



**St. John's**  
Episcopal Church  
*a beacon in the heart of Montgomery*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025, 10:30 A.M.  
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

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**HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II**

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THE PRELUDE

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

arr. Marianne Kim

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**THE OPENING HYMN 448 *O love, how deep, how broad, how high***

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**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)**

*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.**

## GLORIA

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo- ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
mighty 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.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 42:1-9

*All sit.*

A Reading from Isaiah.

“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.”

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: “I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 29

*Sung by the choir.*

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
    asccribe to the Lord glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
    worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*

the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
<sup>6</sup>he makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

<sup>8</sup>The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.

<sup>9</sup>And in the temple of the Lord \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.

<sup>11</sup>The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

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SEQUENCE HYMN 383 Fairest Lord Jesus

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 3:13-17

*Remain standing.*

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

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

*All sit.*

THE NICENE CREED (BCP p. 358)

*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.

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THE EPISTLE: ACTS 10:34-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

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.

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THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*All kneel as able.*

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

For all people in their daily life and work,

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation,

**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 our Bishop, Duncan and Mark our priests, 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, especially \_\_\_\_\_.

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, especially those for whom the altar flowers have been given: \_\_\_\_\_

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.**

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THE PEACE

*The people stand to greet one another.*

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

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

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

**THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *Far Away, What Splendor Comes This Way* **Jean-Baptiste Lully**

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

*All kneel as able.*

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 B, (BCP p. 367)

*All stand.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

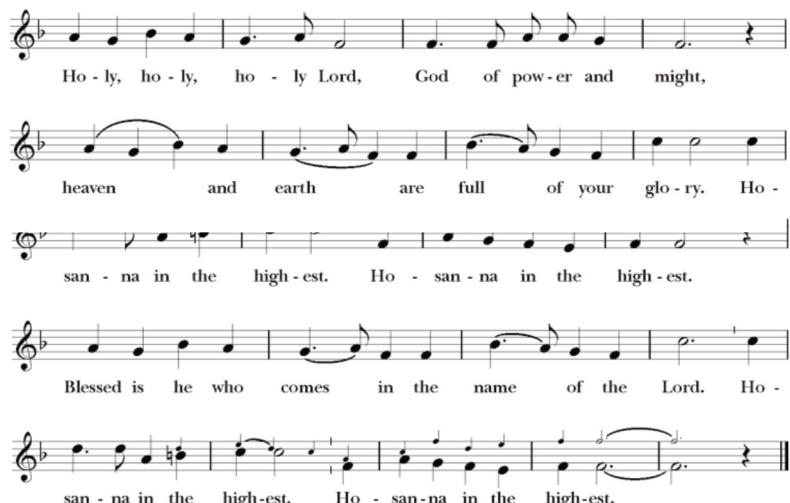
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*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, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Celebrant*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever, **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

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*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

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*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 (BCP p. 365)

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*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.

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#### THE BLESSING

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Go now, confident that you are God's precious and pleasing children.  
Trust in God and do not fear.

Accept the Word of God

and point others to the one who baptizes with Spirit and fire.

And may God be your protection and your strength;

May Christ baptize you with his Holy Spirit.

And may the Spirit be with you

to empower you and give you peace. **Amen.**

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#### THE CLOSING HYMN 473 *Lift high the cross*

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#### THE DISMISSAL

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*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE POSTLUDE

*Ain'a That Good News*

arr. Marianne Kim

**Clergy:** The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston, *Rector*

The Reverend Mark E. Waldo, Jr., *Associate Rector*

**Director of Children's Formation:** Sarah Collier

**Director of Youth Ministries:** J.R. Marshall

**Organist:** Jim Conely

**Altar Guild:** Ashley Hamlett

**Lector and Intercessor:** Reg McLane, Sarah Spratling

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Callie Dietz, William Haynes, Fairley McDonald

