

FROM THE CORNER

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Reconciling Ministries Network:
www.rmnetwork.org



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:

Don Tyson, Bill Denton,
John Buxton, Carla Shirley,
Gary Hall

TODAY'S COUNTERS:

Counters needed

+ Please stand as you are able.

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

Sunday School Try any of our **9:30am** offerings! **Young Adults** (ROTC) ranges from college age to 50s and is studying *The Wesley Challenge*, focused on questions developed by John and Charles Wesley to encourage spiritual habits, practices, and actions. **In Medias Res** (Room 307) is also studying *The Wesley Challenge* for folks 50+. **Sojos** (Room 305) is delving into *Misquoting Jesus: The Story Behind Who Changed the Bible and Why They Did It* by Bart D. Ehrman. **Covenant** (Room 205) utilizes the Cokesbury Adult Bible Studies. **The Pastor's Study** (fellowship hall) is talking about the changes in The UMC with the implementation of The Traditional Plan and news of a recent proposal.

UMC Next The Memphis Chapter of UMC Next will meet at St. John's **tomorrow, January 20, 10:00am-4:30pm** to plan for the year. Special guests include JJ Warren, Helen Ryde, and Herbert Lester! Links to register and volunteer are included in the Friday e-blast!

You're Invited The Dorothy Day House is blessing their new home at 1161 Peabody with a ceremony **Sunday, Jan. 26, 4:00pm**. Let's welcome our newest neighbors!



THE WAY
a service of recovery

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

JANUARY

19 SUNDAY– United Methodist Men's Breakfast (8:30am)

20 MONDAY– UMC Next Memphis Chapter Gathering (10:00am-4:30pm)

20 MONDAY– Church office and food pantry closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

22 WEDNESDAY– Church Council (6:00pm)

26 SUNDAY– Rev Dr. Mark Matheny preaches (10:50am)

26 SUNDAY– Dorothy Day House's Open House, Dedication, & House Blessing for their new home at 1161 Peabody (4:00pm)

FEBRUARY

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

5 WEDNESDAY– The Service of Healing & Blessing (6:45pm)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Soup Kitchen St. John's leads soup kitchen again on **Saturday, Feb. 1**. Volunteers are needed from **3:30-5:30pm**. Contact Annie if you're able to help (ahunter@stjohnsmidtown.org).

Diapers Operation Swaddling Clothes supplies diapers to families served at our food pantry. We are currently in need of sizes 4, 5, & 6; donations are appreciated!

A Service of Word & Table

January 19, 2020 ❖ 10:50 a.m.

Epiphany 2

THE ENTRANCE

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"Jupiter Theme"
Carol Craig, Piano

Gustaf Holtz

+ *Call to Worship*

A wilderness beckons us: a desert, a barren place, yet a place of blessing and discovery.

Jesus, steady companion, accompany us, as we enter new territory, the frightening places, the exciting places, those that evoke memories of past spaces, and those that give us hope for the future.

Jesus, our wise and well-traveled guide, lead us into this new land, give us boldness and courage to follow you. Give us your vision and wisdom.

Walk with us through this time of liminality and uncertainty. Help us to trust that we are in a space where all things will be made new.

+ *Opening Hymn 98*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

"To God Be the Glory"

+ *Statement of Faith*

Bruce Prewer

**I worship and adore God,
source, essence, and aim of all things,
spirit that enlivens all beings.**

**I follow the way of Jesus,
who found God in himself
and shared a way for others to find God in themselves.
He was born through love,
He lived for love,**

He suffered for love,
He died for love,
But love never dies.

I submit myself to the leading of the love that is God,
that I may be compassionate toward all beings,
that I may live and serve in community with others,
that I may ask for and offer forgiveness,
that I may praise and enjoy God forever. 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

Prayers of the People

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer 605 vs. 1 – "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

BEACH SPRING

*Wah, O God, Our Sons and daughters Where your cleansing waters flow
Number them among your people Bless as Christ blessed long ago
Weave them garments bright and sparkling Compass them with love and light
Fill, anoint them, send your Spirit Holy Dove and heart's Delight*

Morning Prayer



WORSHIP & MINISTRY STAFF

Rev'd Johnny Jeffords

Senior Pastor

Rev'd Mimi White

Associate Pastor

Matthew Bogart

Music Ministries

Carol Craig

Organist

Alan Butler

Youth Ministries

Josh Shaw

Children's Ministries

Heather Ragland

Office Manager

Annie Hunter

Communication

Cynthia Green

Reception

Bill Dozier

Building & Maintenance

Robert Phillips

Custodian

Rose Holmes

Housekeeper

The Hebrew Bible Reading—Isaiah 49:1-7 (NRSV)

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention,
 you peoples from far away!
 The Lord called me before I was born,
 while I was in my mother’s womb he
 named me.
 He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
 in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
 he made me a polished arrow,
 in his quiver he hid me away.
 And he said to me,
 “You are my servant, Israel,
 in whom I will be glorified.”
 But I said,
 “I have labored in vain, I have spent my
 strength for nothing and vanity;
 yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
 and my reward with my God.”
 And now the Lord says,
 who formed me in the womb to be his
 servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that

Israel might be gathered to him,
 for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,
 and my God has become my strength—
 he says,
 “It is too light a thing that you should be my
 servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob
 and to restore the survivors of Israel;
 I will give you as a light to the nations,
 that my salvation may reach
 to the end of the earth.”
 Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of
 Israel and his Holy One,
 to one deeply despised,
 abhorred by the nations,
 the slave of rulers,
 “Kings shall see and stand up, princes,
 and they shall prostrate themselves,
 because of the Lord, who is faithful,
 the Holy One of Israel,
 who has chosen you.”

Homily

Rev’d Dr. Jonathan L. Jeffords

“On the Brink...”

Invitation to Table

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may,
 not because you are strong, but because you are weak.
 Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,
 but because you need mercy and help.
 Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.
 Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.
 Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in Christ you call us to unity of mind and purpose, but we confess that our hearts are often turned toward separation and division.

We quarrel; we encourage rivalries;

we tear down our brothers and sisters in faith.

Help us to remember that all have been baptized as one body into Christ's death and resurrection.

Teach us to hold fast to those promises

which draw us together in the Spirit,

so that we may proclaim the power

of Christ's life and ministry with one voice.

Silence is kept for personal confessions

Assurance of Pardon

Receive the good news: there is no place, not even in our hearts, where the love of God cannot penetrate.

God is around and among us, healing, restoring

and calling us to new life as one body, united in Christ.

Praise be to God for the gift of forgiveness and the promise of peaceful unity!

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Passing the Peace

Offertory

“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

Carol Craig, Organ

J.S. Bach

+ *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

“Panis Angelicus”

Carol Craig, Organ

Cesar Franck

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 593*

“Here I Am, Lord”

HERE I AM, LORD

+ *Benediction*

+ *Postlude*

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Carol Craig, Organ

Lani Smith