



SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026, 10:30 A.M.
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE PRELUDE	<i>Prelude (Symphony I)</i>	Charles-Marie Widor
	<i>Ab! Holy Jesus</i>	Helmut Walcha
	<i>Ab! Holy Jesus</i>	Gerald Near

THE OPENING HYMN 690 *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

THE PENITENTIAL ORDER BCP p. 351

Celebrant Blessed be God who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

All kneel.

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

The celebrant offers the following sentence

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

The Celebrant then says

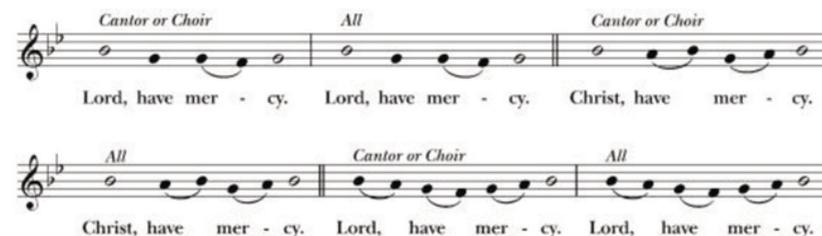
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

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 KYRIE



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: EXODUS 17:1-7

A Reading from Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- ¹Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- ²Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- ³For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- ⁴In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- ⁵The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- ⁶Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- ⁷For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- ⁸Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.
- ⁹They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.
- ¹⁰Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
“This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways.”
- ¹¹So I swore in my wrath, *
“They shall not enter into my rest.”

THE EPISTLE: ROMANS 5:1-11

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN 495 *Hail thou once despised Jesus*THE GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-14*All stand.*

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

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

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

All sit.

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.

Celebrant

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray especially for Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda our Bishop, for Richard our Bishop-Elect, Duncan & Mark our priests, and for Stewart our seminarian.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. 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, and for members of the military and those serving overseas, especially Ben and Eric.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially_____. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially those for whom the altar flowers have been given, for _____; that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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

All sit.

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

Jody Lindh

All stand as the offertory is brought up to the altar.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A, (BCP p. 361)

All stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

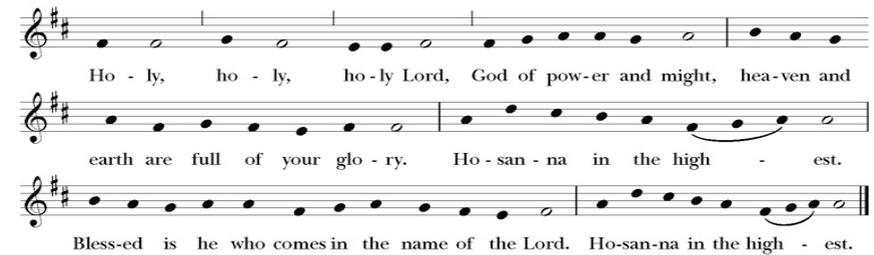
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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 Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

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

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; turn to the Lord, and let his thoughts fill your minds.

Do not expend your resources on that which cannot satisfy,

and do not become overly sure of yourselves,

lest you fall into temptation.

Instead seek the Lord while he may be found,

and take the path to freedom that opens before you.

And may God's love be better to you even than life;

May Christ Jesus be to you a rock and a life-giving spring;

And may the Holy Spirit strengthen you

and guide you in the ways of life. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 686 *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE *What God Does, That Is Rightly Done* Johann Ludwig Krebs

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TODAY'S SERVERS

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

Director of Children's Formation: Sarah Collier

Director of Youth Ministries: J.R. Marshall

Organist: Joel Gregory

Acolytes: Thomas Arrington, Knox Presley Clark, Burton Holmes, Suzanne Holmes

Altar Guild: Ashley Hamlett

Lector and Intercessor: Nick Prillaman, Florence Tyson

Eucharistic Ministers: Betsy Cannon, Mark Chappell, Morgan Chappell

Ushers/Greeters: Florence Tyson, Rich Anderson, Mary-Nelms Parsons, Mary Martin Mitchell

Flower Guild: Betty Beale, Amy Marshall

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

Videographer: Scott Mitchell

Altar Flowers are given in memory of: George Mark Wood, Sr., Mattie Pegues Wood, George Mark Wood, Jr., Marguerite McDaniel Wood, Barnett Branson Wood, The Right Rev. Milton LeGrand Wood, Ann Scott Wood, Eugene Temple Millsap, Jr, Sallie Wood Millsap

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Laura Brendle, Rick Durden, Marla Foster, Carolyn Fillmore, Anne Hill, Emily Crump Johannes, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Mosely, Cameron Napier, Bud Nason, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Hawthorne Ramsey, Debbie Steindorff, Barbara Wallace, Florence Young

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Lizzy Dickens, David Earnest, John Ferguson, Bob Geddie, Mark Grantham,

Roger Holliday, Stephanie Holmes, Josie Lee, Charles Lewis, Nicole Lusk, Margaret Moore, Karen Pacheco, Pat Patterson, Serge Ruffato, Ron Skoneki, Johnny Smith, Madera Spencer, Chandler Taylor, Connie Thomas, Katherine Weidner, Frank Winkler, Ross Wisnewski, 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 March: Kitty Coleman, Kathie Mangum, Mary Simmons, Mary Ward Wisnewski

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Lunch Series: Encounters with Jesus

Join us for a Lenten Lunch Series at St. John's on Wednesdays during Lent at 12:05 p.m. Each week we will gather for midday prayer followed by a short message reflecting on Encounters with Jesus in John's Gospel—stories that invite us to slow down, listen, and notice how Christ meets people where they are. A simple soup lunch will be served for \$6 following the service. Come nourish your spirit and your body in the midst of the Lenten season.

