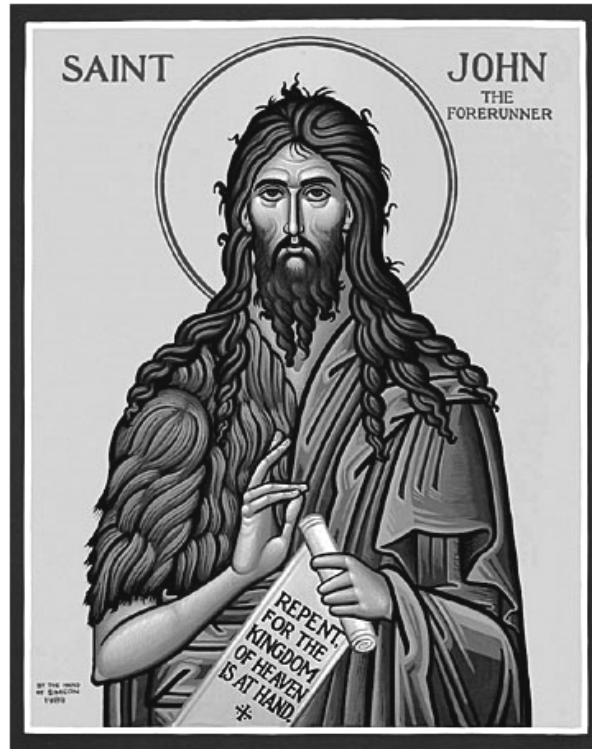


Saint John's Church, Concord
576 Concord Road
Glen Mills, PA 19342

Founded 1702

Celebrating 319 Years of Worship



John the Baptist Icon Copyright www.monasteryicons.com

The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel – Rector

**Sunday, December 5, 2021 10:30 a.m. Eucharist
2nd Advent**

**2021 Mission of Saint John's
To be a welcoming community committed to seeking,
serving, and growing in Christ**

Our vision is to grow with intent. We will maintain intimacy by gathering in groups; reach all generations through fellowship; advance our mission through a vital program of outreach; nurture spiritual growth through worship, music, education and pastoral care; encourage commitment to effective ministry; and support the church through stewardship.

Saint John's is a Heart-friendly Church

HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE II 10:30 a.m. Service

December 5, 2021

2nd Advent

Welcome to Saint John's, Concord (Glen Mills) – Welcome to all who are visiting Saint John's today. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us and that you are blessed by God.

Today's Service Participants

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel

Readers: Melody Calhoun, Gerry Tierney

Acolytes: Ella Dunn, Julianna Gonzalez

Children's Chapel: Margie Hatcher

Counters: Miriam Stanton, Darree Clark

Altar Guild: John Pachkowski, Charlotte Strickland, Tracey Payne

Tech Team: Phil Thompsen, Gerry Tierney

BCP - Indicates Book of Common Prayer

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

Hymnal 67

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: The glory of the Lord will be revealed. (*Light the candle*)

All: And all will see the saving power of our God.

Celebrant: The Lord is the hope of the humble, the treasure of the poor, and so we pray: That we may embrace the Gospel spirit of simplicity and charity, we pray to the Lord.

All: Bless us with your Spirit, O Lord.

Celebrant: That, like John the Baptizer, we may give witness to the Messiah, we pray to the Lord.

All: Bless us with your Spirit, O Lord.

Celebrant: O Lord, the God of the humble, the help of the oppressed, the support of the weak and the refuge of the forsaken and the Savior of the despairing; to you O Lord be eternal glory.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all. *Amen!*

Opening Acclamation

BCP, p. 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Trisagion

Holy God
(*Sung three times*)

Hymnal S102

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Hebrew Scriptures

Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;
for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name,
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;
look toward the east,
and see your children gathered from west and east
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that God has remembered them.
For they went out from you on foot,
led away by their enemies;

but God will bring them back to you,
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.
For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.
The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God's command.
For God will lead Israel with joy,
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Deus* Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
 he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
 born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
 from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
 and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
 holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
 by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

Second Reading***New Testament*****Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn***Prepare the Way, O Zion*****Hymnal 65 v. 1 & 2****The Holy Gospel*****All standing*****Luke 3:1-6**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

***People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons and the collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Revised Common Lectionary and used by permission.

Gospel Hymn***Prepare the Way, O Zion*****Hymnal 65 v. 3**

Children's Chapel

Ms. Margie Hatcher

The children process to Chapel.

