

FROM THE CORNER

The news of our life, growth, and discipleship

St. John's United Methodist
Church - Midtown Memphis



DECEMBER

11 SUNDAY— UMW Potluck at the Barker Residence (5:00pm)

14 WEDNESDAY— Family Christmas Pajama Party & Gifts for Guests packing event in the fellowship hall (6:00-7:30pm)

21 WEDNESDAY— Longest Night Service in the chapel (6:30pm)

24 SATURDAY— Soup Kitchen—To help contact Annie (ahunter@stjohnsmidtown.org) (3:30-5:30pm)

****24 SATURDAY**— Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (5:30pm)

****25 SUNDAY**— Christmas Day Worship Service—No Sunday School (10:00am)

JANUARY

1 SUNDAY— Church Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall (10:00am)

1 SUNDAY— Regular Worship—Happy New Year! (10:50am)

****Note time change from service in previous years.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Family Christmas Pajama Party We're doing the jingle bell rock in our jammies on **Dec. 14** from **6:00-7:30pm** in the fellowship hall! Join us for all the Christmas cheer (including the S'mores Bar!) and help us pack bags for Gifts for Guests!

UMW Potluck The UMW Potluck is **today** at 5:00pm at Kathy Barker's home. Please contact Rae-Anne Pitts (raeanepitts@gmail.com) if you have any questions or need directions.

Gifts for Guests Help our soup kitchen guests this holiday season by sponsoring backpacks filled with necessities. Sponsorships can be purchased for \$20 on **today after service**. Pack backpacks at the Family Christmas PJ Party on **Dec. 14** at **6:00pm**. Join us for the **Christmas Eve soup kitchen (3:30-5:30pm)** to serve the meal and pass out backpacks!

Longest Night Service Not everyone may be feeling jolly this holiday season. For those experiencing any degree of sadness, grief, or loss, please join us for a special service **Dec. 21** at **6:30pm** in the chapel.

Blessings Closet The Juvenile Court Blessings Closet serves children and families across Shelby County by helping to provide supplies needed for a safe, positive environment to get kids back on track. The Blessing Closet is currently in need of donations including hygiene products, school supplies, school uniforms, diapers/baby wipes, grocery or gas gift cards, canned goods, and non-perishable snack foods. Items can be brought to the church office.

New Year's Day Worship will take place the usual **10:50am** start time; however, there will be no Sunday School. Our Rev'd Dr. Johnny Jeffords will be making the congregation breakfast to kick off 2017! Join us in the fellowship hall at **10:00am** for all the fun!

Meditation & Mindfulness—Service of Healing & Blessing will resume in February as the first Sunday of January falls on New Year's Day.



THE WAY
a service of recovery

This Friday at 6:00pm
Johnny Jeffords leads us
with Steve Selvidge, Tony
Thomas, Sam Shoup, and
Doug McMinn.



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 Garisson, Herb Levy

TODAY'S COUNTERS:
Counters Needed

+ Please stand as
you are able.

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

St. John's United Methodist Church

December 11, 2016

10:50 a.m.

“IMAGINE”

Advent 3—Joy

THE ENTRANCE

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Arcangelo Corelli
(1653-1713)

“Allegro” Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op.6 No. 8
“Christmas Concerto”
String Ensemble

+ *Call to Worship*

We are ready, O Lord, to behold the presence of your spirit among us.

Bless our spirits with openness and joy!

Justice and peace shall be brought to all God's people.

No more shall fear and doubt claim us.

God is fulfilling the ancient promise of a Savior.

Our hearts rejoice at this good news of God's love.

Amen.

+ *Processional Hymn—UMH 435*

LLANGLOFFAN

“O God of Every Nation”

(During the final stanza children may come to the crèche.)

Time at the Crèche

Singing of God's Love

Worship
and Song
Graham
Kendrick ©
2001
Thankyou
Music
Onelicense
A-724667

Make way, make way, for Christ the King in splen - dor ar - rives. Fling
He comes the bro - ken hearts to heal, the pris - onersto free. The
wide the gates and wel - come him in - to your lives.
deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.

Lectern Side

Make way, make way for the King of kings.

Pulpit Side

Make way, make way for the
King of kings. Make way, make way and let his king-dom in.
King of kings. Make way, make way and let his king-dom in.

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Joy

Text: Rev. Renee Dillard

Luke 1:47-55

*My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.*

WORSHIP & MINISTRY STAFF

Rev'd Johnny Jeffords
Rev'd Renee Dillard
Rev'd John Kilzer
Matthew Bogart
Carol Craig
Zachary Ferguson
Lyn Stewart
Annie Hunter
Bill Dozier
Robert Phillips
Rose Holmes

Senior Minister
Discipleship Ministries
Recovery Ministries
Music/Worship Ministries
Organist
Children/ Youth/ Young Adults
Church Administrator
Office/Communications
Building & Maintenance
Custodian
Housekeeper

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



SENDING FORTH

+ Invitation to Journey

+ Recessional Hymn—UMH 213

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

TRURO

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

Arcangelo Corelli
(1653-1713)

“Allegro” No. 2, Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op.6 No. 8
“Christmas Concerto”
String Ensemble

Worship
and Song
Ken Bible ©
1998 Pilot
Point Music
Onelicense
A-724667

TODAY'S ORCHESTRA

Violin 1

Paul Turnbow
Priscilla Tsai
Lenore McIntyre

Violin 2

Gaylon Patterson
Erin Kaste
Elena Efthimou

Viola

Jennifer Puckett
Irene Wade

Cello/ Bass

Phyllis Long
Sean O'Hara

Oboe

Michelle Vigneau

Trumpet

Elizabeth Carter

Continuo Organist

Carol Craig

Today we remember Mary, her faithfulness, her trust in God.