Lenten Dinner Series: Lost for Words

Join us for a Lenten Dinner Teaching Series at St. John's beginning Wednesday, February 25, at 6 p.m. Each week, a full dinner will be served for donations, followed by a thoughtful teaching exploring a question many are asking: Why has the church lost relevance—and what can we do about it?

Over the five middle Wednesdays of Lent, Lost for Words will take an honest look at the causes of church decline in America and invite us into new ways of witnessing to Christ in our own time and place. Topics will include integrity, empathy, substance, cultural awareness, and discovering where God is already at work beyond church walls. Come for good food, meaningful conversation, and renewed hope for the church.

Heavenly Hosts

Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, February 10, 6-8 p.m. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us at the home of Jeanne Drummond. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages.

Journey Boat Workshop

On Wednesday, March 18, from 1:30–5 p.m. in the Parish Hall, join us for a creative and contemplative Journey Boat Workshop led by artist Camilla Armstrong. Using natural and found materials, participants will build a small “journey boat” as a way to reflect on where they are in their spiritual lives and how God is moving with them through the unpredictable currents of life. Come for the Lenten Lunch Series and stay for this unique afternoon of spiritual exploration. For more information, contact Camilla at 334-320-8269.

Living Well through Lent

You’re invited to join a Lenten small group hosted by Marney Garzon, gathering weekly throughout Lent for prayerful reflection and conversation. The group begins Sunday, February 22, at 6:00 p.m. at Marney’s home, 2453 E. Cloverdale Park. Please park in the back and enter through the back door.

The group will use this year’s Lenten devotional booklet as a guide. A PDF version is available on the St. John’s website.

Join a Guild at St. John's

St. John’s is blessed with many opportunities to serve, and we invite you to share your time and talents by joining one of our church guilds.

Guilds are at the heart of our parish life. They support our worship, care for our community, and help us live out Christ’s call to love and serve.

Some of the Guilds and Committees in need of volunteers include:

- Altar Guild - contact Kitty Coleman or Chuck Moore
- Flower Guild - contact Jean Smyth
- Reception - contact Libby Beck
- Pastoral Care - contact Virginia Banister

No experience is required — training and guidance are provided. Whether you can serve occasionally or regularly, there is a place for you.

Feel free to contact the committee chair with any questions or you may contact Christine Kline by email at firefamily1991@gmail.com

Come serve. Come belong. Come grow in faith.

Education for Ministry Opportunity at St. John's

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year small-group formation program from the University of the South in Sewanee, designed for lay people seeking a deeper understanding of Scripture, church history, and theology, as well as those discerning a call to ordained ministry. An EfM seminar group is forming at St. John’s for Fall 2026 with 8–10 participants. To learn more, visit efm.sewanee.edu or speak with the rector.

The Right Rev. Glenda Curry, *Bishop of Alabama*

The Rev. Richard Lawson, *Bishop-elect*

ST. JOHN’S CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Duncan H. Johnston, DMin, *Rector*

The Rev. 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

Bill Eskridge, *Senior Warden*

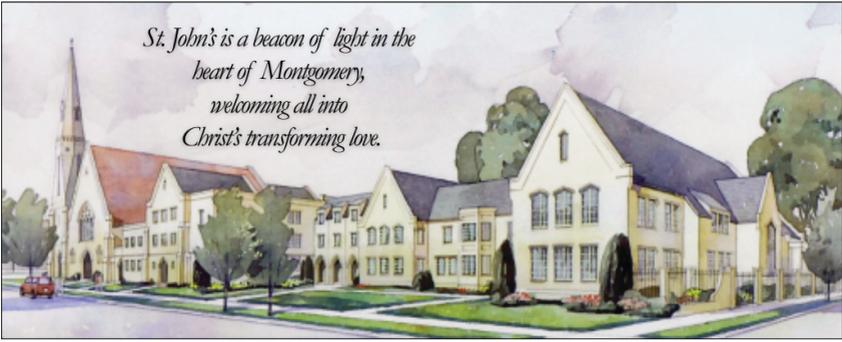
Florence Tyson, *Junior Warden*

Richard Bradford, *Treasurer*

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, Karen Westhauser

Class of 2028: Libby Beck, Tracey Campbell, Sommerville Hill, Ken Kline, Mary-Nelms Parsons, Nick Prillaman



*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.

113 MADISON AVENUE
MONTGOMERY, AL 36104
334-262-1937
STJOHNSMONTGOMERY.ORG
CHURCHOFFICE@STJOHNSMONTGOMERY.ORG