



# St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday, May 28th, 2023, 10.30am

## The Feast of 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**    *Come Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire*    Emma Lou Diemer  
                          *We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit*                 Dietrich Buxtehude

**THE OPENING HYMN**    225 *Hail thee, festival day!*

### THE SALUTATION

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

*People*     **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia**

*Celebrant* There is one body and one Spirit

*People*     **There is one hope in God's call to us.**

*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism.

*People*     **One God and Father of all.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People*     **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **THE LESSONS**

*All sit.*

### **THE FIRST LESSON: NUMBERS 11: 24-30**

Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**PSALM 104: 25-35, 37** - Anglican Chant: William Crotch (*Sung by choir*)

25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! \*

in wisdom you have made them all;

the earth is full of your creatures.

26 Yonder is the great and wide sea

with its living things too many to number, \*

creatures both small and great.

27 There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, \*

which you have made for the sport of it.

28 All of them look to you \*

to give them their food in due season.

29 You give it to them; they gather it; \*

you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

- 30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; \*  
you take away their breath,  
and they die and return to their dust.
- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; \*  
and so you renew the face of the earth.
- 32 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; \*  
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.
- 33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; \*  
he touches the mountains and they smoke.
- 34 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; \*  
I will praise my God while I have my being.
- 35 May these words of mine please him; \*  
I will rejoice in the Lord.
- 37 Bless the Lord, O my soul. \*  
Hallelujah!

### **THE EPISTLE: ACTS 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs-- in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ ”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**THE SEQUENCE HYMN 686** *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

**THE GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-23**

*All stand*

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

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

*All sit.*

**THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES**

*Parents and Godparents* **I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

*The Celebrant asks the parents and godparents*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and God parents*

**I will, with God’s help.**

*Celebrant*

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and God parents*

**I will, with God's help.**

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer* **I renounce them.**

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of the world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* **I renounce them.**

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* **I renounce them.**

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* **I do.**

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* **I do.**

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* **I do.**

*After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, Saying*  
Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

*People* **We will.**

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## **THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was**

**buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

## **THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES**

*The Celebrant then says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

*Leader* Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Send them into the world in witness to your love.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant says*

Grant O, Lord that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The Celebrant continues*

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE BAPTISM**

*Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant who pours water upon the candidate, saying*

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

*Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross using Chrism and saying to each one*

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

*When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says*  
Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Celebrant and People*

**We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

## **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 sit.*

Offertory Anthem *Come Holy Ghost Our Souls Inspire*

Plainsong

*All stand to sing the Offertory verse when the offertory is brought up to the altar.*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia. Alleluia. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)**

*All stand.*

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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. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations. 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 (S128)**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly  
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven 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.

*The priest receives the Sacrament, and then serves the people with these words:*

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

*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.*

**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 AT PENTECOST**

*All kneel.*

*The Celebrant blesses the people*

May Almighty God, who enlightened the minds of the disciples by pouring out upon them the Holy Spirit, make you rich with his blessing, that you may abound more and more in that Spirit for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit as a flame of fire that rested upon the heads of the disciples, burn out all evil from your hearts, and make them shine with the pure light of his presence. **Amen.**

May God, who by the Holy Spirit caused those of many tongues to proclaim Jesus as Lord, strengthen your faith and send you out to bear witness to him in word and deed. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**THE CLOSING HYMN 511** *Holy Spirit, ever living*

**THE DISMISSAL**

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

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

**THE POSTLUDE** *Come, Creator God, Holy Ghost*

Johann Pachelbel

## TODAY'S SERVERS

**Acolytes:** Walton Norrell, James Marshall, Robert Marshall, Sarah Johnston, Suzanne Holmes

**Lector and Intercessor:** William Haynes, Keith Miller

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Betsy Cannon, Will Gunter, Fairley McDonald

**Ushers/Greeters:** William Haynes, Christy Anderson, Jim Bennett, Debbie Schremser

**Altar Guild:** Jean Drummond

**Flower Guild:** Mary Helen Mahan, Bette Smith

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

**Videographer:** Anne Tippet

**Instrumentalists:** Robert Scott, *flute*; Bob Hoit, *clarinet*; David Simpson, *bassoon*.

**Altar Flowers given in memory of:** George Bibb Pickett, Jr., Beryl Robinson Pickett, George B. Pickett, III, Marie Dow Pickett, George B. Pickett, Sr., John Dow Pickett, Sr., Paul W. Peeples, Alice Dow Dupre, Bernis Copeland, Talitha Ford Copeland, Janice Pickett McLane

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

Anne Phillips Arrington, Bill Bowman, Carolyn Fillmor, Will Gunter, Bob Hill, Leslie Little, Ken Mahan, Christopher Marshall, Richard McCrory, Eddie McDowell, Marilyn Pickett, Shirley Price, Evelyn Sherbert, Marguerite Wood, Larry WorriLOW

**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 May:**

Kitty Coleman, Betty Mathews, Mary Simmons, Mary Ward Wisniewski

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**For Whom the Bell Tolls:** On Memorial Day (May 29<sup>th</sup>) at 12:00 PM, we will ring the Church bells in honor of our departed Service members.

**Anger and Meekness: Spiritual Insights.** Deonna is leading a course exploring anger and meekness through the spiritual teachings of the 4th century desert monastic and ascetic Evagrius Ponticus. The course uses the book *Dragon's Wine and Angels Bread* by Gabriel Bunge. The course continues through June 25th. The book can be purchased in the bookstore or online.

**Summer Sermon Series: From Eden to Egypt.** This summer the Old Testament readings will come from the books of Genesis and Exodus. Each week, beginning Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 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.



**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. Ride along training 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.

**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.

