St. John's EPISCOPAL CHURCH WORTHINGTON

To Grow, Heal, and Serve

Week of November 22, 2026

Website | Worship on Youtube | Centering Prayer | Calendar

Ways to Grow

Adult Formation: Slow Dow. Quiet. It's Advent.

As our busy lives get even busier during the holidays, we may long for quiet and rest. On the four Sundays of Advent, November 29 through December 20, from 10:15 to 11:00 a.m., Kilbourne Hall will become a place to slow down, enter into stillness, and simply be in the presence of God. Tables will have rotating spiritual practices to help you prepare for Jesus' coming into the world, or perhaps you crave a little time to sit down and close your eyes with no one asking anything of you. Stay for five minutes or 45, whatever your soul needs. Nursery care, Godly Play for children, and Youth Roundtable for middle and high schoolers are offered at the same time.

On December 6, this space of quiet will become intergenerational, with spiritual practices available for children of all ages and adults.

Wednesday Advent Series: Songs of Zechariah and Mary

The Gospel of Luke tells the story of Jesus' birth not just in words, but in songs sung by Zechariah and Mary celebrating God's saving work in them and in the world. This Advent, David and Gia will lead an exploration of these two scriptural songs, the Benedictus and the Magnificat, on Wednesdays, December 2, 9, and 16, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Kilbourne Hall. All are welcome. Childcare is available by advance request; please let Gia or David know if you would like it.

Adult Formation: About the Eucharist

What does the Eucharist--also called communion, the Lord's Supper, or the mass--mean? How might poetry and art help us to grasp the mystery of Jesus' presence in the bread and wine? How do we do the Eucharist at St. John's, practically speaking? Gia will lead this two-part reflection on the sacrament of Christ's body and blood, which will include instruction on how to receive and administer communion. The series is open to all; anyone currently serving as, or interested in becoming, a chalice minister or Eucharistic visitor is especially encouraged to attend. We'll meet

in Kilbourne Hall on Sundays, November 15 and 22, at about 10:20 a.m. Nursery care, Godly Play, and Youth Roundtable are offered at the same time.

Ways to Heal

Facing Loss Ministry, November 23

On Monday, November 23, please join us for our Loss and CareGivers Lunch at Worthington La Chatelaine in the back room at 1PM. We are compassionate and know where you are at this time. Conversation is wide ranging. No reservation needed. For questions or needs, contact Cynthia Woodbeck, Sje Co-chair at 614-638-5054 or cwoodbeck235@gmail.com.

Ways to Serve

Giving Tree & Angel Tree Ministry Update, December 6

The Outreach and Social Justice Committee reminds everyone to *return gifts by Sunday, December 6*. Please leave gifts unwrapped with the tag from the display and include a gift receipt and box if possible.

If you want to make a monetary donation, please place your cash/check in one of the envelopes provided on the Giving Tree display, and place it in the collection plate or send it to the office. In addition, you can make an on-line donation through the St. John's website using the Giving Tree dropdown link. All monetary donation should be made by December 6.



Sacred Stitches, December 3

Sacred Stitches will be meeting Thursday, December 3, from 1:00 till 3:00 p.m. in St. Johns' atrium. Please join us to craft and chat, while we create prayer shawls, prayer squares to offer comfort for others, baby blankets for baptisms, or whatever you're working on currently. At this meeting Bonnie Ross will be demonstrating how to knit a hat in the round on circular knitting needles. We hope to see you there!

Meal Ministry Coordinators Needed

Share the Leadership of "In the Garden"
Our monthly "In the Garden" meal ministry is seeking up to four passionate new coordinators, serving individually or as a team of co-leaders, to share in the leadership of this vital meal ministry. For years, this program has been a cornerstone of outreach at St. John's, bringing nourishing food and fellowship to our downtown community every fourth Sunday.

As a coordinator, you will help organize meal prep, manage the volunteer schedule, and oversee the monthly service day at Trinity Episcopal Church located at the intersection of Third and Broad. Current leadership will provide full training and a smooth transition! If you feel called to serve our neighbors in this meaningful way, please reach out to Lillian Balukjian (Thompson) via Email @ lillianbalukjian@sbcglobal.net.
~The Outreach and Social Justice Committee

The Food Pantry

When we celebrate Thanksgiving this year with family or friends, we will give thanks for the many gifts and blessings God has given us. However, we know that holiday time is financially challenging for many people. The holidays can bring loneliness and depression to the elderly, grieving, unemployed, singles, and others during the holidays. We can help by sharing God's love and sharing our bounty.

