

+ *Doxology*—UMH 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!*

*SENDING FORTH*

*Invitation to Journey*

+ *Hymn of Response*—UMH 246

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

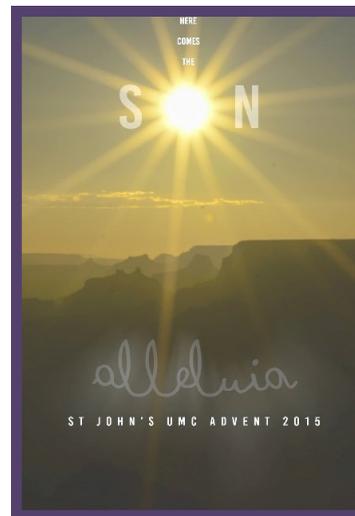
+ *Sending Forth to Serve*

+ *Benediction*

+ *Postlude*

Matthew Bogart

“ANTIOCH” A Festive Toccata



*Seasonal art by:  
Collins Dillard*

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:**

Lloyd Hearn, Mike Coop,  
Charles Garrison, Herb Levy

**TODAY'S ACOLYTES:**

Bradly Thomas,  
Zoe Winton

+ Please stand as  
you are able.

**St. John's United Methodist Church**

December 27, 2015

10:50 a.m.

“*HERE COMES THE SON*”

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

*THE ENTRANCE*

*Words of Welcome*

*Prelude*

Louis-Claude Daquin

A French “Noel”

+ *Call to Worship*

The world was once in darkness

**Now we have God's Light, Jesus to shine on us.**

The words and promises of God are all true!

**God has given us the best gift of all!**

Rejoice! God is with us!

**Praise be to God! Amen.**

+ *Processional Hymn*—UMH 237

FRENCH CAROL

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

+ *A Prayer for the Days of Christmas*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray:

**Send, O God, into the darkness of this troubled world,  
the light of your Son.**

**Let the star of your home touch the minds of all people  
with the bright beams of mercy and truth;**

**and so direct our steps that we may ever walk in the way  
revealed to us, as the shepherds of Bethlehem walked**

**with joy to the manger where he dwelled,**

**who now and ever reigns in our hearts, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**JANUARY**

**2 SERVICE SATURDAY**– Soup Kitchen  
(3:30-5:30pm)

**6 WEDNESDAY**– Children and Youth  
Ministry Team meeting to set January-July  
2016 calendar (5:30pm)

**21 THURSDAY**– Atrium mentor training-  
includes overviews of the Catechesis  
ministry, mentor duties, and our safe  
sanctuary policy. Dinner provided. (6:00-  
8:00pm)



**This Friday at 6:00pm**  
John Kilzer leads us with  
Scott Bomar, Tom Lonardo,  
Steve Selvidge, & Jim Spake.

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday (12/28/15)**– Closed

**Tuesday (12/29/15)– Thursday (12/31/15)**  
– 9:00am-12:00pm

**Friday (1/1/2016)**- Closed

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

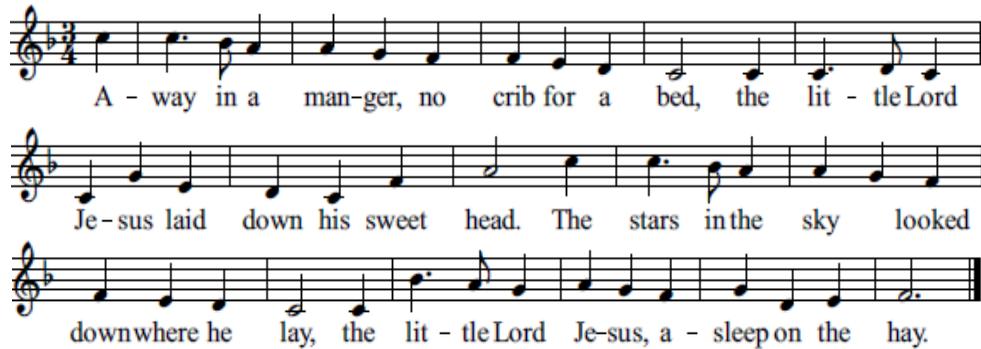
- The Atrium needs new or used religious-themed (including Christmas) greeting cards for making prayer cards. Place donations in the basket outside Atrium 1.
- **You can now make a contribution to St. John's via a quick text message!** Send a text to (901) 614-4048 with the amount you would like to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. Example: \$25. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via email. For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically! Please call Lyn Stewart, Church Administrator, with any questions.

+ *Sharing the Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

*Time at the Crèche*

AWAY IN A MANGER



A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, the lit - tle Lord  
Je - sus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked  
down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.

*PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE*

*Scripture Reading:* Colossians 3:12-17—NRSV

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*Joys and Concerns*

*Centering Hymn*—UMH 250

“Once in Royal David's City”

IRBY

*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.**

*Walk-Up Choir*—UMH 251

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

+ *From the Gospels:* Luke 2:41-52—NRSV

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.” He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

*Sermon*

Rev'd Dr. Scott Morris

“Bear With One Another”

*Offertory*

Wayne Kirkpatrick & Michael W. Smith

“All Is Well”

Ryan Jones, Soloist