



St. John's Episcopal Church

October 13, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

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 in the back of the church.

HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

THE PRELUDE

Aria

Andrew Carter

Brother James' Air

Dale Wood

THE OPENING HYMN 408 *Sing praise to God who reigns above*

THE WORD OF GOD

THE SALUTATION

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant 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.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

All sit.

FIRST READING: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

A Reading from the book of Amos.

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you,

just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 90:12-17

Sung by the choir.

- ¹²So teach us to number our days, *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
¹³Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
¹⁴Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
¹⁵Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
¹⁶Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.
¹⁷May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN 517 *How lovely is thy dwelling place*

GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-31

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundred-fold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

Priest The Gospel of our Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON The Rev Dr Duncan Johnston

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

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

All kneel as able.

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop Glenda, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President Joseph, our Governor Kay, our Mayor Stephen, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially ... let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially those in whose memory the altar flowers have been given ... and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation ... let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of John and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

All stand.

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

All sit.

At the end of the offertory voluntary, all stand and sing

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

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.

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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

Anyone who has been baptized is welcome to receive the consecrated bread. All others are welcome to come to the rail and receive a priestly blessing instead.

The ministers receive the Sacrament, and then serve the people with these words:

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Go now in the confidence of people who have found mercy.

Follow Jesus, keeping the commandments,
letting go of all that binds you to the ways of this world,
and investing everything in God's realm.

And may God the Father come close to you and keep you safe;

May God the Son reward your faithfulness a hundredfold;

and may God the Holy Spirit be your help in time of need.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN 594 *God of grace and God of glory*

SENDING OUT

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

Fugue in d minor

Felix Mendelssohn

TODAY'S SERVERS

Clergy: The Reverend Duncan Johnston, DMin

Director of Children's Formation: Sarah Collier

Director of Youth Ministry: Connie Tapia

Acolytes: James Marshall, Robert Marshall, Thomas Lawlor, Eloise Carlisle

Altar Guild: Chuck Moore

Lectors and Intercessors: Ashley Roseboro, Sarah Spratling

Eucharistic Ministers: Virginia Banister, Fairley McDonald, Maria Pacheco, Mary-Nelms Parsons

Ushers/Greeters: Margaret Ann Selman, Elizabeth Lawlor, Ashley Roseboro, Debbie Schremser

Flower Guild: Jeanne Drummond, Sarah Spratling

Flower Delivery Team: Maria Pacheco, Anne & Reggie Hamner, Allison Prillaman

Videographer: Scott Mitchell

Instrumentalists: Robert Scott, *flute*; David Simpson, *bassoon*

Altar Flowers are given in memory of: William Adams Gunter, Jr., Julia Scott Gunter, William Adams Gunter III, Annie Laurie Cain Gunter, Avis Brannon Gunter, Rose Gunter Lawson, Thomas Seay Lawson, Sarah Clayton Lawson, Virginia Gunter Haas Orvis, Henry Paul Haas, Dora Pratt Smith Haas, Julia Fairlie Gunter Evans, Ethelbert Henry Evans, Florence Evans Jordan, Ellen Gunter Rogers, Ellen Rogers Trotman, John McNeill Trotman, Anne Mercer Haynes, Oliver Lynn Haynes, Jr., Grace Gunter Lane, Elizabeth Gunter Downey, Bruce Johnson Downey, Jr.

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Laura Brendle, Rick Durden, John Durr, Dave Funk, Mac Gipson, Seibels Marshall, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory,

Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Mosely, Cam Napier, Bud Nason, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Barbara Wallace, Barbara Wells

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Emma Allshouse, Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Gray Howard, Roger Jobe, Seeley Lewis, Karen and Angelo Pacheco, Samantha and Hunter Rodgers, Pam Slate, Ron Skoneki, Madera Spencer, Chandler Taylor, Connie Thomas, Frank Winkler, Sharon Carney Wright

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: Murray Bennett, Carrie Shaw, Margaret Peoples, Caroline Lawson, Doris Ball

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supplies for Victims of Hurricane Helene

St. John's is collecting supplies for the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama to send to those affected by Hurricane Helene in North Carolina, Georgia, and parts of Florida. Bring supplies to the St. John's office from 9-4 Monday-Thursday or on Sunday morning. Supplies needed include non-perishable food (ready to eat canned food, peanut butter), diapers, baby wipes, bleach, Lysol, soap, and new wool blankets.

Wednesday Night Teaching Series Underway

Throughout the month of October, come enjoy dinner and discussion centered on how to "do" politics well as a Christian.

Oct. 9 - The Combatant and The Exhausted

Oct. 16 - The Cynic and The True Disciple

Oct. 23 - The After Party

Dinner at 6, teaching and discussion start at 6:30.

Children's curriculum and nursery will be provided.

Wednesday Series



Next Peace in Our Time Prayer Service Today at 4 p.m.

On Oct. 13, St. John's will hold the next in a series of short prayer services for our nation in person and online. Where else can we go in these troubled times but to our source of peace? All are invited to this service, so help spread the word. Learn more by scanning this QR code:

Peace in Our Time



EYC is back!

Our Episcopal Youth will meet today at 5:30 p.m. on the third floor here at St. John's. All 6th-12th graders are welcome!

Ministry Signups Still Open

Did you miss the Ministry Fair on Sept. 8 but are still interested in serving? It's not too late! There are many wonderful opportunities at St. John's where you can use your own unique talents and gifts. Scan this QR code to see all the ways you can get involved.

St. John's Ministries 2024



Formation Classes: "Skeletons in God's Closet" and "God and Caesar"

St. John's Christian Formation offerings for fall include two new classes on Sunday mornings beginning Sept. 15. Visit the St. John's website to learn about these and other upcoming opportunities.

Soft Sensory Service Now Available Sunday Mornings

The Soft Sensory Service is a more intimate gathering at 10:30 a.m. Sundays in the Library with lower lighting and volume to keep everyone at ease. For more info, email constance@stjohnsmontgomery.org.

Welcome to Our Visitors!

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.