The Worthington Resource Pantry's recent newsletter shared this message: "As we head into the holiday season, **we need your support more than ever**. Neighbors will continue to count on us for their everyday groceries while also trying to make room in their budgets for holiday meals. We need to keep our shelves stocked and be ready to meet that need. A financial gift helps us purchase food and respond as needs change. Donating food or organizing a food drive helps keep our shelves filled with items neighbors can bring home. Volunteering your time helps get that food onto our shelves and into our neighbors' hands."

We can help stock the pantry shelves by including a **Thanksgiving dinner item** along with our regular food pantry contribution each week during November. Extras such as sweet potatoes, stuffing, gravy, cornbread or muffin mix, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin pie filling, nuts, or mashed potato mix would be greatly appreciated.

You can help feed our neighbors by offering a **financial gift** instead at **www.worthingtonresourcepantry.org/donate**, and the food pantry can amplify the impact of every dollar donated. Your own Thanksgiving celebration will be more meaningful if you know you have generously shared your bountiful blessings with others.

November 1 – cereal or oatmeal; toothpaste, & Thanksgiving item
8 – peanut butter; conditioner, & Thanksgiving item
15 – tuna; deodorant, & Thanksgiving item
22 – rice, pasta; feminine pads, & Thanksgiving item
29 – baby food, formula; diapers 4-6

Mary Bailey



Worthington Resource Pantry

Around St. John's

Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

St. John's will hold a service of Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, November 26. Join us to give thanks to God for all God's blessings in our lives.

Flowers Donors, November 22

We have a Flower Donor for Sunday, November 22, 2026. Susie Bonnell is giving the flowers in Thanksgiving for the life of her mother, Betty Bonnell.
Under “We Give Thanks”—for the life of Betty Bonnell.

Newsletter Submission

Are you looking to submit an article for the newsletter? Click the link below! Deadlines for the articles are due by Tuesdays at 12 noon and can be sent in no earlier than Monday of the same week.

Submit Here

Readings for This Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-24
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Readings for Next Sunday

Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37
Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Click here for the Lectionary page

Centering Prayer – Mondays, 1:00 pm. Click this **Zoom link** (Meeting ID: 865 0593 1410; Passcode: 922699; +13017158592,,86505931410#,,,,*922699#). If you are interested, contact Teri Foley-Nelson, at **foleynelson1@sbcglobal.net**.

Do You Have Family or Friends Who You Want Included on the Weekly Prayer List? If so, please contact the office at **Bellao@stjohnsworthington.org** or 614-846-5180, with their first names. Names will remain on the list for three weeks unless there are additional instructions. If you want longer term prayer by the intercessory prayer group, please contact Mary Bailey (614-619-1803 or **mphbailey.3@gmail.com**) or Jo Pascoe (614-306-7983 or **twopas@aol.com**).

Pastoral Care Concerns - If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact one of the clergy. Gia may be reached at 614-846-5180, ext. 302, 220-219-1880, or **GiaHM@StJohnsWorthington.org**. David may be reached at 614-846-5180, ext. 308, 220-219-1880 or **DavidB@stjohnsworthington.org**. 220 area code is a local number.

People for whom prayers have been asked

We pray for:

Kathy
Karen and Gary
Grace and Chris
Ned and Marquell
Jolie
Karen

Aaron
Justine
Mary and Michael
Celia
Charley
Julie
Liz
Alex
David
Frank

For our service men and women and all first responders

For those who are unemployed or underemployed

For all who experience fear or exclusion

For those in prison or bondage – in body or spirit

For peace and for all those who suffer from war, including the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Afghanistan, Armenia, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Iran, and all places of conflict in the world.

Parish Cycle of Prayer
David and Sonya Thesing
Leigh and Rob Thurman and family
Carrie and Tim Troester and family

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
St. Margaret's, Dayton
The Regional Disciplinary Board

We Give Thanks
The people of St. John’s and their ministries
The 80th birthday of Gary LaRue

The Departed

St. John's Episcopal Church | 700 High Street | Worthington, OH 43085 US

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