



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026, 10:30 A.M.
THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE PRELUDE

Tierce en Taille - Elevation

Francois Couperin

THE OPENING HYMN 410 *Praise my soul, the King of heaven*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

All stand.

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

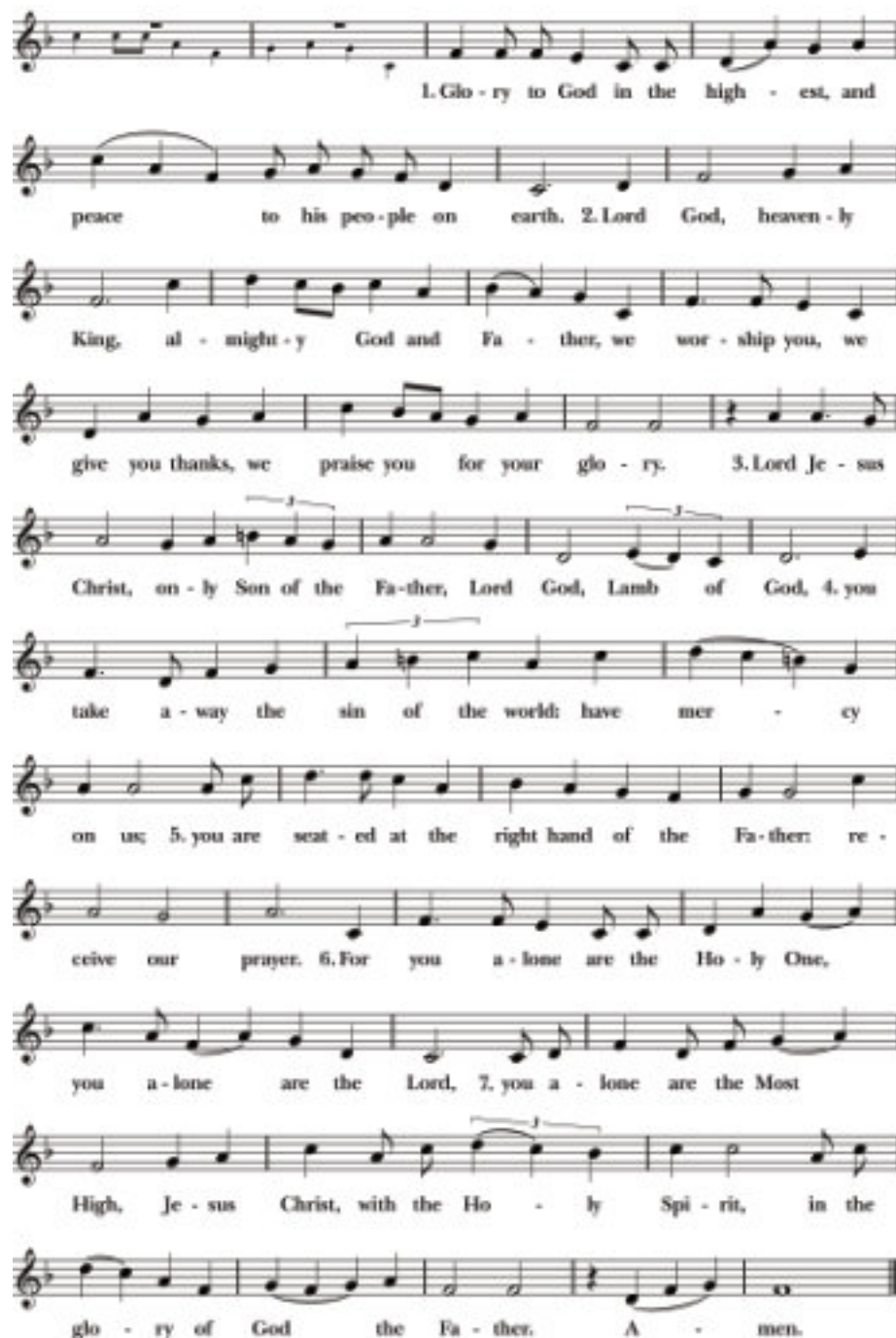
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

Welcome to St. John's, A Beacon in the Heart of Montgomery
We're glad you're here. Whether St. John's has been your church home
for years or you are joining us for the first time, you are welcome.
We invite you to worship, connect, and discover with us the
transforming love of Christ.

THE 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.

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, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 25:1-9

A Reading from Isaiah.

