

# St. John's Episcopal Church

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

October 28, 2018



*"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*

## St. John's Episcopal Church

113 Madison Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104  
334-262-1937  
Fax: 334-262-1931

**Rector:**  
Robert C. Wisniewski, Jr.

**Associate Rector:**  
Jamie Osborne

**Priest Associate**  
Deonna D. Neal

**Staff:**  
Libby Poole  
Financial Administrator  
Fay Worriolow  
Parish Secretary  
Anne Tippett  
Assistant to the Rector

**Christian Formation**  
Sarah Collier  
Director of Children's Christian Formation  
Joleen George  
Director of Youth Ministries

**Music:**  
Joel Gregory  
Organist and Choirmaster

**Maintenance:**  
Mike Jarrell, Superintendent  
Myron Smoke  
Faye Mitchell

**Vestry of St. John's:**  
Jim Marshall III, Sr. Warden  
Bill Eskridge, Jr. Warden

**Class of 2019**  
Ashley Hamlett  
Betty Mathews  
Dee Moody  
Chuck Moore  
Dudley Perry  
Geoff Stough

**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  
Jimmy McLemore  
Stephanie Norrell  
Todd Westhauser

**Treasurer**  
Helen Wells

**Clerk of the Vestry**  
Anne Tippett

## ON THE FRINGES

"She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased." (Luke 8:44)

Luke and Matthew both tell the story of Jesus healing a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years. She was a woman who had herself lived on the fringes of society for all those years of her illness. Widely known as ritually unclean, she could not attend public worship, could not go to market, could not converse with others, could not enjoy the affectionate touch of another human being. So skittish has she become that she won't even approach Jesus face to face; she sneaks up behind him and reaches out to touch the fringe of his garment. The fringe is where she is used to operating.

It's a bold move for her and one that pays off. Immediately Jesus feels healing power leaving him. The healing he possesses is not even limited to his knowledge of who needs or wants healing. The woman touches him without his awareness and instantly she is healed. Jesus heals by his presence, even unawares. While we sometimes get lost in wondering about who might qualify for healing or what might need to be done for us or others to get closer to God, maybe the truth is that we are being healed and loved simply by virtue of God's abiding presence in the world. Maybe God heals and loves just because that's God's way. Maybe God can't help but heal. God heals first and asks questions later, instead of the other way around.

After Jesus feels healing power leaving him, he asks a question. He asks who has touched him. It's not that he's insulted or believes something has been stolen from him. He just wants to know who he has healed. The question brings out a response of fear from the woman healed. She sheepishly approaches with her head hung down and admits she was the one who dared to touch his garment. Jesus embraces her, looks her in the eyes, and says, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

There's a 30 year old photo in my office of my daughter and me. She's about 4. I'm holding her and we're both smiling for the camera. She has one hand on my shirt front, the other affectionately behind my neck. We look really happy and peaceful. As Jesus looks the woman in the eyes, there is peace and happiness. You can feel it in the story. He's inviting her to come in from the fringes of society and be in the warm center of the community. He wants her to know the great love available to her.

From time to time, we all live on the fringes. We think we're not worthy, unnoticed, too weak to handle life, frustrated, depressed, stuck. When we're in those places, desperation and panic set in. We feel hopeless and consigned to hardship.

Jesus lives on the fringes of society himself. He walks among the poor, the lame, the lepers, the little children and the women, those with no power. He dies on the fringes, out there with the criminals and those society has thrown away. Jesus lives and dies on the fringes because God is present even there. There is no place in life where we are away from the reach of God's love and touch. The fringes of Jesus' garment contain everything that his very hands do. God loves because God can't help but love. It's God's nature. And it's found in surprising places.

God's love is issued to all for the purpose of bringing us into the warm center. God doesn't heal us or love us only to move on or to send us back to the fringes where we came from. God loves and heals to bring us closer to God's heart. And closer to the community. We don't have to figure out a puzzle to get God to notice us. God's love extends to wherever we are. God loves and heals first, without question. And then God invites us closer and closer.

Part of the power of this story is that it occurs while Jesus is traveling to heal someone else. Jesus is busy, on the move, but his heart goes out to this woman who needs his touch. Sometimes we picture God as outside ourselves, as if he lives on the fringes of our world. While we're asking him to come closer, God is fully with us and inviting us to see him more as the center of our world. God heals us on the fringes and brings us fully within his saving embrace.

