



SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025, 10:30 A.M.  
THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

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THE PRELUDE

THE OPENING HYMN 388 *O worship the King*

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THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

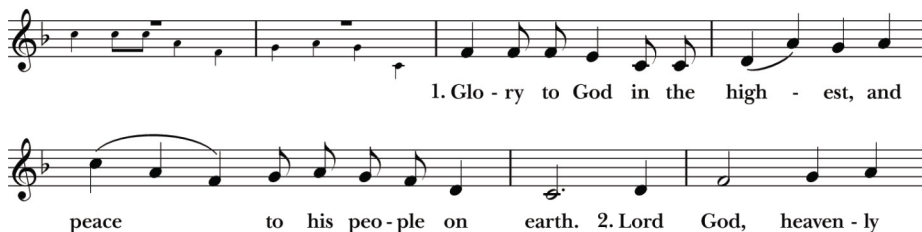
*All stand.*

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

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA



King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE LESSONS

*All sit.*

### THE FIRST LESSON: JEREMIAH 2:4-13

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, “Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?” I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, “Where is the Lord?” Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children’s children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### PSALM 81:1, 10-16

*Sung by the choir.*

<sup>1</sup>Sing with joy to God our strength \*

and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

<sup>10</sup>I am the Lord your God,

who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, \*

“Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.”

<sup>11</sup>And yet my people did not hear my voice, \*  
and Israel would not obey me.  
<sup>12</sup>So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, \*  
to follow their own devices.  
<sup>13</sup>Oh, that my people would listen to me! \*  
that Israel would walk in my ways!  
<sup>14</sup>I should soon subdue their enemies \*  
and turn my hand against their foes.  
<sup>15</sup>Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, \*  
and their punishment would last for ever.  
<sup>16</sup>But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat \*  
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

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THE EPISTLE: HEBREWS 13:1-8, 15-16

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A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to s

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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THE SEQUENCE HYMN 699 *Jesus, lover of my soul*

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THE GOSPEL: LUKE 13:10-17

*Remain standing.*

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

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THE SERMON The Rev. Mawande Mzongwana

*All sit.*

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THE NICENE CREED

*All stand.*

*The Celebrant and People say together*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,**

begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM VI)

*All kneel as able.*

*Celebrant* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work, and for those who serve in our  
local hospitals, care facilities, schools, colleges, and correctional facilities;  
for those who serve in law enforcement and in the legal system; and for  
members of the military and those serving overseas, especially Ben and Eric.  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; for our President  
Donald, our Governor Kay, and our Mayor Steven; for members of our  
state legislature, and our national representatives and senators, that there  
may be respectful and wise governance for the welfare of our

nation and of the world; and for victims of violence and conflict,  
especially in Eastern Europe and in the Middle East.  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation, and an awareness and sense  
of gratitude for the beauty of the world around us;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda and Brian our Bishops, Duncan  
and Mark our priests, Mawande our deacon; for Stewart our seminarian,  
and for all bishops and other ministers.  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your  
eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

#### THE PEACE

*The people stand to greet one another.*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The celebrant will say an offertory sentence. The people sit.*

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM *As Newborn Stars Were Stirred to Song* John Karl Hirten

*All stand to sing the offertory verse when the offertory is brought up to the altar.*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise him all creatures here below.**

**Praise him above ye heavenly host.**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)

*All stand.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

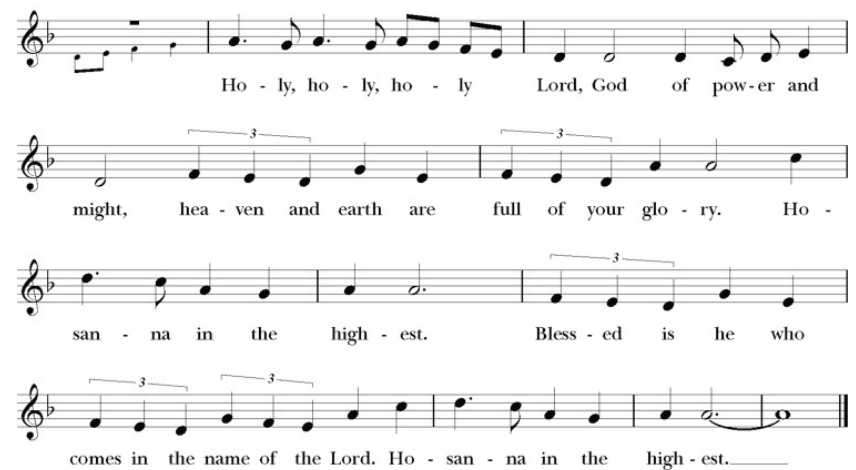
*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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



*All kneel as able.*

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**



*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say,

*Celebrant and People*

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

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THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant presents the holy gifts to the congregation saying*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*The priest receives the Sacrament, and then serves the people with these words:*

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

*You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest.*

*Communion is offered in both kinds at the communion rail or station on the floor.*

*Communicants may receive the wine by intinction or by drinking directly from the cup.*

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THE AGNUS DEI

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

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THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*All kneel as able.*

*Celebrant* 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.**

## THE BLESSING

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*Celebrant* Go now and walk in all God's ways.  
Keep your lives free from the love of money  
but let love between people continue and be honored.  
Show hospitality to strangers.  
Pray for those who suffer torture and imprisonment  
and do not neglect to do good.

And may God be your strength;  
May Christ Jesus be for you a fountain of living water;  
And may the Holy Spirit raise you to life  
with all God's righteous ones. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 636 *How firm a foundation* *All stand.*

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## THE DISMISSAL

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*When the clergy have moved to the front door of the church, the Deacon then sings*

*Deacon*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia.

