



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

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025, 10:30 A.M.
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE PRELUDE

*Christ, Our Lord, to Jordan Came
... the heavens were opened (Baptism Dance)*

J.S. Bach

Dan Locklair

THE OPENING HYMN 390 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

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 - 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.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 49:1-7

All sit.

A Reading from Isaiah.

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 40:1-12

Sung by the choir.

¹I waited patiently upon the Lord; *

he stooped to me and heard my cry.

²He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; *

he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

³He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God; *

many shall see, and stand in awe,
and put their trust in the Lord.

⁴Happy are they who trust in the Lord! *

they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

⁵Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!
how great your wonders and your plans for us! *

there is none who can be compared with you.

⁶Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! *

but they are more than I can count.

⁷In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure; *

(you have given me ears to hear you);

⁸Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required,*
and so I said, "Behold, I come.

⁹In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *

I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep in my heart."

¹⁰I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips;
and that, O Lord, you know.

¹¹Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; *
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great
congregation.

¹²You are the Lord;
do not withhold your compassion from me; *
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

THE EPISTLE: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

A Reading from the Paul's Letter to the Corinthians.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been

strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN 121 *Christ, when for us you were baptized*

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 1: 29-42

Remain standing.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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.

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

All kneel as able.

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

We pray today 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 all people in their daily life and work,

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

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 this community, the nation, and the world;

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

For an awareness and sense of gratitude for the beauty of the world around us;

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, for those who are candidates for the election of our next bishop, 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.**

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 VOLUNTARY

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, (BCP p. 361)

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, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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 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.**

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.

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.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

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

Go now and celebrate God's justice.
Take the Lord's teachings to heart
and commit yourselves to pleasing God.
Boldly declare God's truth and care
and let others know that you have found the Messiah.

And may God's maternal love surround you;
May Christ Jesus move you to trust in the Lord;
And may the Holy Spirit enrich you with all spiritual gifts
and strengthen you to the end. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 599 *Lift every voice and sing*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

THE POSTLUDE *How Bright Appears the Morning Star* Johann Pachelbel

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TODAY'S SERVERS

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: Joel Gregory
Acolytes: Nancy Bradford, Will Evans Clark, Margie Anne Prescott, Sam Snyder
Altar Guild: Melissa Carter, Debbie Schremser
Lector and Intercessor: Ken Kline, Florence Tyson
Eucharistic Ministers: Virginia Banister, Betsy Cannon, Kat Dailey
Ushers/Greeters: Bill Eskridge, Anne Hamnerl, Bill Johnson, James Marshall
Flower Guild: Camille Cumuze, Deb Steindorff
Flower Delivery Team: Melissa Carter, Doris Ball, Linda Hutchinson
Videographer: Jim Cannon

Altar Flowers are given in memory of: Marie Louise Hill, Robert Ernest Rinehart, Elizabeth Lyle Rinehart, Harley Leist Lutz, Rachel Young Lutz, Barbara Lutz Rinehart, Edmon Loftin Rinehart

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Nancy Bradford, Phillip Brown, Rick Durden, Marla Foster, Dave Funk, Carolyn Fillmore, Anne Hill, Emily Crump Johannes, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Moseley, 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, 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

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 as soon as possible.

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 to register. **Note: Welcome Course will not meet on January 18 due to the Annual Parish Meeting.**

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 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@stjohnsmongomery.org to get added to the mailing list. If you are not receiving emails from the church office, please email churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org or call 334-262-1937.

The Right Reverend Glenda S. Curry, PhD, Bishop of Alabama

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

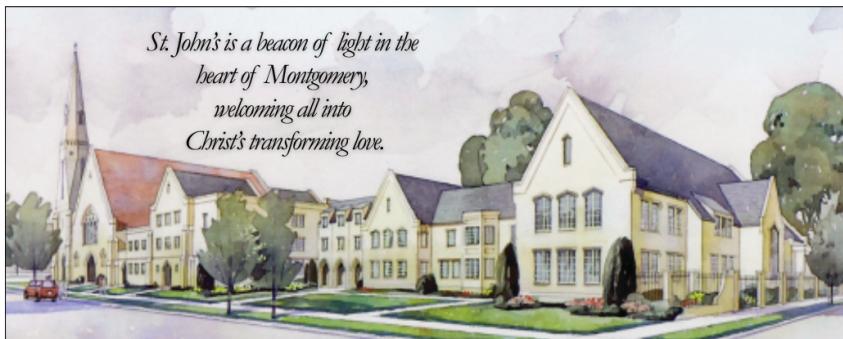
Keith Miller, Senior Warden
Bill Eskridge, Junior Warden
Richard Bradford, Treasurer

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.

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.

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

stjohnsmontgomery.org



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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