

ST. JOHN'S
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY
CHURCH

JUBILATION SERVICE

“PROCLAIMING CHRIST . . .
TRANSFORMING LIVES . . .
BUILDING COMMUNITY . . .”

DECEMBER 18, 2016
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00 AM

The Rev. R. David Smith
Interim Pastor

The Rev. Carlton D.M. Rutherford
Pastor for Congregational Care

ST. JOHN'S METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
JUBILATION SERVICE

*“Proclaiming Christ . . . Transforming Lives . . .
Building Community . . .”*

ORDER OF SERVICE
9:00 AM

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
Pregnant with Possibilities**

Prelude:

Advent Candle Lighting:

From light comes life. Deep in expectant earth, a seed stretches. Through the fire-start of imagination, an idea takes root. In a passionate flash, love glows with infant intensity. Safe in the womb, a child senses its season turning and stirs. It is Advent, something coming, vulnerable in its unstoppable desire. God, unquenchable light, may they grow—the seed, the love, the idea, the child.

One: Let your light shine. Let your spirit soar. Throw open your mind. Hand over your heart. Here it comes—love.

Many: It shines in the darkness. It sings in the shadows. It will not cower and cannot be contained.

One: It was hope of the saints, the call of the prophets. It was the fire in the belly of the Baptist and the courage of Mother Mary.

Many: Lamp in the window, beacon on the hill, star in the night sky. Love, you lead us home.

One: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light a candle for love.

Many: We light a candle for love. May it light the way.

**The Processional Hymn: “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

The Welcome:

The Passing of the Peace:

The Call to Prayer:

“Away in the Manger”

The Pastoral Prayer:

The Prayer Jesus Taught Us: (In Unison)
**Our Creator, Who Art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Your Dominion come, Your 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 This is the Dominion and the power and the Glory
forever. Amen.**

The Scripture Reading: Ruth 1:1-5, 15-18; 2:8-12; 3:1-4, 8 and
4:14-15, 21-22

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

One: Readings from the Book of Ruth

All: Glory to You, O God.

(Reading of the Scripture)

One: This is Good News about God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

**The Gloria: "Gloria In Excelsis Deo"
**Gloria, in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

CCLI #520204, Used with permission

The Resurrection Message: Rev. R. David Smith
"Grandma Was A Moabitess"

The Giving Of Our Tithes And Offerings:

Passing the Hat for Rev. Delores Berry:

The Offertory Response: "We Are An Offering"

The Holy Eucharist:

*The Holy Eucharist is open to all. Out of respect for those who are in
recovery, grape juice is served at all stations.*

The Invitation to the Table:

The Sacrament of Holy Communion: (Responsively)

One: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to our God.

One: Let us give God thanks and praise.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: These elements of the earth made by human hands become blessed and holy by the power of God's Spirit and in them we find the source of life and strength for our spiritual journey.

All: Amen.

The Words of Institution:

The Mystery of Our Faith: (Responsively)

One: As we prepare to participate in the sharing of the bread and the cup, we celebrate once again the gift of life we have been given and experience together the wonder of God's love as we proclaim again the mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died! Christ has risen! Christ is here!
Christ will come again!**

The Sharing of the Sacrament:

You are invited, as the ushers direct, to receive the gifts of bread and fruit of the vine by simple intinction. We request that you observe the sacredness of this time, as others receive the Eucharist, through silent prayer and meditation

The Prayer of Thanksgiving:

****The Closing Song: "Mary, Did You Know?"**

Postlude:

**** Please Rise As You Are Able**

St. John's Metropolitan Community Church

A **SPOTLIGHT** on Upcoming Events, Activities, and Special
Announcements

This Week at St. John's MCC

Sunday, December 18 th	Jubilation Service	9:00 am
	Tool Time At Ten	10:00 am
	Celebration Service	11:00 am
	Transformation Chew & Chat	After 11
Tuesday, Dec. 20 th	Tuesday Night Bible Study	6:30 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 21 st	Special Service of Carols	7:00 pm
Sunday, December 25 th	Combined Christmas Day Service	10:00 am

Mark Your Calendars Today for These Upcoming Events

December 28, 2016	NO Potter's Hour Service	
January 1, 2017	Combined New Year's Day Service	10:00 am
January 14-15, 2017	Winter Revival With Special Guest: Rev. Terri Steed Pearce Senior Pastor—Joy MCC, Orlando FL	
January 29, 2017	Board of Directors Meeting	After 11



Follow us
on Facebook and
on Twitter @stjohnsmcc



Convenient Information to Keep In Mind

Rest Rooms:

Two rest rooms are located off the hallway, just before the rear entrance into the worship space. An additional rest room equipped with a changing table is located in the Junior Saints Room.

