

# FROM THE CORNER

The news of our life, growth, and discipleship

## DECEMBER

**2 WEDNESDAY-** Hanging of the Greens dinner in the Fellowship Hall (5:30pm)

**2 WEDNESDAY-** Hanging of the Greens service in the sanctuary (7:00pm)

**5 SERVICE SATURDAY-** Cheer on St. Jude marathon runners, pizza lunch and backpack assembly to follow (9:30am-1:00pm)

**5 SERVICE SATURDAY-** Gifts for Guests backpack assembly in the Fellowship Hall, volunteers appreciated (1:30pm)

**5 SERVICE SATURDAY-** Christmas Soup Kitchen in the Fellowship Hall, volunteers appreciated (3:30-5:30pm)

**6 SUNDAY-** Youth Christmas Party: dinner and Starry Nights at Shelby Farms, meet at St. John's (5:00pm)

**9 WEDNESDAY-** St.Johns@Crosstown at 420 S. Cleveland (7:00pm)

**13 SUNDAY-** Honduras mission trip informational meeting in the Hospitality Room (after service)

**16 WEDNESDAY-** Family Pajama Party in the Fellowship Hall (6:00-7:30pm)

**20 SUNDAY-** Longest Night service in the chapel (5:00pm)

### FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

**Monday-** Mary Ann Sandidge  
**Wednesday-** Bill Colton & Gary Hall  
**Friday-** Jim Lindstrom

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

St. John's United Methodist  
Church - Midtown Memphis

@stjohnsmidtown

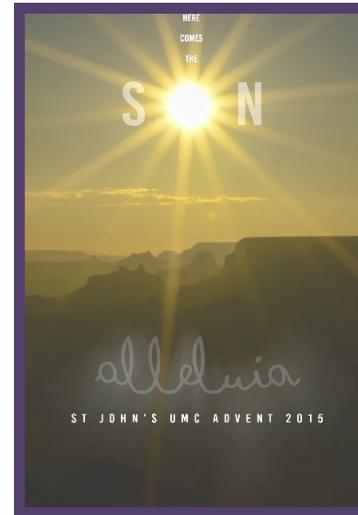


## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you'd like to purchase a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone, refer to the insert in today's bulletin.
- Service Saturday, December 5:
  - Our Gifts For Guests Project's backpacks are filled with useful items, such as toiletries and cold weather gear, that will be given to soup kitchen guests later that day. Sign up after service to sponsor a backpack—\$20 per backpack.
  - Contact Kristen at kberning@stjohnsmidtown.org to sign up for service Saturday activities!
- Purchase your Hanging of the Greens tickets in the vestibule (\$15/Adult, \$5/Child under 8, \$40 Maximum/family).
- Donations are needed for periodicals and magazines for our food pantry and soup kitchen guests. Thank you!
- There's a need for weekday volunteers. Contact kberning@stjohnsmidtown.org if you are interested in serving on the Hospitality Team on Thursdays, or sacking groceries in the food pantry on Wednesdays or Fridays.



**This Friday at 6pm John Kilzer leads us with Gerald Stephens, Steve Potts, Scott Bomar, & Joe Restivo.**



*Seasonal banner 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:**  
Bradley Thomas,  
Jordan Carter

+ Please stand as you are able.

## St. John's United Methodist Church

November 29, 2015  
10:50 a.m.

*"HERE COMES THE SUN"*  
ADVENT 1

*THE ENTRANCE*

*Words of Welcome*

*Prelude*

arr. Hal Hopson

*"Veni Emmanuel"*  
*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

+ *Call to Worship*

We come from a world of darkness  
**Into Christ's world of light.**  
We come from a world of weariness  
**Into God's strength and hope.**  
We come from a slumbering world.  
**Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls  
and watch for the coming of Christ.**

+ *Processional Hymn—UMH 185*

LAUDES DOMINI

*"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*

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

*Time at the Crèche*

*Singing of God's Love*

He came down that we may have hope! He  
came down that we may have hope! He came down that we may  
have hope! Hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er more.