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

¹The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

³He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

THE EPISTLE: PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:1-14

All stand.

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

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

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

All sit.

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 IV

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.

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.
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, _____ 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 may add a concluding Collect.

The Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

**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.**

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

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All sit.

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.

THE OFFERTORY

Improvisation "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Jim Sadie

**If you wish to give online, please use the QR code on the back page of the bulletin.*

All stand to sing the Offertory verse as the offering is brought 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 people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS



The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

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.**

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

People and Celebrant

**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 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

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 live fruitfully where God has placed you.
Pray and strive for the welfare of those you live among,
and do your best to present yourselves to God
as faithful workers with no need to be ashamed.
And may God open the pathways before you;
May Christ Jesus cleanse you and make you whole;
And may the Holy Spirit keep your spirits alive
and your feet from stumbling. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 411 *Bless the Lord, my soul!*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

THE POSTLUDE *March Triomphale on Now Thank We All Our God* Sigfried Kar-Elert

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TODAY'S SERVERS

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

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

Organist: Jim Sadie

Acolytes: Chloe Cumuze, Davis Schremser, Anna Lynn White

Lector and Intercessor: Ashley Roseboro, Sarah Spratling

Eucharistic Ministers: Kat Dailey, Robbie Everitt, William Haynes, JR
Marshall

Ushers/Greeters: Libby Beck, Somerville Hill, Bill Johnson, Ashley Roseboro

Flower Guild: Sarah Spratling

Flower Delivery Team: Maria Pacheco, Anne Hamner, Allison Prillaman
Videographer: Scott Mitchell

Altar Flowers are given in memory of: William Adams Gunter, Jr., Julia Scott Gunter, William Adams Gunter III, Annie Laurie Cain Gunter, Avis Brannon Gunter, Rose Gunter Lawson, Thomas Seay Lawson, Sarah Clayton Lawson, Thomas Seay Lawson, Jr., Jule Lawson Lanier, Virginia Gunter Haas Orvis, Henry Paul Haas, Dora Pratt Smith Haas, Julia Fairlie Gunter Evans, Ethelbert Henry Evans, Florence Evans Jordan, Ellen Gunter Rogers, Ellen Rogers Trotman, John McNeill Trotman, Anne Mercer Haynes, Oliver Lynn Haynes Jr., Grace Gunter Lane, Elizabeth Gunter Downey, Bruce Johnson Downey, Jr.

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners: Carolyn Fillmore, Marla Foster, Tom Horton, Emily Crump Johannes, Phillip Kinney, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Cameron Napier, Eddie Patillo, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Jeanie Rue, Carrie Shaw, Debbie Steindorff, Bill Stewart, Julia Thompson, Mark Waldo, Barbara Wallace, Florence Young

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Courtney Cobb, Lizzy Dickens, John Ferguson, Mark Grantham, Roger Holliday, Stephanie Holmes, Jane Lampley, Josie Lee, Charles Lewis, Nicole Lusk, Margaret Moore, Lyl Parker, Sandra Pierce, Ron Skoneki, Alice Smith, Maude Van Dis, Frank Winkler, Sharon Carney Wright

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

*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.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

Heavenly Hosts Dinner October 13

Bring a covered dish and join us at the home of Jim and Betsy Cannon Oct. 13 from 6-8 p.m.

ECW Conference

All Episcopal Church Women are invited to the 137th ECW Fall Conference, October 23–24 at Church of the Epiphany in Guntersville. Hosted by the Women of the Mountain Convocation, the weekend will include worship, fellowship, a silent auction, parish sharing, and an opportunity to connect with ECW members from across the diocese.

Bishop Richard Lawson will be the keynote speaker, returning to his hometown of Lake Guntersville. The conference begins Friday afternoon with registration, Holy Eucharist, and a wine and cheese welcome reception, followed by Saturday's Morning Prayer, business meeting, Bishop Lawson's address, and lunch. Visit alabamaecw.org for lodging information and conference registration, or scan the QR code on the event flyer. Please contact Kathleen Bradford with any questions at 334-201-2425.

Mark Your Calendars for Trunk or Treat--Trunks Needed

Join us for Trunk or Treat & Movie Night at St. John's on Wednesday, Oct. 28. Trunk or Treat begins at 5:30 p.m. in the parking lot—kids can collect candy, show off costumes, and snap photos. Volunteers are needed to set up trunks. At 6 p.m., settle in for some spooky favorites on the big screen. Bring chairs or blankets, invite friends and neighbors, and enjoy a festive evening of fall fun, treats, and community. All ages are welcome—no cost, just come and celebrate!