Joyfully, our souls magnify the Lord.

The rose candle reminds us of her willing and humble spirit.

Joyfully, our souls magnify the Lord.

We remember her courage and her strength.

Joyfully, our souls magnify the Lord.

As we light three candles, two purple and one rose, imagine Joy ...

Imagine Joy, bear witness to Joy, live fully with Joy.

Congregational Response

Christ's the lamp that lights our way, Je - sus, the Light of the
World! Step by step and day by day Je - sus, the Light of the
World! Walk in the light, beau - ti - full light;
somewhere his love and his mer - cy are bright. Shine all around us by
day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the World.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer of Illumination for Advent

Speak to us, Lord.

Speak to us in the waiting, the watching,

the hoping, the longing,

the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing.

Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days,

and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

GLORIA IN D MAJOR R. 589

Antonio Vivaldi

Born: March 4, 1678, in Venice
Died: July 28, 1741, in Vienna
Work composed: ca. 1713–1719

Antonio Vivaldi spent most of his compositional years as a lay priest at the Musical Seminary of the Hospital of Mercy in Venice, a home and school for illegitimate or orphaned girls. His duties spanned all musical bases from teaching a variety of instruments, to composing, and serving as superintendent of music. In his almost four decades (1704–1740) at the Seminary, Vivaldi wrote vast quantities of music, availing himself of the services of his well-trained students, using these resources to explore all manner of instrumental effects.

During his lifetime, Vivaldi, or Il Pretto Rosso (The Red Priest, so called because of his flaming red hair) was highly esteemed throughout Europe, though more for his operas and choral works than for his concertos. One choral piece that has enjoyed wide popularity predating the current generation’s “rediscovery” of such music is the *Gloria in D major, R. 589*. The manuscript turned up in the 1920s along with a number of other works, including another *Gloria in D major (R. 588)* that has not achieved the same popularity as the one we hear today.

The *Gloria* text is a hymn of joy, praise, and worship long connected with the Roman Catholic Mass. Vivaldi’s writing, often simpler and less contrapuntal than his German counterpart and admirer, J.S. Bach, is marked by dramatic contrasts in mood, texture, and instrumental color. It conveys a sense of immediacy and rhythmic fervor that seem to reflect the extraordinary speed with which he composed.

1. Glória in excelsis Deo

Trans: Glory be to God on high
Scripture: Luke 2:14

Chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo, oboe, and trumpet

Mystery of Faith

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

... all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

The Great Amen

Amen.

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

Domenico Zipoli
(1688-1726)

“Canzona & Vivace” in F Major
Matthew Bogart, Organist

Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God,

we thank you for this holy mystery

in which you have given yourself to us.

Send us into the world in peace

for we have seen,

have heard,

and been fed by your grace.

Keep us faithful and alert

for signs of Christ’s coming

and lead us to live lives marked by truth and light,

so that we may eat and drink together

in your eternal dominion of hope, love, joy, and peace.

Amen.

Offering

Domenico Zipoli
(1688-1726)

“Pastorale” in C Major
Matthew Bogart, Organist

+ *Doxology*

ADESTE FIDELES

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

2. et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntátis.

Trans: And on earth peace to men of good will.

Scripture: Luke 2:14

Chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo

3. Laudámus te, benedicimus te, adorámus te, glorificámus te,

Trans: We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,

Scripture: Ps 148:13

Duet, string orchestra, basso continuo

Soprano Prima—Athena Hobbs

Soprano Seconda—Kathryn Brode

4. grátias ágimus tibi

Trans: We give thanks to thee

Chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo

5. propter magnam glóriam tuam,

Trans: For thy great glory,

Chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo

6. Dómine Deus, Rex cæléstis, Deus Pater omnípotens.

Trans: O Lord God, King of Heaven, God the Father Almighty.

Solo, oboe, and basso continuo

Soprano—Mary McDonald

7. Dómine Fili unigénite, Jesu Christe,

Trans: O Lord the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ,

Scripture: John 1:14

Chorus, string orchestra, and basso continuo

8. *Dómine Deus, Agnus Dei, Fílius Patris,
qui tollis peccáta mundi, miserére nobis*

Trans: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Scripture: John 1:29

Solo, chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo

Countertenor—KeDavion Taylor

9. *qui tollis peccáta mundi, súscipe deprecationem nostrum.*

Trans: Who takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo

10. *Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserére nobis.*

Trans: Who sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

Scripture: Romans 8:34

Solo, chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo

Alto—Emily Haddix

11. *Quóniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dóminus, tu solus Altíssimus,
Jesu Christe,*

Trans: Since Thou alone art holy, Thou alone the Lord, Thou alone the most High,
Jesus Christ

Scripture: Luke 1:32

Chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo, oboe, and trumpet

12. *cum Sancto Spíritu: in glória Dei Patris. Amen.*

Trans: With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Chorus, string orchestra, basso continuo, oboe, and trumpet

Invitation to the Table

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sins
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

We have locked ourselves out, O God. Each of us, in our own way, has
locked ourselves out of relationships, has locked ourselves out of
opportunities, has locked ourselves out of our true home, because we are too
arrogant, or too stubborn, or simply too human. We have filled our lives and
our world with darkness and death, because we have, all too often, put our
own judgment and desires over yours. We are lost, in need of light and hope
and joy.

Silent Prayer, concluded with:

Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us.
Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us.
Come, Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Assurance of Pardon

God, our kind and loving Savior God, has stepped in and saved us.
**God cleansed us, and we became new people,
washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit. Our Savior Jesus
poured out new life so generously.**
God's gift has restored our relationship with God and given us back
our lives.
And there's more life to come—an eternity of life!

+ *The Peace*

The peace of Christ Jesus be with you always.
And also with you.
Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.