Parking for First Time Guests:

Our First Time Guests are cordially invited to park in the spaces specifically provided for them at the Maywood Avenue entrance to, as well as any other available spaces on our Ministry Center property. Additional parking is also available on both sides of Maywood Avenue. We also request that you do not block the entrances to the adjacent business located on either side of the Ministry Center or our neighbor's access to it.

Parking for Members, Regular Attenders, Choir Members, Leaders and Staff:

St. John's MCC is committed to ensuring that our First Time Guests are treated with the utmost care and attention from the moment they arrive at our Ministry Center. We respectfully request that our members, regular attenders, choir members, leaders and staff, assist us in this vital ministry of welcome by leaving the parking spaces in our on-site parking lot for them during our worship services.

Always Play It Safe:

While at our Ministry Facility, we strongly encourage you to make sure that you put away and secure any valuables that you may have in your vehicle and lock your vehicle before leaving it.

Smoking Area:

The smoking area is located at the end of the sidewalk on the left side of the Ministry Center. Please use the ashtray provided. Smoking in the building or near the door entrances is prohibited. Thank you!

St. John's Metropolitan Community Church

Church Leadership and Ministry Team

Interim Pastor:

The Rev. R. David Smith
pastordavid@stjohnsmcc.org

Pastor for Congregational Care:

The Rev. Carlton Rutherford
revcarlton@stjohnsmcc.org

Church Administrator:

David Ray
churchadmin@stjohnsmcc.org

Praise and Worship Music Coordinator:

Robby Blanks
robbyb@stjohnsmcc.org

Ministry Support Team:

David Ray
churchadmin@stjohnsmcc.org
Leah Sampson
leahs@stjohnsmcc.org

Marketing Ministry Team Lead:

If you are interested in helping getting the name of St. John's out to the public, please see:
Takoma Sampson
takomas@stjohnsmcc.org

Public Relations:

Mike Gauss
mikeg@stjohnsmcc.org

Web Ministry Team Lead:

Jim Manchester
jim.manchester@stjohnsmcc.org

Worship Ministry Team Lead:

If you are interested in any aspect of our worship services, including music, sound and AV, please see:
Vance Haywood
vanceh@stjohnsmcc.org

Fellowship Ministry Team Lead:

If you are interested in joining of our affinity groups or planning a fellowship opportunity, please see:
Dela Adams
fellowship@stjohnsmcc.org

Discipleship Ministry Team Lead:

If you are interested in going deeper in your relationship with God, embody the teachings of Christ and modeling the Christ way of life through one of our Bible studies, please see:
Cindy Norton
discipleship@stjohnsmcc.org

Stewardship Ministry Team Lead:

If you are interested in the blessings of living a generous life, please see:
Al Williams
alw@stjohnsmcc.org

The Board of Directors:

Fred Cannady, Vice Moderator
fredc@stjohnsmcc.org
Marty Smith, Clerk
martins@stjohnsmcc.org
Mark Godette, Treasurer
markg@stjohnsmcc.org
LeJune Perrin, Assistant Clerk
lejune@stjohnsmcc.org
Bob Young, Assistant Treasurer
roberty@stjohnsmcc.org
Dedric Carter-Reid, Appointed Member
dedricc@stjohnsmcc.org

Ministers:

Members of the Congregation

St. John's Metropolitan Community Church
622 Maywood Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Phone: (919) 834-2611 Fax: (919) 834-2036

Web Site: <http://www.StJohnsMCC.org>

Church Office's E-Mail: ChurchAdmin@StJohnsMCC.org

Interim Pastor's E-Mail: PastorDavid@StJohnsMCC.org

Pastor Carlton's E-Mail: RevCarlton@StJohnsMCC.org

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday : 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 3:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

**Meetings with the Pastor(s) can be scheduled
by contacting the Church Office.**

St. John's MCC is part of the global movement of Metropolitan Community Churches. Together, we are compelled by an unfinished calling and a prophetic destiny. We are a global movement of spiritually and sexually diverse people who are full awake to God's enduring love. Following the example of Jesus and empowered by the Spirit, we seek to build leading-edge church communities that demand, proclaim, and do justice in the world. Learn more about MCC at www.mccchurch.org

Proclaiming Christ by Celebrating . . .

. . . the joys of a Christian life and the experiences of diversity in worship;

Transforming Lives by Growing . . .

. . . in God's grace, equipping people for spiritual living, enhancing interpersonal relationships and developing a thriving diverse community of faith, and;

Building Community by Serving . . .

. . . God's church and community, where everyone is equally valued and loved by God and has the ability and responsibility to serve.