

**LESSONS AND CAROLS  
CEREMONY OF CANDLES  
by Joseph Martin**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016  
10:30 A.M.**

GREETINGS

**GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME**

*PRELUDE OF LIGHT* Orchestra  
Evie Durham, Reader

*IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER* Choir and Orchestra  
Molly Means, Soloist

THE FIRST READING Troy James

*THE PROMISED LIGHT* Choir and Orchestra

THE SECOND READING Margaret Sprunger

*AN ADVENT CREDO* Choir and Orchestra

THE THIRD READING David Henson

*ADVENT CELEBRATION* Choir and Orchestra

THE FOURTH READING Kristine Isenhower

*BETHLEHEM LIGHT* Choir and Orchestra

THE FIFTH READING Guy Johnson

*IN SILENCE HE CAME* Choir and Orchestra  
Catherine Wells, Soloist

THE SIXTH READING Carol Gordon

*RISE AND SHINE* Choir and Orchestra

THE SEVENTH READING Larry Norman

*INVITATION TO THE MANGER* Choir and Orchestra

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Emily Murray and Dylan Jenks

Advent, the time of watchful preparation, will soon come to its end. Jesus, for whom we have waited so vigilantly, will soon be born. He will bring with him the Good News, which begins in Promise, surrounds us with his Peace, and brings us into God’s Presence.

Our hearts are filled with awe and joy. How can we respond? This morning, we will join in a program of sacred music expressing our love and praise at the coming of our Lord and his Good News.

We complete the circle of the Advent Wreath, lighting four candles: the candles of Promise, of Peace, of Presence, and of Praise.

**Lord, we welcome the coming of your Good News and raise our voices in Praise.**

OFFERTORY

THE EIGHTH READING Lorri McGuire

*ALL IS CALM, ALL IS BRIGHT* Choir and Orchestra

THE NINTH READING Jay Hogewood

*A BLESSING OF LIGHT* Choral Benediction

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE ...**

are given by Troy Prevot in celebration of his and Sarah’s 32nd wedding anniversary.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

<b>Ushers</b>	Fran Anderson, Lynn Cooper, Fred and Kathleen Adams
<b>Host(s)</b>	Mary Martha Allen

**HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, December 18**

5:00 p.m. Youth, Worthy Residence

**Monday, December 19**

9:00 a.m. Ladies’ Covenant Group, Parlor

3:00 p.m. Men’s Covenant Group, Library

3:30 p.m. The Shepherd’s Market, FLC

5:00 p.m. Ladies’ Covenant Group, Parlor

**Tuesday, December 20**

8:15 a.m. Worship in the Market, FLC

8:30 a.m. The Shepherd’s Market, FLC

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor

**Wednesday, December 21**

8:30 a.m. Holy Folders, Library

4:00 p.m. Ladies’ Covenant Group, Parlor

5:45 p.m. Praise Team, Choir Room

6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, Choir Room

6:30 p.m. Alpha Bells, FLC

7:17 p.m. 717 Group, George’s Southside

**Thursday, December 22**

OFFICE CLOSED

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts, FLC

**Friday, December 23**

OFFICE CLOSED

**Saturday, December 24**

12:00 p.m. AA Meeting, FLC-C

4:00 p.m. Family Worship Service

7:00 p.m. Traditional Worship Service

**WORSHIP SERVICES  
CHRISTMAS EVE, CHRISTMAS DAY**

Worship services on Christmas Eve will be at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The 4 p.m. service will be family oriented with a live nativity; the 7 p.m. service will be a traditional service. Communion will be served at both services.

There will be only one worship service on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday school or coffee time. We hope you will join us on this special day celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It will be a casual service; children can come in their pajamas!

**PRAYER REQUEST FORM**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Joy  Concern

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- Please share with the prayer team  
 Please share with Pastors only  
 I desire a call  
 I desire a visit

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

You may also email a prayer request to: [prayers@stjohnsbr.org](mailto:prayers@stjohnsbr.org)

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

## WELCOME

If you would like someone to follow up with you please fill out the information below and place in the offering plate.

- I am just visiting today.
- I am new to the area and am looking for a church home.
- I would like more information about the United Methodist Church and St. John's.
- I am interested in Baptism or Confirmation.
- I am interested in Children's Ministries.
- I am interested in Youth Ministries.
- I am interested in College/ Young Adult Ministries.
- I would like to receive email communications about church life.
- I would like a call from a pastor.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Children (Names & Ages): \_\_\_\_\_

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## HOLIDAY DEADLINES AND CLOSURES

Due to the office closures for the holidays, any information that you would like included in Sunday bulletins must be in the office on **Monday, December 19** for both the December 25 Sunday bulletin and the January 1 Sunday bulletin.

In addition to the regular Friday closures, for the holidays the church office will be closed Thursday, December 22, Monday, December 26, Thursday, December 29, and Monday, January 2. In case of emergency, Pastor Jay can be reached by phone or email. Regular office hours will resume Tuesday, January 3.

The Shepherd's Market will be closed from Thursday December 22 through Monday January 2 and will reopen on Tuesday January 3.

## T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE TODAY

The short sleeved t-shirt will be on sale **TODAY** during coffee time and cost \$10. They will be sold on a first-come, first served basis. They will also be available in the church during regular office hours.

There's still time to order St. John's long-sleeved t-shirts. They are pre-order only and will be \$25 each. Deadline to order long-sleeved t-shirts is Monday, December 19.

## UPPER ROOM

The Upper Room Daily Devotional for January-February 2017 is now available in the Family Life Center and in the hallway of the Admin Building. A donation of \$1 per copy is appreciated.

## 2017 FLOWER CHART

The Flower Chart for 2017 is up on the bulletin board in the hallway of the Admin Building. Please consider signing up to have flowers in the sanctuary on a special day or for a special person or just to have a wonderful example of God's work in our lives.

## RECEIVE TEXT REMINDERS

Members of St. John's congregation are now able to receive text message reminders on their smart phones. This service will send you a short text message to remind you of an upcoming event at St. Johns. If you haven't signed up, all you need to do is text @stjohnsumc to 81010. If you would like help signing up, please contact Carrie Stephens at carriestephens@stjohnsbr.org or 318-751-1985.

## SERMON NOTES

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## CHURCH STAFF

**The Rev. Dr. Jay Hogewood**  
Senior Pastor  
225-772-3550  
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**Lorri McGuire**  
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**Lynn Cooper**  
Administrative Assistant  
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**Alex Martin**  
Youth Intern  
alexmartin@stjohnsbr.org



Remember to pray for **The Walk**.  
"...for we walk by faith, not by sight."  
- 2 Corinthians 5:7  
#sjthewalk | www.stjohnsbr.org/the-walk



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**ST. JOHN'S**  
United Methodist Church

*Glorifying God. Feeding People. Making Disciples.*



*Awaiting* - acrylic on panel by Billie Bourgeois

## A CEREMONY OF CANDLES by Joseph Martin

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 18, 2016**

### Mission Statement

*We are a Christian community called to share our gifts through worship, witness and service so that others will know God and become disciples of Jesus Christ.*