*People*

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE POSTLUDE *Rondeau* Jean-Josef Moret

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## TODAY'S SERVERS

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**Clergy:** The Reverend Dr. Duncan Johnston, *Rector*  
The Reverend H. Mawande Mzongwana, *Associate Rector*  
**Director of Children's Formation:** Sarah Collier  
**Director of Youth Ministries:** J.R. Marshall  
**Altar Guild:** James Rinehart  
**Lector and Intercessor:** Reg McLane, Scott Mitchell  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** J.R. Marshall, Dudley Perry  
**Ushers/Greeters:** Keith Miller, Bill Johnson, Jim Marshall, Karen Westhauser  
**Flower Guild:** Betsy Cannon, Mary Martin Mitchell  
**Flower Delivery Team:** Emmi Harrell, Tracey Campbell  
**Instrumentalists:** Jihye Choi, *violin*; David Simpson, *bassoon*; Robby Gibson, *guitar*

**Altar Flowers are given in memory of the 1834 Society Memorial Roll:**  
Adanne "Candy" Golden, Jule Lanier, John Everest, Sallie Millsap

### Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Nancy Buzard, Rosa Davis, Rick Durden, Dave Funk, Emily Crump Johannes,  
Valinda Johnson, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald,  
Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Mosely, Cameron Napier, Bud Nason,  
Elizabeth Potter, Jim Power, Shirley Price, Hawthorne Ramsey, Scott Simmons,  
Johnny Smith, Debbie Steindorff, Barbara Wallace

### Prayers are also requested for these friends:

Emma Allshouse, Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, John Ferguson, Bob Geddie,  
Stephanie Holmes, Janet Hutto, Charles Lewis, Leslie Little, Karen Pacheco,  
Pat and Shirley Patterson, Pam Slate, Ron Skoneki, Madera Spenser,  
Chandler Taylor, Connie Thomas, Katherine Weidner, Frank Winkler,  
Sharon Carney Wright

*Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care.  
The prayer list will be updated monthly, please notify us if names need to remain longer.*

**Pastoral Care Team for September:** Emmi Harrell, Meri Moody,  
Nancy Bradford, Mary Helen Mahan

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **Kickoff Sunday: Sunday School, Ministry Signups, and More**

You do not want to miss Kickoff Sunday on September 7. Sunday School will begin at 9:15 a.m. and everyone is invited to stay for a picnic lunch directly following the 10:30 service where St. John's will provide hamburgers and hot dogs. There will be water inflatables for the children, so do not forget to bring swimsuits and beach towels. Kickoff Sunday also marks the beginning of a new opportunities to sign up for ministries for the coming year.

### **Be on the lookout for your Breeze invite**

Also starting September 7, St. John's will change to a new system called Breeze for its giving, directory, calendar, website, and app. You will receive an invite via email to create your account. Information guides will be printed and available in the church office or on the St. John's website.

### **New Rector's Forum: "Scrolling Ourselves to Death"**

Sundays at 9:15 a.m. | Beginning September 14 | St. John's Library  
How is constant connectivity shaping our souls? Join us for a new Rector's Forum exploring the impact of technology, social media, and digital distraction on our spiritual lives. Inspired by cultural commentary and grounded in faith, "Scrolling Ourselves to Death" invites honest conversation about how we can live more intentionally in a wired world.

### **Heavenly Hosts Covered Dish Supper**

Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, September 9 from 6-8 p.m. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us at the home of Duncan & Gelind Johnston. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages.

## THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALABAMA

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**The Right Reverend Glenda S. Curry**, PhD, Bishop of Alabama  
**The Right Reverend Brian N. Prior**, Assisting Bishop

### ST. JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

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**The Reverend Duncan H. Johnston**, DMin, Rector  
**The Reverend Mark E. Waldo, Jr.**, Associate Rector  
**The Reverend Hleziphi Mawande Mzongwana**, Deacon  
**Joel Gregory**, Organist & Choirmaster  
**Sarah Collier**, Director of Children's Christian Formation  
**J.R. Marshall**, Director of Youth Ministries  
**Emily Howard**, Director of Communications  
**Constance Rodgers**, Assistant to the Rector  
**Myron Smoke**, Maintenance Superintendent

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### ST. JOHN'S VESTRY AND OFFICERS

**Keith Miller**, Senior Warden  
**Chuck Ocheltree**, Junior Warden  
**Richard Bradford**, Treasurer

**Class of 2025:** Melissa Carter, Mark Chappell, Anne Hamner,  
Keith Miller, Allison Prillaman

**Class of 2026:** Elizabeth Lawlor, Liam McMullan, Mary Martin Mitchell,  
Chuck Ocheltree, Ashley Roseboro, Cole Wise

**Class of 2027:** Richard Anderson, Jon Dailey, Bill Johnson,  
Jim Marshall III, Florence Tyson, Karen Westhauser





## We're glad you are at St. John's today.

Whether you are visiting for the first time or attending regularly,  
you are a part of the St. John's family.

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Visitor Card



Visitors, please use this QR code to provide us with some  
information about you and your family so that we can  
better serve you.

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[stjohnsmontgomery.org](http://stjohnsmontgomery.org)

Visit our website to see service times,  
news from the parish, upcoming events,  
mission opportunities and more.



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Online Giving



If you wish to make a gift to St. John's,  
our online giving portal makes it easier than ever.  
Your generosity supports our ministries  
in Montgomery and beyond.

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