

St. John's Episcopal Church
113 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36104
Phone: 334-262-1937
Fax: 334-262-1931
Email:
churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org

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Permit #376
Montgomery, Alabama
36104

St. John's Episcopal Church



The Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 18th, 2019

*"Have you not known, have you not heard
those who wait for the Lord shall mount
up with wings like eagles."*

Isaiah 40:28,31

The Eagle is available on the
internet at
www.stjohnsmontgomery.org

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Rector:
Robert C. Wisnewski, Jr.

Associate Rector:
Jamie Osborne

Priest Associate
Deonna D. Neal

Staff:
Libby Poole
Financial Administrator

Anne Tippett
Assistant to the Rector

Christian Formation
Sarah Collier
Director of Children's
Christian Formation

Joleen George
Director of Youth Ministries
and Parish
Communications

Music:
Joel Gregory
Organist and Choirmaster

Maintenance:
Mike Jarrell, Superintendent
Myron Smoke, Judson George

Vestry of St. John's:
Bill Eskridge Sr. Warden
Jimmy McLemore, Jr. Warden

Class of 2020
Dick Arrington
Georgia Holmes
Austin Huffaker
Alice Longshore
Jean Smyth
Bob Young

Class of 2021
Virginia Banister
Richard Bradford
Kathryn Dailey
Mike Jenkins
Stephanie Norrell
Todd Westhauser

Class of 2022
John Carter
Will Gunter
Katie Keller
Mary-Nelms Parsons
Nick Prillaman
Radney Ramsey
Emily Wise

Treasurer
Helen Wells

Clerk of the Vestry
Anne Tippett

PILGRIMAGE

Montgomery has become a national pilgrimage site. In the past two years, since the opening of the Peace and Justice Memorial to victims of lynching and the Equal Justice Initiative's Museum, hundreds of thousands of people have visited here for the purpose of making a Civil Rights Pilgrimage. Numerous groups have also visited St. John's, some actually sleeping here at night, others using our spaces to pause and reflect on their experiences, others worshipping with us on Sunday mornings. In that regard St. John's itself has become a pilgrimage site, a place that visitors will always associate with their Civil Rights Pilgrimage.

Since April, for instance, 10 different groups have visited with us at St. John's while on the Civil Rights Pilgrimage. Groups from Episcopal churches, schools, and seminaries in Atlanta, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Florida, Connecticut, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Virginia have been with us. Hospitality to visiting groups is increasingly becoming part of our identity as a parish. In October, the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church along with the Presiding Bishop will be here. Next Summer the United Black Episcopalians will have their annual conference here and will bring 400 delegates to meet and have Eucharist in our nave and sanctuary.

Each of our visitors is doing that hard work of understanding how the institution of slavery has not actually ended but evolved and how racial oppression continues to pervade our institutions. These visiting pilgrims are studying history so that they may learn from our common

mistakes as a nation and return home renewed in their commitment to treat all people with compassion and respect. To have a holy space like St. John's to gather to pray and converse with each other has been important to each of our visitors as our dozens of thank you notes indicate.

Last week our clergy and program staff made that same pilgrimage as a group. We visited the Museum, then the Memorial, then came back to the church to discuss with each other the effect the sites are having on our spiritual journeys. This is not easy work, as the sites remind us of horrendous and indefensible acts of oppression. None of us is proud of the harmful actions of the people who came before us and none of us wants oppression to be part of the world today. The pilgrimage is humbling and sobering. As such, the pilgrimage makes us ready for God's saving grace. We are called to new action and the opportunity our baptismal vows outline for us is made real.

Each of our visitors is interested in the history of St. John's and how we continue to grow in our mission to worship God and make disciples for Jesus Christ. They are appreciative of what we represent as a parish which has existed during slavery, reconstruction, the Jim Crow era, and now the Civil Rights era. They are encouraged by the prayerful approach we have taken with our ties to the old south and our efforts to become a beacon of hope for all of God's people. The national spotlight is shining on Montgomery and St. John's like never before. Our parish does not exist just for ourselves.

THE LESSONS:

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

THE COLLECT:

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.

**MINISTERS
SERVING THIS
SUNDAY**

**ORGANIST AND
CHOIRMASTER:** Joel Gregory

ACOLYTES: Emily Frances Marshall, Anna Mitchell Clark, Abbey Baird, Easton Strickler, Susannah Miller, Molly Selman, Laura Stanton Strickler, McKay Lee

**LAY EUCHARISTIC
MINISTERS:** J. R. Marshall, Keith Miller, Dustin Holmes

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS: Katie Keller, Carl Wackerman

VESTRY: 7:30 Jean Smyth 10:30 Katie Keller, Bill Eskridge, Todd Westhauser, Will Gunter

ALTAR GUILD: 7:30 Debbie Schremser 10:30 Melissa Carter and Stephanie Stone

PASTORAL CARE: Seibels Marshall, Anne Elizabeth McGowin

FLOWER

DELIVERY: Melissa Carter, Debbie Schremser, Will Gunter

Flowers by the St. John's Flower Guild

A pilgrimage is more than a tour, it is more than seeing how things once were, it is more than taking in what people used to do long ago. A pilgrimage is a prayerful and intentional way of putting ourselves back in history and then relocating ourselves to the present in such a way that we carry hope and encouragement into our daily walk. A pilgrimage is designed to transform us, change us, help us examine how we can become instruments of God's grace in our lives. A pilgrimage isn't looking at other people's lives only; it is coming to examine my own life. A pilgrimage is entering the past so as to move into the future.

