



St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday October 22nd, 2023, 10:30am

The Twenty First 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.

HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

THE PRELUDE	<i>Fugue in G Prelude on 'Morning Song'</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach Sam Batt Owens
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THE OPENING HYMN 471 *We sing the praise of him who died*

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 SONG OF PRAISE (CANTICLE 13)

MUSIC IS S236 IN THE HYMNAL

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

All sit.

THE FIRST LESSON: EXODUS 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes

by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE: PSALM 99

Sung by choir.

- 1 The Lord is King; let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

THE EPISTLE: 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know

what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 583 *O holy city, seen of John*

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:15-22

All stand.

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

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

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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 II) *All kneel as they are able.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops, Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Glenda and Brian our bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *Silence.*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *Silence.*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence.*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence.*

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially_____.
Pray for those who have died. *Silence.*

I ask your prayers for _____. *Silence.*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Celebrant then bids the confession with these words.
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 544 *Jesus shall reign*

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 S125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. 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.

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 as they are able.

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 594 *God of grace and God of Glory*

THE DISMISSAL

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Epilogue

Norman Gilbert

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TODAY'S SERVERS

Clergy: The Reverend Duncan Johnston, DMin
The Reverend Deonna D. Neal, PhD

Director of Children's Formation: Sarah Collier

Director of Youth Ministry: Connie Tapia

Acolytes: JM Longshore, Susannah Miller, Parker Mantooth,
Lawton McCollum, Maggie Mantooth

Lector and Intercessor: Keith Miller, Scott Mitchell

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary-Nelms Parsons, Dudley Perry,
Reg McLane

Ushers/Greeters: William Haynes, Mark Chappell, Allison Prillaman,
Debbie Schremser

Altar Guild: Jeanne Drummond

Flower Guild: Jeanne Drummond

Flower Delivery Team: Jeanne Drummond, Bette Smith,
Debbie Schremser

Videographer: Anne Tippet

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

Altar Flowers are given in memory of:

Betty Holloway Harmon, Barrie Holt Harmon, Mary Louise Baker,
Sam Rice Baker, Louise P. Harmon, Stephanie Holt Harmon.

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Anne Phillips Arrington, Jim Bennett, Bob Hill, Katie Keller, Valerie Lee,
Ken Mahan, Richard McCrory, Eddie McDowell, Shirley Price,
Anne Ramsey, Anna Stevenson, Barbara Wells, Larry Worrilow.

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Frankie McAdams Barlow,
Mac Burton, James Buzard, Ashley Carpenter, Michael Finnen,
Wilber Hill, Sr. (VA), Roger Jobe, Karen and Angelo Pacheco, Alice Sarrett,
Michael Slagel, Pam Slate, Ron Skoneki, Chandler Taylor, Joe Wendel,
Frank Winkler

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chamber Music Concert: Today, October 22, 2023, 4 p.m. The concert is held in the nave with a reception following in the Parish Hall

Fall Teaching Series. *No Family Left Untouched: Drugs and our community.* Wednesday nights, Oct. 11th-Nov. 4th. Join us for a sobering and in-depth study of the problems of drugs in our community. Over the four weeks, we will hear from experts who offer unique perspectives on a phenomenon that is tearing at the heart of our local communities, including a medical practitioner, a law enforcement officer, a mental health practitioner, and a legal expert. Dinner is served at 6:00, speakers begin at 6:30.

Children's Fall Program: During the Fall Teaching Series, children will enjoy an alternate program, *Jesus' "Upside Down" Way of Living*. The life that Jesus offers is radically different than the one the world offers. When we go "all in" with Jesus, he turns our ordinary life upside down in the most incredible way. Nursery care is available.

Deonna's Fall Class: Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the archives room. *The Life We're Looking for: Reclaiming Relationship in a Technological World*. The book is available in the bookstore.

Fall Rector's Forum: Sundays, at 9:15 a.m., in the library. *The Future isn't what it used to be: Heaven, the second coming, judgment, and all that apocalyptic jazz*. We'll be using the book *Surprised by Hope* by N. T. Wright. It is available in the bookstore.

Silent Auction: The Bizarre is almost here and the Silent Auction committee is looking for a few more items. Popular items include art (paintings, prints and statues) by local artists, home décor and nostalgic treasures.

EYC Lock-In: Friday October 27 at 7 p.m. All 8th-12th graders are invited to participate. Email connie@stjohnsmontgomery.org with questions.

Bazaar Pantry Cooking: Tuesday and Thursday Mornings at 10:00 a.m. Join us in the St. John's kitchen.



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 Tippet, *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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