**Ushers/Greeters:** Keith Miller, Elizabeth Lawlor, Mary Martin Mitchell,

Karen Westhauser

**Flower Guild:** Lacy Gibson

**Flower Delivery Team:** Maria Pacheco, Anne & Reggie Hamner, Allison Prillaman

**Videographer:** Scott Mitchell

**Altar Flowers are given in memory of:** Harry Lee Davidson, Caroline Clark Hubbard, Caroline Davidson Ball, Fred St. Clair Ball, Caroline Ball Matthews, John R. Matthews, Jr., Lee Ball Calhoun Ruth, Caroline Clark Calhoun Serrato, Jane Ball Reynolds, J. Allen Reynolds, Jr., Caroline Reynolds Hall, Theda Clark Ball Tankersley, Gen. Will Hill Tankersley, Davidson Carter Tankersley

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

Nancy Bradford, Phillip Brown, Rick Durden, Marla Foster, Dave Funk, Carolyn Fillmore, Emily Crump Johannes, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Mosely, Cameron Napier, Bud Nason, Jerry Pickett, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Hawthorne Ramsey, Debbie Steindorff, Barbara Wallace, Stewart Wallace, Florence Young

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Willie "Bill" Carden, John Ferguson, Bob Geddie, Roger Holliday, Stephanie Holmes, Josie Lee, Charles Lewis, Leslie Little, Margaret Moore, Karen Pacheco, Pat Patterson, Ron Skoneki, Johnny Smith, Madera Spencer, 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 January:** Virginia Banister, Martha Tyson, Ashley Hamlett, Britney Schremser, Kathleen Bradford, Laura Knapp

**Rector's Forum: Welcome Course**

Beginning Sunday, January 11, at 9:15 a.m. in the Library, join Duncan for an 8-week Welcome Course. This is an engaging program of presentations and discussions about the Christian faith and Episcopal tradition. Email [Duncan@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:Duncan@stjohnsmontgomery.org) to register.

**Annual Parish Meeting & Vestry Elections** are scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 18, 2025 at 9 a.m. in the Parish Hall. If you are a ministry leader, please be sure and have your 2024 report completed and sent to [emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org) as soon as possible.

**Heavenly Hosts**

Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, Jan. 13, 6-8 p.m. at the home of Martha Tyson. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages. Are you interested in hosting? Opportunities are open for March 10 and April 14. Please contact Anne Hamner at 334-324-8291.

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**STAY CONNECTED TO ST. JOHN'S**

**Breeze System Gives Access to Directory, Calendar, & Giving**

St. John's has recently implemented a new system called Breeze for its giving, directory, calendar, website, and app. Parishioners received an invite via email to create an account. Information guides are printed and available in the church office or on the St. John's website. Please call the church office or email [emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org) for assistance. *Please note: Breeze is recommended for parishioners, but not required. Printed directories are available upon request.*

**St. John's e-Newsletter**

The St. John's e-newsletter goes out every Tuesday at 6 p.m.

If you are not receiving the newsletter and would like to, please email [emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org) to get added to the mailing list.

If you are not receiving emails from the church office, please email [churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org) or call 334-262-1937.

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

**St. John's Clergy & Staff**

The Reverend Duncan H. Johnston, DMin, Rector  
The Reverend Mark E. Waldo, Jr. Associate Rector  
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

**Vestry and Officers**

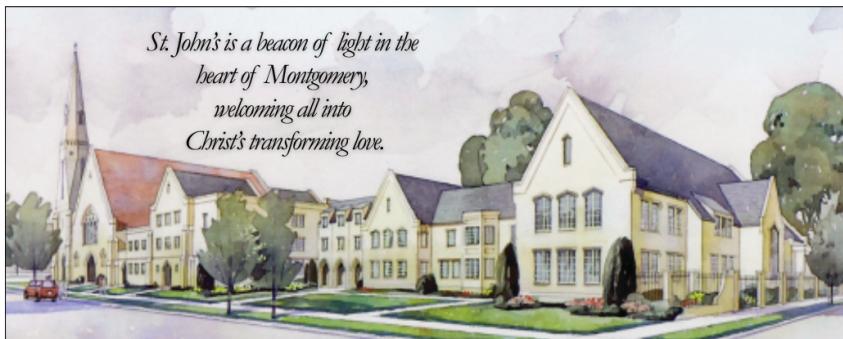
Keith Miller, Senior Warden  
Bill Eskridge, Junior Warden  
Richard Bradford, Treasurer

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

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

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

*St. John's is a beacon of light in the  
heart of Montgomery,  
welcoming all into  
Christ's transforming love.*



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

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



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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.

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