

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026, 10:30 A.M.
THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE PRELUDE *"Prayer" from Suite Gothique* Leon Boellmann

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



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.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

TThe First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

A Reading from Zephaniah.

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Psalm 90:1-8, 12 *Sung by the choir..*

[1]Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
[2]Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

[3]You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
[4]For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
[5]You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
[6]In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
[7]For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
[8]Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
[12]So teach us to number our days, *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

The Sequence Hymn 383 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 *All stand.*

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven will be as when a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

The Sermon The Rev Mark E. Waldo, Jr. *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 *All kneel as able.*

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.**

Stewardship Message

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 *Prayer* Jean Langlais

**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

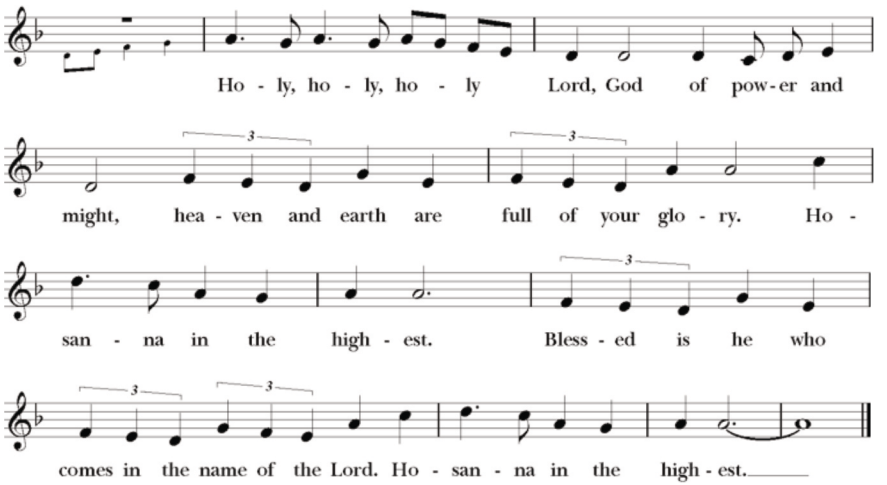
The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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.*

After communion, the Celebrant says
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 as children of the light.
Put on the breastplate of faith and love,
and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.
Make the most of all God has given you
and encourage one another in Christ.
And may God's hand be open to you in kindness;
May Christ Jesus welcome you into his joy;
And may the Holy Spirit fill you with courage, vigilance and faithfulness.**Amen.**

The Closing Hymn 367 *Round the Lord in glory seated* *All stand.*

The Dismissal

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Postlude *Fanfare* Jacques Lemmens

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TODAY'S SERVERS

Clergy: The Rev. Duncan Johnston, DMin., *Rector*
The Rev. Mark E. Waldo, Jr., *Associate Rector*
Organist: Jana Turner
Acolytes: Suzanne Holmes, Danica Snyder, Anna Lynn White
Altar Guild: Melissa Carter, Debbie Schremser
Lector and Intercessor: Keith Miller, Natalie Snyder
Eucharistic Ministers: Robbie Everitt, Fairley McDonald
Ushers/Greeters: Libby Beck, Bill Johnson, Nick Prillaman, Karen Westhauser
Flower Guild: Betty Beale, Amy Marshall
Flower Delivery Team: Melissa Carter, Doris Ball, Linda Hutchinson
Videographer: Jim Cannon

Altar Flowers are given in memory of: Jule Seibels Montjoy, Robert Emmet Seibels, Jr., Robert Emmet Seibels, Sr., Fannie Marks Seibels, Caroline Rudulph Sellers, Philip Allen Sellers, Mary Elaine Morrison, William Dayton Morrison, Richard Wilson Montjoy, Louise Montjoy Lathem, William Douglas Morrison

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners: Rosa Davis, 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, Barbara & Stewart 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, Matthew Millner, Margaret Moore, Lyl Parker, Ron Skoneki, Alice Smith, Laura Smith, Shirley Terry, Maude Van Dis, Frank Winkler, Sharon Carney Wright

Pastoral Care Team for November: Debbie Schremser, Rose Lawson, Christy Anderson, Dorothy Arrington, Theda Ocheltree, Laura Klinestiver

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.