The Sermon

The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People for Advent

Celebrant: The prophet Isaiah proclaimed “those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.” Let us respond to each petition with the words “*Shine in our hearts.*”

Celebrant: Lord of all hopefulness, we pray for the Church, both our congregation and assemblies around the globe. May all priests, deacons, musicians, and lay Celebrants shine forth your love. Christ, be our light;

People: Shine in our hearts

Celebrant: Lord of all hopefulness, protect the animals, whether wild or farmed or tame. Restore devastated habitats and polluted waters. Calm the storms and fires that devastate the earth. Renew our relationship to this fragile earth, our island home. Christ, be our light;

People: Shine in our hearts

Celebrant: Lord of all hopefulness, set us free from enslavement to division, disunity, and distrust in our public life and labor. Bless all elected officials, especially Tom, our Governor, and Joe, our President. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision. Christ, be our light;

People: Shine in our hearts

Celebrant: Lord of all hopefulness, soften the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the splendor of your creation, that divisions of race, class, gender, and ethnicity may be recreated into one common humanity. Christ, be our light;

People: Shine in our hearts

Celebrant: Lord of all hopefulness, protect all people who are poor or oppressed, who are homeless or unemployed. Comfort those who live with chronic pain, anxieties, and addictions. Encourage parents and teachers, health care and essential workers that they might have the strength needed for the tasks ahead. Christ, be our light;

People: Shine in our hearts

Celebrant: Lord of all hopefulness, shower the light of your compassion on all who are sick, sorrowful, and suffering, especially those on our prayer list. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world. Christ, be our light;

People: Shine in our hearts

Celebrant: I lift up these prayers from those worshipping with us on Facebook [____]. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth, and the wellspring of hope. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin and the Absolution

BCP p. 360

The Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Peace

BCP p. 360

Birthday/Anniversary

Prayer #51, BCP, p. 830

Watch over your child, O Lord, as *his/her/their* days increase; bless and guide *him/her/them* wherever *he/she/they* may be. Strengthen *him/her/them* when *he/she/they* stands; comfort *him/her/them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him/her/them* up if *he/she/they* fall; and in *his/her/their* heart may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of *his/her/their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Offertory

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring by JS Bach

Sung by Josef Samargia, Baritone; accompanied by String Quartet with Dori Olson, Lela Miller, and Adina Olson and Jess Villante

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

The people stand, if able. The Celebrant faces them and says
The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [...]

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus S-130

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

BCP p. 368

We give thanks to you...

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant:

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, and the power, and the glory,

For ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, a period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.

We have gluten-free rice wafers for those that need them. Please let the Eucharistic Minister know. Due to the pandemic, only bread will be shared during Communion.

Communion Music

String Quartet

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the People, saying the following

The blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary,
and the Holy Spirit who broods over the earth as a mother over her children, be upon you
and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn *There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying* **Hymnal 75**

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Altar Flowers

In Memory of Margaret & Howard Grider, Sr. from Janice Grider
In Thanksgiving for Gregory P. Jiggins from Sherry Stiteler
In Honor of Sgt Major Tom Stone III from Dianna & Tom Stone

Anyone interested in having flowers placed on the altar “in Memory of, in Thanksgiving for, in Honor of, or as a birthday remembrance” etc. for any Sunday, may do so by contacting Barbara Stipa at turkeypoint6@gmail.com. There are always openings and this is a lovely way to remember others!

Cookies & Carols - December 12th at 2 pm

Join us for an afternoon of singing all your favorite Christmas Carols! We'll have cookies to decorate (and eat!). Get into the fun by wearing an ugly Christmas Sweater. Sign up for this event by calling or email the office at office@saintjohnsconcord.com

❄ Christmas Season Schedule ❄

Contemplative Christmas Prayers

December 24th between 12 pm and 4 pm

The church will be open for private prayers of devotion

Cocoa, Carols, & Creche

Christmas Eve Family Worship with Communion

December 24th at 3 pm

A 30-minute outdoor service with cocoa to keep you warm & carols to keep you smiling!

Reception of Holy Communion

December 24th between 4 and 5 pm

Drop in any time during this hour. Presanctified Communion Hosts will be available for those who would like to receive Communion but cannot attend an in-person worship service

Candlelit Christmas Eve

December 24th at 7:30 pm and 10:30 pm

(note: 7:30 pm is Live-Streamed)

With Choir Music and Holy Communion

Contemplative Eucharist Service

Saturday, December 25th/Christmas Day at 10:30 am

Lessons and Carols Eucharist Service

Sunday, December 26th/1 Christmas at 10:30 am *(one service only)*

Sharing God's Blessings: St. John's Annual Giving Campaign

*You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way,
which through us will produce Thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11*

Dear St. John's Family:

2022 is upon us and Reverend Jill and your Vestry are excited to plan for another successful year at St. John's. We say another successful year because 2021, despite the global pandemic and social restrictions, was good for St. John's.