*Lighting of the Advent Candle: Hope*

The Wise Men and shepherds saw signs that foretold Jesus' coming 2000 years ago. Today we don't look for a single brilliant star to follow or for angels singing in the heavens. We look for other signs that Jesus is with us, signs that:

...we are feeding the hungry, healing the sick,  
...clothing the naked, caring for the poor,  
...working for justice and righteousness at home and in our world.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord!  
And so we watch, and wait, and stay alert, waiting again for the coming of Jesus. And we light a single candle in preparation for that glorious day.

*(Light the first candle on the Advent wreath.)*

**Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

**WORSHIP & MINISTRY STAFF**

**Rev'd Johnny Jeffords**  
**Rev'd Renee Dillard**  
**Rev'd G. Scott Morris**  
**Rev'd John Kilzer**  
**Matthew Bogart**  
**Scott Elsholz**  
**Zachary Ferguson**  
**Lyn Stewart**  
**Emma Martin**  
**Kristen Berning**  
**Bill Dozier**  
**Robert Phillips**  
**Rose Holmes**

*Senior Minister*  
*Discipleship Ministries*  
*Associate Minister*  
*Recovery Ministries*  
*Music/Worship Ministries*  
*Organist*  
*Youth/Young Adult Ministries*  
*Church Administrator*  
*Office Manager*  
*Office/Communications*  
*Building & Maintenance*  
*Custodian*  
*Housekeeper*

*For staff and contact information visit:*  
*[WWW.STJOHNSMIDTOWN.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNSMIDTOWN.ORG)*



*Prayer After Receiving*

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when He shall appear,  
He may not find us in sin  
but active in His service  
and joyful in His praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*SENDING FORTH*

*Invitation to Journey*

+ *Hymn of Response*—UMH 213

TRURO

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

+ *Sending Forth to Serve*

+ *Benediction*

+ *Postlude*

Charles Callahan

“Celebration”

*“I Will Lift  
Mine Eyes”  
I will lift mine eyes  
unto the hills, whence  
cometh my help. He  
will not suffer thy  
foot to be moved. He  
that keepeth thee will  
not slumber. He that  
keepeth Israel shall  
not slumber nor  
sleep. The Lord is  
thy keeper. The Lord  
is thy shade upon thy  
right hand. The sun  
shall not smite thee  
by day nor the moon  
by night. The Lord  
shall preserve thee  
from evil, He shall  
preserve thy soul, He  
shall preserve thy  
going out for ever  
and evermore.  
Hallelujah!*

*Congregational Response*

1. Star - Child, earth - Child, go - be-tween of God,  
love Child, Christ Child, heav-en's light - ning rod,  
*Refrain*  
This year, this year, let the day ar - rive when  
Christ-mas comes for ev-ery-one, ev-ery-one a - live!

*PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE*

*Joys and Concerns*

*Centering Hymn*

O day of God draw nigh in beau-ty and in power; come  
with thy time-less judg-ment now to match our pres - ent hour.

*Prayers of the People*

*Anthem*

“I Will Lift Mine Eyes”  
Chancel Choir

Clara Edwards

+ *From the Gospels*: Luke 21:25-36—NRSV

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

*Sermon*

Rev'd John Kilzer

“Hear Comes the Son”

*Invitation to Table*

*Prayer of Confession and Pardon*

O promised Christ:

We are a world at war.

Our peace depends on your coming.

We are a sinful people.

Our pardon depends on your coming.

We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;  
our only hope of doing God's will is that you should come  
and help us do it.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh,

our world waits for your peace, for your pardon, and for your  
grace.

Even so: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon*

... in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**Glory to God. Amen.**

+ *The Peace*

*Offertory*

Matthew Bogart

Improvisation on “Star-Child”

+ *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*

*Taking the Bread and Cup*

*The Lord's Prayer*

*Sharing Holy Sacrament*