Coming Events

Youth Trip to Sewanee

Join EYC for an overnight trip to Sewanee for Lessons & Carols! We'll leave early Saturday, December 5, and return Sunday, December 6. All St. John's youth in grades 7–12 and their friends are welcome for this Advent weekend of worship and fellowship. Let J.R. know if you're able to come!

Advent Sunday, November 29, is coming fast! Mark your calendars!

Please watch for our wonderful tradition at St. John's of putting up an Angel Tree right as Advent starts. You may adopt a family and bless them with the joy of providing them with Christmas presents. This tree will go up in the hall by the Parish house. This is a wonderful project that can be shared with the whole family or you can adopt a family with a friend. However you choose to participate will be a lovely way to keep the Christmas spirit!

We will also make Advent wreaths that Sunday. All materials will be provided, we will have a light lunch and get busy creating our advent wreaths and enjoying some fellowship in the Parish Hall.

If you have greenery or berries you'd like to share, please let me, Maria Pacheco, know. We will have plenty of greenery but more is always better! You can call Maria at St. John's or directly at 334-895-9106.

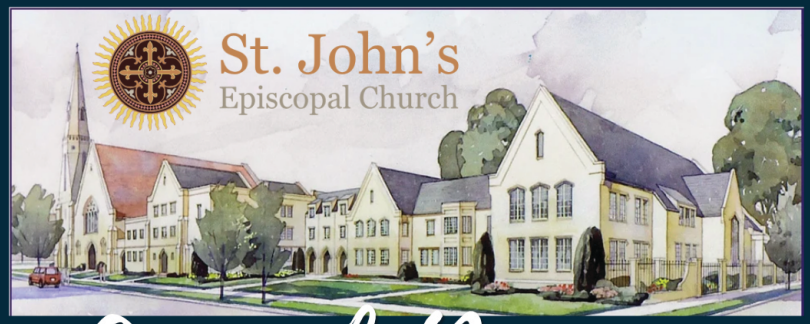
Volunteer for Meals on Wheels

Help us share Christ's love, one meal at a time. St. John's is looking for additional volunteers to deliver our Meals on Wheels route on the first and fifth Monday of each month. Thank you for helping St. John's continue to be a beacon of Christ's compassion in our community.

Get Ready for the St. John's Bazaar

If you are volunteering on Wednesday, there will be a 9 a.m. prayer service in the sanctuary. Hope to see you there!

Calling all bakers! The St. John's Bazaar Pantry is asking for donations of your delicious pies, cakes, cookies, sweet treats, and savory snacks. We would especially love your favorite Thanksgiving desserts: pecan pies, pumpkin pies, apple pies, etc. Please label and deliver them to the church office by Tuesday, November 17th. Thank you for sharing your talent and love through baking! Contact: Mitzi Waldo 334-224-8045 or mitzichesser@hotmail.com



Annual Bazaar

Presented by the Episcopal Church Women

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026

Shopping: 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.
Luncheon: 11 A.M - 1 P.M.

Bazaar Features

Unique Gifts
Pantry
(Homemade Casseroles, Desserts, Breads, Soups, and our famous Gumbo)
Arts & Crafts
Treasure Room
Silent Auction
And Much More!

Luncheon

$ 15 per person
Chicken & Wild Rice Casserole
Italian Green Beans
Cranberry Congealed Salad
Bread
Almond Cake Dessert
Iced Tea, Water, or Coffee
Dine-In and
To-Go options available

Purchase luncheon tickets in advance at the church office, at the Bazaar, or via the QR code to the right.
For more information, please visit:
https://stjohnsmontgomery.org/events/st-johns-annual-bazaar.

Bids for the Silent Auction Close at 1:30.
Proceeds from the Bazaar will be used to benefit our local community.

113 Madison Ave. 334-262-1937



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.

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stjohnsmontgomery.org

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

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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