Yours faithfully,  
**Robert C. Wisniewski, Jr.**

**THE LESSONS:**

Jeremiah 31:7-9  
Psalm 126  
Hebrews 7:23-38  
Mark 10:46-52

**THE COLLECT:**

Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

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

**MINISTERS SERVING THIS SUNDAY**

**ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER:**

Joel Gregory

**ACOLYTES:** W. Hamlett, S. Behr, L. Bradford, C. Spier T. Clements, W. Wells, A. L. Lee, A. Marks

**LAY EUCHARIST MINISTERS:** C. Moore, M. Hughes, N. Prillaman, K. Miller

**LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS:**

B. Beale

**VESTRY: 7:30** M. Jenkins

**10:30** B. Eskridge, A. Hamlett, D. Arrington, V. Banister

**ALTAR GUILD:** D. Schremser, J. Drummond

**PASTORAL CARE:** J. Barganier, M. Bennett

**FLOWER DELIVERY:** J. Drummond, V. Lee, V. Wilkerson

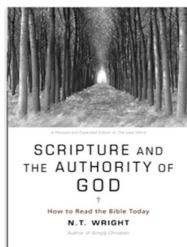
**Flowers by the St. John's Flower Guild**

## SHARING EUCHARIST – AN INVITATION AND A REMINDER

One of St. John's valuable ministries is that of the Lay Eucharist Visitor. Each Sunday we as the faith community send out our representative to extend to those who cannot be with us the worship and communion that we have experienced. The visits are a simple sharing of ourselves combined with a form of passages from Scripture, prayers and ultimately Communion. Visits are made on Sundays or if preferred on Weekdays. Those visited as well as the LEV enjoy an enriched faith experience.

If you or a family member would like an LEV to visit you or if you would like to become part of the LEV team, please contact: Robert at robert@stjohnsmontgomery.org, or Katie Keller at kkel-ler2009@charter.net. You may also simply call and leave a message with Fay at St. John's 262-1937

*The All Saints' Roll of Remembrance* will be read at services on November 4. If you have family or friends who have died in the past year, please notify the church office so that their names may be included on this list.



### Scripture and the Authority of God: How to Read the Bible Today

Led by The Rev. Dr. Deonna D. Neal

November 4th thru December 16th, 2018

How do we can we accept the Bible as a product of its historical and cultural context, written by many different human beings over the course of 900 years, AND as the holy Word of God, AND as still being authoritative for us in the 21st century? Do you want to be able to tell your friends that there is a middle position between the two extremes of Biblical fundamentalism and casually dismissing the Bible as only a

“nice story?” Come join us and explore these questions as we read *Scripture and the Authority of God: How to Read the Bible Today*, by the Anglican biblical scholar and former Bishop of Durham (England) N.T. Wright. The book explains how the Bible has been “read” as “Scripture” during various periods of history, e.g. from the time of Israel all the way up to our modern period and the impact of the Enlightenment. It concludes with some thoughts about how to overcome the “Bible wars” that we experience today.

The book will be on sale in the bookstore or can be ordered online for \$16.

### Events Around the Corner

Bach Cello Concert—Monday & Tuesday, October 29 & 30 7:00pm

Grounds Clean-up Day—Sunday, November 4

ECW Bazaar—Wednesday, November 14

Rise Against Hunger—November 25

*Remember Tuesdays-Morning Prayer at 8:10 am on Facebook Live*

## JOY AND CONCERN

**Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:** Sarah Stone, Sarah Spratling, Charles Brannon, Florence Jordan, Christopher Marshall, Sunshine Huff, Karen Jarrell, Francis Beaulieu, Jim Thomas, Carol Pierce, George West, Eddie McDowell, Dottis Robinson, Joe McGough, Cynthia Hill.

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** 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, Jennifer Pruitt, Pam Litel, Aaron Hines, Catherine Riddell, Hugh Lee Earnest, Daphne Oliver, Dawn Damato, Ernie Reddick, Dottie Campbell, Scott Bradford, Mary Steindorff, Jack Mitchell, Margaret Carlson, Paula Hamm Roberts, Kim Barnhart, Lavada Spears Person, Ame Duan, Charles Colvin, Cookie Zibilich, Charlie Smith, Clemmon Barlow, Chuck Holley, Sandy Lynn Stevens, Masha Kloberg, Andy Silverman.

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

## ECW Bazaar

Wednesday, November 14

Bazaar 10:00 to 2:00; Lunch 11:00 to 1:00

Contact Virginia Banister, Volunteer Coordinator

### Bazaar Posters and Flyers

Please look for the Bazaar posters and flyers in the Parish House and on the reception desk to distribute around town and to give to your family and friends! Everyone is invited to come to the bazaar!

### PANTRY

Join us in the kitchen for Pantry prep! We look forward to more fun, food, and fellowship! Workshops begin at 10:00 a.m. in the St. John's kitchen.

