



St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday August 20th, 2023, 10:30am
The Twelfth 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)

THE PRELUDE

THE OPENING HYMN 438 *Tell out, my soul*

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.**

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

All sit.

THE FIRST LESSON: GENESIS 45:1-15

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his

neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE: PSALM 133 - Chant: Gerre Hancock.

Sung by choir.

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

THE EPISTLE: ROMANS 11:1-2A, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 664 *My shepherd will supply my need*

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 15:21-28

All stand

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

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

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered,

“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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 VI)

All kneel as able.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

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 PEACE

The people stand to greet one another.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The celebrant will say an offertory sentence. The people stand to sing.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN 400 *All creatures of our God and King*
(Omit “*” stanzas.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)

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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 passes 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 among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 561 *Stand up, stand up for Jesus*

THE DISMISSAL

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Prelude in C

Johann Ludwig Krebs

TODAY'S SERVERS

Clergy: The Reverend Duncan Johnston, D.Min

The Reverend Deonna D. Neal, PhD

Director of Children's Formation: Sarah Collier

Director of Youth Ministry: Connie Tapia

Acolytes: Jeb Clark, Bobby Bradford, Nancy Bradford, Helen Johnston, Sarah Johnston

Lector and Intercessor: Mark Chappell, Ashley Hamlett

Eucharistic Ministers: Morgan Chapell, J.R. Marshall,

Mary-Nelms Parsons

Ushers/Greeters: Margaret Ann Selman, Mark Chappell, Wyatt Wells

Alter Guild: Melissa Carter, Debbie Schremser

Flower Guild: Betty Beale, Amy Marshall

Flower Delivery Team: Melissa Carter, Doris Ball

Videographer: Jim Cannon

Instrumentalists: Joel Gregory, *organ*; Robert Scott, *flute*; Barbara Shanks, *oboe*; David Simpson, *bassoon*.

Altar Flowers are given in memory of:

Willa Rutland Thames, Priscilla Marks Thornton, Zachary Trawick,

Zachary Trawick, Jr., Churchill Marks, Katherine Marks Trawick,

Charles Lewis Marks, Priscilla Scott Marks, Llyde Ray Thames,

James Aubrey Tankersley, Mary Levis Hardy, Daniel Clay Wilson,

Mary Hames Wilson, L. Dan Wilson, L. Dan Wilson, Jr.,

Mark Howard Wilson, Stephanie Stough Stone.

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Anne Phillips Arrington, Jim Bennett, Bob Hill, Eddie McDowell,

Shirley Price, Richard McCrory, Barbara Wells, Larry Worrilow,

Fay Warrilow.

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, Chandler Taylor.

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

Chamber Music Concert: TODAY, August 20, 4 pm. 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. For a full list of 20/23 concerts visit stjohnsmontgomery.org

Acolyte Training: Today after the 10:30 service. Current and prospective acolytes should attend if they did not attend the previous session.

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.

Eden to Egypt Companion Bible Study: Beginning Sunday, July 9th, Join Duncan and Deonna at 9:15, in the library, for a deeper discussion of the weekly Old Testament readings.

Meals on Wheels: Our regularly scheduled route is full for the remainder of the year. MACOA reaches out to us regularly to fill in for other routes. If you would like to be on the sub list please email Constance constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org.

Mercy House: Volunteers are needed from 11:00 am -1:00 pm 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.

Text to Give: You now have an additional way to give at St. John's. Whether it's a pledge payment, a memorial, or any other type of payment, you can text "stjohnsmgm" to 833-251-1449



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*

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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