



## INTROIT

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Liturgist)

A friendly welcome to all! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here.

### BELLS TO WELCOME THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

**PRELUDE** "My Faith, It is an Oaken Staff" Edward Broughton

**OPENING WORDS** (Liturgist) "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" from Micah 6:8

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Liturgist: Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Holy One.*

**People: The Holy One is high on the mountain and exalted among the people.**

*Liturgist: Let us praise the great and awesome name of the Everlasting God.*

**People: The Everlasting God hears our cries and answers our call. Praise our God!**

### \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (In Unison)

**Radiant God, we come to you on the mountaintop to experience your glory. You come to us in the valleys. We meet you in gladness in a place where heaven and earth collide. May our worship of you encourage us on the journey and make us aspire to reflect your kingdom in the world. Transform us and keep us near to you. Amen.**

### Grandparent Support Group

The Gathering Place is hosting a support group for grandparents raising grandchildren. It will be monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 6:30-7:30p facilitated by Pastor Ann Marie Winters. To register, call Ann Marie at (330) 469-6296.

### Barefoot in the Park

Don't miss your chance to see one of St. John's own thespians as *Barefoot in the Park* takes to the Troy Civic Theatre stage February 24, 25, 26 and March 3, 4, 5. Our own Mike Beamish has a cameo role, but you must be in your seat as Act I begins in order not to miss him. See the Troy Civic Theatre website or call 937-339-7700 for ticket information.

### Lenten Bible Study

Plans are underway for a Lenten Bible Study on the five Thursdays of March. We will gather in Fellowship Hall for soup and extras about 11:30. Then we'll spend some time discussing a few of the ideas presented by Jill J. Duffield in her book, *Lent in Plain Sight*. Finally, we will create a hands-on crafty souvenir of our discussion. A sign-up sheet for providing soup and extras (salad, sandwiches, artisanal bread) is available in the narthex.

### Help Wanted!

Calling a few people who can tell the difference between a microphone and a flutophone! You might just be qualified to help us re-launch the Facebook Live program on Sunday mornings! We have had a request to start recording the service live again but we can't do it without people willing to be on a team to run the equipment, focus the camera, and turn it off again. Let us know if you are interested in helping in this way. Call the office, text the pastor, or just talk to us on Sunday morning.



## Adult Sunday School

Sunday school will be at 9:30am next Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> in the café. Next week's topic will be "Did God Say? – Wonderful Words to Live By" with Mike Beamish leading.

## Lawrence and Rita Kroger

A reception friend of Lawrence and Rita Kroger is scheduled for Thursday, February 23rd. A graveside service for the family will be held at Riverside cemetery at 1:00 pm. Afterwards, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm, there will be a reception for all here at St. Johns in the basement Fellowship Hall. Contact Becky if you can help with refreshments.

## Special Music by Jorian Johnson

Mark your calendar and plan to be in attendance for worship on Sunday, March 5 here at St. John's. Our own Jorian Johnson will be our guest musician that day, along with four of his friends from the W. Crimm Singers AKA Wakanda Chorale. This group sang back-up on "Aristocrat of Bands: The Urban Hymnal," this year's Grammy winner in the "Roots Gospel Album" category. After worship, Jorian and his friends will be our guests for a St. John's Carry-In Dinner. Since we'll have company, it would be great if you could bring a couple dishes to share, along with your own table service. AND THEN, to enjoy more of Jorian's music, come back to St. John's sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. for a not-to-be-missed concert. Bring your family. Bring your friends. Bring your neighbors. You will have an incredible musical experience!

**\*HYMN: #29** "Morning Has Broken" (Red Hymnal)

**SCRIPTURE READING** (Liturgist) Matthew 5:1-7, 9:9-13

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "A Simple Song of Praise" John Parker &  
David Lantz III

**A TIME FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES:** Ginny will be leading us in song. All under 5 are invited to gather together in the Sunday School area at the conclusion of this time.

**MORNING PRAYER** Don Crist

## THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In Unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## SILENT PREPARATION FOR LISTENING

We invite you to use these few moments of silence to welcome the Inner Teacher to speak to you as Don shares the morning message.

**SERMON** "The Merciful" Don Crist

## OFFERTORY INVITATION (Liturgist)

Jesus comes down to us as a gift of presence, compassion, and companionship. His entire life is a demonstration of committed generosity and stewardship. We too are called to present our lives as a gift to the God who has created us and the world that needs what we have to offer in time, talent, and treasure. Let us reveal the glory of God by the giving of our good gifts.

**OFFERTORY**

“Bagatelle”

Robert Schumann

**\*DOXOLOGY: (In Unison)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, Ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*DEDICATION PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**Generous God, may these gifts bring you glory and honor and meet the needs of your people. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**HYMN: #233**

“Amazing Grace”

(Red Hymnal)

**BENEDICTION**

Don Crist

**POSTLUDE**

“Allegro”

Francois Couperin

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**PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS**

Wayne Cunningham: Please pray for Stephanie Strobe's father who continues to battle bone and liver cancer. Em Finney: Ginny's sister, Em, has been on our prayer list for a very long time and needs our prayers now more than ever as her illness progresses, and her health deteriorates. Michael Ham: Despite his life-long health issues, Michael has accomplished a great deal in his life and is very active in the Troy community. As his health issues mount, Michael could certainly use all the prayers that we at St. John's can offer. Joe Valentine: Please pray for Barb Bartel's son, Joe, as he continues to struggle with family issues. Erika, Logan and Brianna Wilson: Please pray for Sharon's grandchildren that they may know the love, peace and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Remember our homebound in your thoughts and prayers. Cards are welcome:

Barb Bartel: 4675 Orbison Rd., Troy, OH. 45373

Beulah Bowers: 1220 N. Dorset, Troy, OH 45373

Carletta Gritzmaker: 2896 West Main Street, Troy, OH 45373

Joan Meredith: Lakeview Wing #213, 1567 Garbry Road, Piqua, OH 45356

Please note: Updates and/or amendments to the prayer list are appreciated. Typically, prayer requests will be removed after 4 weeks. If you or a loved one needs to remain on the list, please contact Betty Schaffner at 937-335-6713 or Joyce Reives at 937-477-8268. Thank you.