Please contact Maria at maria@stjohnsmontgomery.org if you would like to host a trunk.

Parish Retreat November 13-15 - Families Welcome

Join us for a Parish Retreat at Camp McDowell November 13–15 as we step away from the busyness of daily life for a weekend of fellowship, worship, reflection, and renewal. Mark your calendar and plan to be part of this special time of rest, community, and piritual refreshment. Register via this QR code or pick

REGISTER FOR
PARISH RETREAT



up a registration form in the narthex or front desk.

GET READY FOR THE ST. JOHN'S BAZAAR

Preparations are underway for the St. John's Annual Bazaar on Wednesday, November 18! There are plenty of ways to help:

- **Bazaar Cooking:** Join us at 9:30 a.m. for cooking and fellowship! Tuesday, October 13 - Vegan Curry Lentil Soup; Thursday, October 13 – Chili
- **Silent Auction Donations:** We're looking for quality items such as antique furniture, rugs, artwork, china and silver, lamps, and decorative housewares. Donations may be left under the stairs in the Christian Formation Building. Questions? Contact Kathleen Bradford at kbradbrad@aol.com or 334-201-2425.
- **Arts & Crafts:** Join us Thursdays from 9 a.m. - noon for some crafting and fellowship on the second floor of the education building. You can also share your creativity by donating handmade home décor, seasonal decorations, jewelry, woodcrafts, sewn items, and other handcrafted treasures. Please price-tag items and drop them off at the church office. Questions? Contact Murray Bennett at murray.bennett@earthlink.net or 334-430-8660.
- **Treasure Attic Donations:** Cleaning out? Donate gently used household items, collectibles, holiday décor, artwork, and more (no clothing, please). Drop donations under the stairs by the church office. If you would like to share in fellowship and help organize, price, or set up please contact Melissa Carter at melcart82@gmail.com or text her at 334-868-3251.

WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Fall Teaching Series

Wednesdays, October 7, 14 & 21 | Dinner at 6 p.m. | Parish Hall

AI isn't going away—and the questions surrounding it are changing almost as quickly as the technology itself. That's why we're rebooting our conversation about AI and the Church.

Join us for three Wednesday evenings as we take a fresh look at how Artificial Intelligence is shaping our daily lives and consider what it means for our faith, relationships, work, and life together as the Church. St. John's welcomes back Dr. Jim Locke to guide our teaching and discussion.

Dinner begins at 6 p.m., with teaching and discussion at 6:30 p.m. Children's and youth activities will be offered during the adult teaching time.

12 for Today: The Minor Prophets Speak

Beginning Sunday, September 20, at 9:15 a.m. in the Library, join us for a new Rector's Forum, "12 for Today." These twelve prophets may be called "minor," but their messages are anything but small. Together, we'll explore these often-overlooked books of the Old Testament and discover what these ancient voices have to say about faith, justice, mercy, hope, and our lives today.

STAYING CONNECTED TO ST. JOHN'S

There is always something happening at St. John's, and we want to make it easy for you to stay informed, get involved, and know what's coming up. Whether you prefer print, email, social media, or our website, there are several ways to find the latest news and information from the parish.

• Sunday Bulletins & Announcements

Each Sunday's bulletin includes information about upcoming worship, formation, fellowship, outreach opportunities, and other parish events. Be sure to check the announcements as you plan your week.

• Weekly E-Newsletter

Our weekly e-newsletter is one of the best places to find a roundup of what's happening at St. John's. Email churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org to subscribe.

• St. John's Website

Visit the St. John's website anytime for information about worship, ministries, formation, upcoming events, serving opportunities, and more.

• Facebook & Instagram

Follow St. John's on Facebook and Instagram for event reminders, photos, parish updates, and glimpses of life at St. John's throughout the week. Sharing our posts is also an easy way to invite others into the life of our parish.

• Around the Church

Keep an eye on flyers and signs in the Parish Hall and Church Office for information about upcoming events, classes, outreach opportunities, and special programs.

• Special Email Announcements

For particularly important or timely information, we may also send a special parish-wide email between our regular weekly newsletters. Email



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.
Your generosity supports our ministries
in Montgomery and beyond.

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