit, dwell with me,
I would holy be;
show thy mercy tenderly,
make me more like thee;
separate from sin I would
and cherish all things good,
and whatever I can be
give Him who gave me Thee.*

*Mighty Spirit, dwell with me,
I would mighty be,
help me now thy power to see,
I would be like Thee;
'gainst all weapons hell can wield,
be Thou my strength and shield;
let Thy word my weapon be,
Lord, Thine the victory.*

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Apostle’s 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 Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at 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 Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

+ 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.*

+SHARING THE PEACE

Proclamation and Response

FIRST ACT OF PROCLAMATION—Welcome Class

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

CENTERING HYMN: UMH No. 572

PASS IT ON

“Pass It On”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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**

MUSICAL OFFERING

Charles V. Stanford

“When In Our Music God Is Glorified”

Chancel Choir

James 3: 1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

*The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,
And give you peace, and give you peace;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
And be gracious, and be gracious;
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you.
Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING—James 3:1-12

HOMILY

Rev'd Renee Dillard

“Words of Blessing”

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

John L. Bell

“Take, O Take Me As I Am”

Take, O take me as I am. Sum-mon out what I shall
be. Set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Sung first time by the choir, then the congregation sings two repetitions.

OFFERTORY

K. Lee Scott

“Gracious Spirit Dwell With Me”
Chancel Choir

+ 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!*

Sending Forth

+ RECESSIONAL HYMN: UMH No. 568

ITALIAN HYMN

“Christ for the World We Sing”

+ SENDING FORTH TO SERVE

+ BENEDICTION

+ CHORAL RESPONSE

Peter Lutkin

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

+ POSTLUDE

Henry Purcell

“Voluntary on Old Hundredth”

Betsy Carter, Trumpet



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 www.stjohnsmidtown.org

FROM THE CORNER

The news of our life, growth, and discipleship

September 13, 2015

Join the St. John's Hospitality Team!

The church office is looking for volunteers to serve on our new Hospitality Team! Volunteers will be welcoming and helpful to church visitors from 10:30am-12:30pm Monday-Friday. You have the opportunity to give two hours of your time to serve coffee to our neighborhood guests, hand out street ministry bags, and aid in office tasks that help the St. John's community and the Memphis community! Contact Kristen at the church office if you are interested at kberning@stjohnsmidtown.org.

Tuesday Bible Study Resumes

Next week on Tuesday, *September 15*, we will resume our Tuesday Morning Study group at 10am in the Hospitality Room.

Renee is excited to announce that Blaire Burton has agreed to lead the first study on September 15. Blaire has some beautiful teachings and insights to share regarding Spirit, breath, and God's presence in our lives.

On September 22 the group will begin their study on the letter of James. This text will be the emphasis in worship during September, and the group's focus from *September 22-October 13*.

Service of Healing and Blessing

Do you wish to receive anointing and healing prayer for yourself or someone else? Do you wish to receive a simple blessing for your work in a hurting world? Do you wish to be prayerfully present in support of others? On Sunday, *September 20* at 5pm, there will be a brief service of healing and blessing in the Chapel.

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 Administrator/Finance</i>
Emma Martin	<i>Office Manager</i>
Kristen Berning	<i>Office Assistant/Communications</i>
Bill Dozier	<i>Building & Maintenance</i>
Robert Phillips	<i>Custodian</i>
Rose Holmes	<i>Housekeeper</i>

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

Communion Table Update

The table is under construction! We've received an initial measure of financial support for which we are thankful. It is time to help complete the funding now that the effort is underway. Please indicate "Table Project" on any checks.

You may also contribute online. We are anticipating consecration of the table in worship on *October 4*, World Communion Sunday. It is exciting!



Join the Welcome Class!

Are you new to St. John's or a frequent visitor? Would you like to learn more about our church family and how we can help you on your journey? Please join us for the St. John's Welcome

Class, a 5-week program where you'll learn more about Methodism, our congregation, service and outreach opportunities, and all the ways that we support your spiritual development. It's also a great way to make friends and connect with our clergy and lay leaders. (Also, we have coffee and snacks!) The class meets every Sunday from Sunday, *September 20*– Sunday, *October 18*.

Class begins at 9:15am in the Hospitality Room. If you have questions or want to RSVP, please contact Kristen at the

kberning@stjohnsmidtown.org.



THE WAY
 a service of recovery

This Friday at 6pm
 John Kilzer leads us with
 Steve Selvidge,
 Dave Smith, Ashley Davis,
 and Harry Peel.

Get Connected Online



St. John's United Methodist
 Church - Midtown Memphis



@stjohnsmidtown

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

Monday– Mary Ann Sandidge
 Wednesday– Matthew Bowles
 Friday– Allen Wilkinson