That sounds a lot like worship doesn't it? We come to the Eucharist, not just to remember how the followers of Jesus used to do things, but to gain solace and hope for our own lives. We come to worship to examine our own hearts, receive forgiveness, and return to our worlds inspired to do things with a new perspective. Occasionally we will find ourselves in worship thinking more about how other people need to change than we do ourselves. Sometimes we justify our own actions by convincing ourselves that we are at least better than some others we know. Amazingly, though, such thoughts percolate within us in a purifying way and lead us to focus on our own need for forgiveness. There we are renewed and made more like Christ.

Consider making a Civil Rights Pilgrimage yourself. Consider the Eucharist as your regular pilgrimage of renewal. The crucified and risen Christ awaits you and will lead you into new life.

Yours faithfully,
Robert C. Wisnewski, Jr.

JOY AND CONCERN

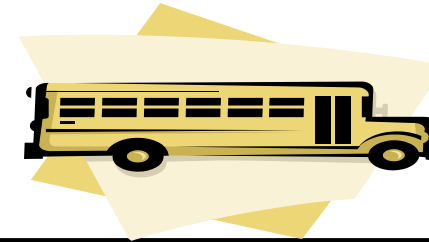
Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners: Glenn Price, Christopher Marshall, Sarah Stone, Jim Thomas, Karen Jarrell, Eddie McDowell, Sarah Spratling, Shirley Price, Florence Jordan, Joe McGough, Cynthia Hill, George Wakefield, Frances Condit.

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Rob Ludington, Barry Greenburns, Nan Rosa, Gloria Hudgeon, John Robertson, Johnny Smith, Mary Linger, George West, Randy Rushton, Phil Dotts, Doris Thornton, Tommy Oliver, Ruth Jones, Karen & Angelo Pacheco, Acra Hackney Samuels, Margaret (Marty) Hackney, Ed Sellers, Tom Broadhurst, Ricky Hatfield, Willie Fred Gamble, Monica Powell, Chase Pickett, Al Perkins, Debbie Steindorff, Betty Harper, Pam Litel, Aaron Hines, Daphne Oliver, Dawn Damato, Dottie Campbell, Scott Bradford, Mary Steindorff, Jack Mitchell, Margaret Carlson, Paula Hamm Roberts, Kim Barnhart, Lavada Spears Person, Charles Colvin, Cookie Zibilich, Charlie Smith, Clemmon Barlow, Chuck Holley, Sandy Lynn Stevens, Masha Kloberg, Andy Silverman, William Hardwick Ray, Meredith McLemore, Elizabeth McLemore Baker, Todd Parsons, Ernie Reddick, Rod Frazer.

Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care.

AUGUST INGATHERING

BASIC SCHOOL SUPPLIES: BACKPACKS, PAPER, PENCILS, BINDERS, FOLDERS, ETC. BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO ST. JOHN'S AND WE WILL DELIVER THEM TO CARVER HIGH SCHOOL!



Events Around the Corner

- Acolyte Captains Training August 18th
- Young Adults Supper Club August 22nd
- Acolyte Training August 25th
- EYC Parents Meeting August 25th

Search Process Forum - August 25

On August 25, at 9:15 am in the Parish Hall, the Wardens and Rector will hold a forum to inform the parish about the search process and answer questions. All are invited to attend. The Wardens are committed to regularly informing the parish of progress being made and we invite your prayers and input.

The Flowers on the Altar this Sunday are to the glory of God and in memory of:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| James Aubrey Tankersley | Willa Rutland Thames |
| Mary Levis Hardy | Katherine Marks Trawick |
| Daniel Clay Wilson | Zachary Trawick |
| Mary Hames Wilson | Charles Lewis Marks |
| L. Dan Wilson | Priscilla Scott Marks |
| L Dan Wilson, Jr. | Llyde Ray Thames |
| Mark Howard Wilson | Allyn Ray Thames |
| | Grace Gunter Lane |
| | Dr. Zachary T. Trawick |

Young Adult Supper Club

Thursday, August 22 @ 6:30pm

The young adults of the parish (21-35-ish) meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month for a covered dish supper. Please bring a dish to share with others.

For August our hosts will be Lauren & Jamie Osborne - 3632 Lansdowne Dr.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY, August 18th

- 7:30 am Holy Eucharist
- 8:15 am Breakfast in the Parish House
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist
- 4:20 pm Children's Choir
- 9:00 pm Compline on FB Live

MONDAY, August 19th

- 12 Noon Clergy Led Bible Study in the Small Dining Room

TUESDAY, August 20th

- 7:00 am Holy Eucharist
- 8:10 am Morning Prayer on FB Live
- 8:30 am Prayer Group

WEDNESDAY, August 21st

- 11:30 am Centering Prayer

THURSDAY, August 22nd

- 12:05 pm Holy Unction and Holy Eucharist
- 6:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

St. John's Faithfulness

Required Weekly
Received Sunday

Required to Date
Received to Date

Building Fund Debt
\$