Your past financial support has been crucial to the mission of St. John's. Your generous contributions have enabled St. John's to meet our financial needs for 2021 and we hope we can count on you again for 2022. Our proposed budget for operating the church will exceed \$330,000 and your weekly, monthly or annual pledge accounts for over 65% of this budget.

We invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your annual pledge by 5% and mailing it back to the church as soon as possible. You may also submit your pledge online at <https://bit.ly/3mISUBO>

Your increased financial support will enable us to continue 'Sharing God's Blessings' with our parishioners and others in need. If you have questions or wish to discuss making a financial pledge, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Reverend Jill or any Vestry member, all of whom have submitted their 2022 pledge.

Christmas Gift Cards for Chester Eastside

We are collecting Walmart & Target gift cards for Chester Eastside again this year. Gift cards allow families to shop for the children in their family and get them just the right gift. Gift cards can be purchased and placed in the offering or dropped off at the office **by December 12th**. If you would like us to purchase the gift cards, just write a check to St. John's with a note on the memo line that it's for Christmas gift cards. Any questions, please email Mary Alice Peeling at mapeeling@outlook.com

The Women of Advent: Hearing Their Voices

Join Rev. Jill for three sessions as we meet the women who are part of the Jesus Story. Meeting on Sundays from 9:40-10:20 a.m. in the Battin Room. (In-person and on Zoom with meeting ID: 955 049 2211 code: 1702)

December 5th – Elizabeth

December 12th - Mary & Hannah

St. Mary's Food Cupboard

St. Mary's Food Cupboard needs the following items: Toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish detergent and personal care items like shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste and deodorant for men and women. *There is also now a need for shelf-stable nutritional drinks - specifically "Boost" and "Ensure"*. We have boxes just inside the Parish Hall for these items, or, you may leave them in bags there.

Men's Breakfast

Meeting on the Second Saturday of each month at 8:30 am, the men of St John's will gather for fellowship and a short discussion. Next Breakfast is December 11th. Join us!

Parish Weekly Prayer List

Please Note: After the last Sunday of each month, all names are removed from the Parish Weekly Prayer List. If you would like a name to remain on the Prayer List, please contact the Parish Office, by email at office@saintjohnsconcord.com or by phone at (610) 459-2994. You may add or remove names at any time. Please include the first name and, if you wish, the initial of the person's last name.

Please keep the following People in your Prayers

Prayer List

Bill Z.	Mary	Barrie	Ed and Amy
Lydia	Tom W.	Warren	Robin
Sunny R.	Amy B.	Betty Lou	Jean B.
John C.	James	Jocelyn	Jennifer
Ashley	Sarah	D. Starr	Jim
Dolores	Nancy		

Birthdays

Betsy Billigmeier	Megan Sharp	Frankie Delvescovo	Ed Borer
Loie Toal	Andrew Nagengast	Rylin Bresset	Zachary Kotsifas
Bernard Miller IV	Paul Pearlman	Zachary Blackburn	

Prayers for those in the Military

Steven Michael Pascal, Navy	Daniel Stock, Navy	Scott Lister, Navy
Kyle Mullen, Army	Anna Harris, Navy	Tyler R. Faison, Marines

Vestry Members, Wardens and Officers

Class of Feb. 5, 2023

Bill Calhoun, Jacqui Dunn, Mary Pat Lynam, John Pachkowski, Tracey Payne

Class of Feb. 6, 2022

Burt Blackburn, Diane Carlin, Mary Gonzalez, Gerry Tierney, Danielle Yoch

Officers

Danielle Yoch, Rector's Warden	Mary Gonzalez, Vestry Secretary
Burt Blackburn, Treasurer	Bill Calhoun, Vestry Warden

Delegates & Alternates to Diocesan Convention & Brandywine Deanery

Lay Delegates: Burt Blackburn, Sue Hammer, Ann Moses
Lay Alternate: Peggy Long

Church Staff

Margaret Hatcher – Children's Chapel and Christian Arts
April McKenzie – Parish Administrator
Jessica Villante – Music Director
Josef Samargia – Baritone Soloist
Chris Villante – Interim Organist/Keyboardist
Kevin Werner and Ron Arrants – Sextons