**Tuesday, October 30**– Cornbread Dressing

**Thursday, November 1** - Palmer's Conecuh Sausage Soup

Email Betsy Cannon with questions at [bcannon66@yahoo.com](mailto:bcannon66@yahoo.com)

**Silent Auction Gifts and Donations**-The Silent Auction needs valuable gifts that will inspire competitive bidding. This would include antiques, artwork, silver flatware, serving pieces and hollowware. In addition, estate jewelry, a stay at your vacation home, Yeti coolers, or donating your professional talents such as cooking for a dinner party or a decorating consultation or any other valued service. Chair: **Katharine Harris (315-1230) or [katharineharris@knology.net](mailto:katharineharris@knology.net)**.

**Treasure Attic** Instead of a yard sale, bring your pre-loved items such as giftware, China, glassware, linens, picture frames, lamps, small furniture, costume jewelry, or other items in good clean condition. Your Trash is surely someone else's treasure. Please bring your donations to the stairwell across from the elevator in the Sunday School building. Chair: **Michelle Shaw, 334-531-1795 or [chelle.shaw67@gmail.com](mailto:chelle.shaw67@gmail.com)**.

### HANDMADE ARTS AND CRAFTS

Do you paint, sew, knit or make hand crafted items? The Handmade Arts and Crafts room needs items created by our talented St. John's members and friends. We also welcome any ideas for hand-crafted articles that would be good sellers at the Bazaar. You're welcome to join us on Mondays from 9 to 12 in the crafting room on the third floor of the education building. Chairs: **Katie Keller ([kkeller2009@charter.net](mailto:kkeller2009@charter.net)) and Jean Smyth ([je@smyth3.com](mailto:je@smyth3.com))**.

### FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

WE NEED YOUR ART!

Can you paint or draw? Fine Arts is looking for your original pieces. Please bring your art to our Bazaar. You can donate or request a percentage of the sale. Contact Florence Tyson at [flossy618@aol.com](mailto:flossy618@aol.com) or 334-265-0731

### ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES AT 9:15

**Living the Good News – A Discussion of the Sunday Morning Scripture Lessons** Led by Dudley Perry, meeting in the Small Dining Room, year round

**Practicing our Faith – A Journey through the Book of Common Prayer** Led by Jamie Osborne, meeting in the Library through December 16th

**Scripture and the Authority of God: How to Read the Bible Today** Led by The Rev. Dr. Deonna D. Neal, November 4th thru December 16th

**Hurricane Michael** made landfall at Mexico Beach, FL. The storm then continued its track into Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Hurricane Michael has had a significant impact on communities in the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. Those wishing to help are encouraged to make financial donations either through Episcopal Relief & Development or directly to the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief>

### THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

#### SUNDAY, Oct 28

7:30 am Holy Eucharist  
8:15 am Breakfast in the Parish House  
9:15 am Christian Formation for all ages  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist  
4:20 pm Children's Choir  
5:00 pm Junior EYC  
6:00 pm EYC Eats  
6:30 pm Senior EYC

#### MONDAY, Oct 29

12 Noon Clergy Led Bible Study in the Small Dining Room  
6:00 pm Men's Group in the Library  
7:00 pm Bach Concert

#### TUESDAY, Oct 30

7:00 am Holy Eucharist  
8:30 am Prayer Group  
7:00 pm Bach Concert

#### WEDNESDAY, Oct 31

11:30 am Centering Prayer  
3:30 pm Coffice @ Café Louisa  
5:30 pm Holy Eucharist

#### THURSDAY, Nov 1

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

### St. John's Faithfulness

#### Required Weekly

\$36,066.80

#### Received Sunday

\$19,147.92

#### Required to Date

\$1,514,805.60

#### Received to Date

\$1,356,611.88

#### Building Fund Debt

\$110,000

#### Outstanding Building Pledges

\$142,540

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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit #376  
Montgomery, Alabama  
36104

«LA\_LABEL\_NAME»  
«AD\_ADDRESS\_1»  
«AD\_ADDRESS\_2»  
«AD\_CITY», «AD\_STATE» «AD\_ZIP\_CODE»

The Eagle is available on the  
internet at  
[www.stjohnsmontgomery.org](http://www.stjohnsmontgomery.org)

### Parish Gardens Work Party Sunday, November 4, at Noon

Join us Sunday for a **Gardens Work Party**. Things to bring: work clothes; gloves, clippers, trowels, etc. **Gas powered weed eaters and people to operate them are needed.** A light lunch will be provided. Any questions? Call Fairlie Rinehart at 399-2525 or email her at [fhrinehart@gmail.com](mailto:fhrinehart@gmail.com).



### October In-Gathering

For Outreach

### Winter Coats

For Friendship Mission  
Bring new or gently used,  
men's, women's, and  
children's coats

113 Madison Ave. Montgomery, AL

St. John's  
Episcopal  
Church presents

# J.S. BACH. 6 suites for solo cello



**ALEXEI ROMANENKO,  
CELLO**

**October 29-30  
7:00 PM**