

# FROM THE CORNER

The news of our life, growth, and discipleship

St. John's United Methodist Church - Midtown Memphis



## NOVEMBER

- 13 SUNDAY**– Empty Bowls Fundraiser at Church Health Wellness (5:00-7:00pm)
- 16 WEDNESDAY**– Parents Night Out in the fellowship hall (6:00-7:30pm)
- 17 THURSDAY**– *Conversations on Race and Racial Tensions* at New Generations Empowerment Center (6:30pm- 8:00pm)
- 20 SUNDAY**– Advent workshop in the fellowship hall (12:00-2:00pm)
- 24 THURSDAY—25 FRIDAY**– The church office will be closed—Happy Thanksgiving!
- 27 SUNDAY**– Advent begins (10:50am)
- 29 TUESDAY**– UMW set up for Hanging of the Greens (6:00pm)
- 30 WEDNESDAY**– Hanging of the Greens dinner and service (5:30pm; service at 7:00pm)

## DECEMBER

- 1 THURSDAY**– Perea Packers (set up at 12:00pm; box packing at 3:30pm)
- 2 FRIDAY**– Perea Packers (11:00am)
- 3 SERVICE SATURDAY**– Soup kitchen volunteers appreciated, Contact Annie (3:30pm)



THE WAY  
a service of recovery

This Friday at 6:00pm John Kilzer leads us with Eric Lewis, Tony Gentry, Dave Smith, and Kim Trammell.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Memphis Empty Bowls Project is today from 5:00-7:00pm** at Church Health Wellness. Help provide food for Memphis families by supporting this great fundraiser which includes a delicious meal, beautiful bowl, silent auction, and live music.

**Conversation on Race and Racial Tensions** Rev'd Autura Eason-Williams will serve as the keynote speaker for this special Metro District event. The conversation will be held at New Generations Empowerment Center on **Nov. 17 from 6:30-8:00pm**. All are strongly encouraged to attend, listen well, and learn much from this gifted speaker and panel. The next conversation will be on **Dec. 4, 2:30pm** at Centenary UMC.

**Parents Night Out** Bring the kids by on **Nov. 16 from 6:00-7:30pm** for dinner, fun, and art. Nursery will be provided.

**Advent Workshop** Join us for crafts and service projects in celebration of the Advent season on **Sunday, Nov. 20 from 12:00-2:00pm** in the fellowship hall. Lunch will be provided.

**Hanging of the Greens Service & Dinner** Purchase your ticket for Hanging of the Greens, on **Nov. 30** from Rae-Anne before or after worship in the vestibule. Appetizers will begin at **5:30pm**, followed the dinner. Service begins at **7:00pm**.

**Sunday Participation** We want you to be part of Sundays by serving as an Acolyte, Crucifer, Communion Helper or welcoming visitors at our information station. Sign up online through the Worship section of our website or through the e-blast.



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, Gary Hall

### TODAY'S COUNTERS:

Don Tyson

+ Please stand as you are able.

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www.stjohnsmidtown.org

# St. John's United Methodist Church

November 13, 2016

10:50 a.m.

*Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*  
"Opportunity of Testify"

## THE ENTRANCE

*Words of Welcome*

*Prelude*

arr. Calvin Taylor

"Wade in the Water"  
Carol Craig, Pianist

+ *Call to Worship—Isaiah 65*

Have you heard?  
Something new is coming,  
a different world than the one we know.  
**And we're the ones to help make it happen!**  
**Let us gather together,**  
**to support and encourage one another**  
**and to praise God—**  
**for new visions, for hope,**  
**for new beginnings, and for new possibilities.**

+ *Processional Hymn—TFWS 2194*

O FREEDOM

"O Freedom"  
*Verse 1—Soloist*  
*Verse 1, 3, & 5—All*  
*Verse 1—All*

+ *Prayer for Change—Isaiah 65*

**O God,  
we long to make a difference  
in our world.  
We offer you what we have:  
our visions and dreams;  
our witness to your saving acts  
of love and justice;  
our resources to help bring  
the new heaven and new earth  
into our midst.  
We offer you our very lives,  
that we may be coworkers with you  
to bring about true change.**

+ *Responding in Praise*

*The United  
Methodist  
Hymnal  
no. 333,  
Public  
Domain*

I'm goin' a sing when the Spir - it says sing, I'm goin' a  
shout shout, shout,

sing when the Spir - it says sing, I'm goin' a  
shout shout, shout,

sing when the Spir - it says sing, and o - bey the Spir it of the Lord.  
shout shout,

— *Please be seated.* —

*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*

Moses Hogan

“Let Us Break Bread Together”  
KeDavion Taylor, Countertenor

*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 Journey*

+ *Hymn of Response—TFWS 2151*

I'M SO GLAD

“I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

+ *Benediction*

+ *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.

*Offering*

“Freedom Come”  
Chancel Choir  
Luke Hefner, Tenor

Ben Allaway

+ *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!*

*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.

*PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE*

*Joys and Concerns*

*Call to Prayer*

*The Faith  
We Sing*  
No. 2193  
Music: Ken  
Medema  
©1973 Hope  
Publishing  
Inc.  
OneLicense  
A-724667

Lord, lis-ten to your chil - dren pray - ing,  
Lord, send your Spir it in this place; Lord,  
lis-ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, send us  
love, send us power, send us grace.

*Sharing Our Prayers*

+ *Gospel Reading—Luke 21:5-19 (NRSV)*

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

*Homily*

Rev. Renee Dillard

“Opportunity to Testify”

*Song of Reflection*

1. O day of peace \_\_\_\_\_ that dim - ly shines \_\_\_\_\_ through all our  
 2. May swords of hate \_\_\_\_\_ fall from our hands, \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts from  
 3. Then shall the wolf \_\_\_\_\_ dwell with the lamb, \_\_\_\_\_ nor shall the  
 4. Then en - e - mies \_\_\_\_\_ shall learn to love, \_\_\_\_\_ all crea - tures

\_\_\_\_\_ hopes \_\_\_\_\_ and prayers and dreams, \_\_\_\_\_ guide us to jus -  
 \_\_\_\_\_ en - vy find re - lease, \_\_\_\_\_ till by God's grace \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ fierce de - vour the small; \_\_\_\_\_ as beast and cat -  
 \_\_\_\_\_ find \_\_\_\_\_ their true ac - cord; \_\_\_\_\_ the hope of peace \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ tice, truth, and love, \_\_\_\_\_ de - li - vered from \_\_\_\_\_ our self - ish schemes.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ our war - ring world \_\_\_\_\_ shall see Christ's prom - ised reign of peace.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ the calm - ly graze, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit - tle child \_\_\_\_\_ shall lead them all.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ shall be ful - filled, \_\_\_\_\_ for all the earth \_\_\_\_\_ will know the Lord.

*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*

**Merciful God,**  
**we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**  
**We have failed to be an obedient church.**  
**We have not done your will,**  
**we have broken your law,**  
**we have rebelled against your love,**  
**we have not loved our neighbors,**  
**and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**  
**Forgive us, we pray.**  
**Free us for joyful obedience,**  
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon*

Hear the good news:  
 Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
 that proves God's love toward us.  
 In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**  
**Glory to God. Amen.**