



# St. John's Episcopal Church

**Sunday August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 10:30am**  
**The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Welcome to Our Guests*

*We are so glad you have chosen to worship at St. John's today. 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. Children's activity bags are available in the back of the church.*

**HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)**

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**THE PRELUDE** *Voluntary in G* John Stanley  
Improvisation on 'Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown'

**THE OPENING HYMN 517** *How lovely is thy dwelling place*

**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION** *All stand p.355*  
*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.**

## THE GLORIA

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heav - en - 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.

The musical score is written on ten staves of music. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some longer note values. There are several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above a bracket) over groups of three notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; 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: GENESIS 32:22-31

[Jacob got up at night] and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## THE RESPONSE: PSALM 17:1-7, 16

*Sung by cantor.*

- 1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord; give heed to my cry; \*  
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; \*  
let your eyes be fixed on justice.
- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, \*  
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; \*  
I have heeded the words of your lips.
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; \*  
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; \*  
incline your ear to me and hear my words.

7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, \*  
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand  
from those who rise up against them.  
16 But at my vindication I shall see your face; \*  
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

**THE EPISTLE: ROMANS 9: 1-5**

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**THE SEQUENCE HYMN 638** *Come, O thou Traveler unknown*

**THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:13-21**

*All stand.*

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

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

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Dr. Deonna Neal

*All sit.*

THE NICENE CREED

*All stand.*

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*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 VI) *All kneel as able. p.392*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work; **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation; **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda and Brian our Bishops, and Duncan and Deonna our priests, and all bishops and other ministers; **For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence (The People may add their own petitions.)*

Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence (The People may add their own thanksgivings.)*

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. *Silence (The People may add their own petitions.)*

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.

*Silence*

*Priest and People*

**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 people stand to greet one another.*

## **THE PEACE**

*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 stand to sing.*

**THE OFFERTORY HYMN 304** *I come with joy to meet my Lord*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)**

*All stand.*

*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.**

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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### THE SANCTUS

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 they are able*

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.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*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.



*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.*

*During communion the choir sings*

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 they are able.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**THE BLESSING**

*All kneel.*

*The Celebrant blesses the people*

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Minister* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**THE POSTLUDE** *Lift High the Cross*

Craig Phillips

## TODAY'S SERVERS

**Celebrant:** The Reverend Deonna D. Neal, PhD

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

**Director of Youth Ministry:** Connie Tapia

**Acolytes:** Molly Selman, JM Longshore, Lawton McCollum,  
Ella Claire Corsino, Suzanne Holmes

**Lector and Intercessor:** Maria Pacheco, Debbie Schremser

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Betsy Cannon, Kat Dailey, Mary-Nelms Parsons,  
Dudley Perry

**Ushers/Greeters:** Margaret Ann Selman, Kathleen Bradford, Melissa  
Carter, Keith Miller

**Altar Guild:** Josie Eskridge

**Flower Guild:** Jeanne Drummond, Katie Keller

**Flower Delivery Team:** Carma Marks, Jeanette Lynn, George Mathews

**Videographer:** Sam Collier

**Instrumentalists:** Joel Gregory, *organ*; Robert Scott, *flute*; Jihye Choi, *violin*;  
David Simpson, *bassoon*.

### **Altar Flowers given in memory of:**

Cecil Monroe Tucker, Florence Dukes Tucker, Vernon Montague Tucker,  
Nancy Stanard Dukes.

**Flowers in the Narthex given in memory of:** Sarah Howard Stone.

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

Anne Phillips Arrington, Jim Bennett, Bob Hill, Eddie McDowell,  
Shirley Price, Richard McCrory, Barbara Wells, Fay and Larry Worriow.

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** Gigi Boyd, James Buzard,  
Wilber Hill, Sr. (VA), Wilber Hill, Jr. (VA), Ashley Freeman,  
Karen and Angelo Pacheco, Robert Proctor, Michael Slagle.

*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 August:** Florence Young, Jeanne Drummond,  
Marla Foster, Laura Knapp, Ashla Hill Roseboro.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Heavenly Host:** Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, August 8th, 6-8 PM. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us at the home of Bob and Florence Young, 1453 Gilmer Avenue. Please park in the Trinity Church lot next store. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages.

**Chamber Music Concert:** Sunday, August 20, 4pm. Music by Bach, Telemann, Byrd and Platti played on flute, oboe, bassoon & harpsichord. The concert is held in the nave with a reception following in the Parish Hall.

**Summer Sermon Series: From Eden to Egypt.** This summer the Old Testament readings will come from the books of Genesis and Exodus. Each week, we will read an episode of a grand and inspiring story. We will hear of heroes and villains, patriarchs and matriarchs, sinners, and saints. We'll see God's hand at work in happy circumstances, and tragic. Then we will learn from Duncan and Deonna as they preach about these Old Testament characters. We will see what lessons these ancient personalities can teach us and discover how we can live more faithful Christian lives. Join us every Sunday at 7:30 and 10:30am or on YouTube and Facebook at any time.

**Eden to Egypt Companion Bible Study:** Sundays, 9:15 AM. Join Duncan and Deonna in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Archives room for a deeper discussion of the weekly Old Testament readings.



**Meals on Wheels:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays, starting in May. St. John's will be partnering with MACOA to deliver meals to Seniors. Use the QR code to sign up. Ride along training is available, email [constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org) to schedule.

**Mercy House:** Volunteers are needed from 11:00 AM -1:00 P.M each Thursday to serve hot meals at Mercy House. Mercy House is a day shelter serving West Montgomery by providing access to food, clothing, shower facilities and laundry facilities. For questions or more information please contact Stephanie Norrell at 334-467-6989.



**Visitors:** Welcome! We are so glad you decided to visit with us today. Please use this QR code to provide us with some information about you and your family so that we can better serve you.



# St. John's Episcopal Church

## **The Episcopal Diocese of Alabama**

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

The Right Reverend Brian N. Prior, *Assisting Bishop*

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

The Reverend Deonna D. Neal, PhD, *Associate Rector*

Joel Gregory, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Sarah Collier, *Director of Children's Christian Formation*

Connie Tapia, *Director of Youth Ministry*

Heather Herring, *Financial Administrator*

Constance Rodgers, *Director of Communications*

Anne Tippett, *Assistant to the Rector*

Myron Smoke, *Maintenance Superintendent*

### Vestry and Officers

William Haynes, *Senior Warden*

Margaret Ann Selman, *Junior Warden*

Richard Bradford, *Treasurer*

### Class of 2023

Kathleen Bradford, Ellen Habermacher, Cam Hughes,

Michelle Shaw, Wyatt Wells

### Class of 2024

Christy Anderson, Jim Bennett, Josie Eskridge, Dustin Holmes,

Debbie Schremser

### Class of 2025

Melissa Carter, Mark Chappell, Anne Hamner, Catherine McLemore,

Keith Miller, Allison Prillaman

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