



# St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday, March 5th, 2023, 10.30am

## The Second Sunday in Lent

### 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 *Adagio*  
*Trio in c minor*

Craig Phillips  
Johann Ludwig Krebs

THE OPENING HYMN 401 *The God of Abraham praise*

### THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

*p. 351*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

*All kneel*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.  
**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*The celebrant offers the following sentence*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

**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.**

*The Priest, stands and says*

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 KYRIES

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in a single system, both in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains three measures: the first measure is marked 'Cantor or Choir' and contains a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4; the second measure is marked 'All' and contains a half note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4; the third measure is marked 'Cantor or Choir' and contains a half note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. The lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.' are written below the notes. The second staff also begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It contains three measures: the first measure is marked 'All' and contains a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4; the second measure is marked 'Cantor or Choir' and contains a half note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4; the third measure is marked 'All' and contains a half note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. The lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.' are written below the notes.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*All sit.*

### THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### PSALM 121 Chant: Henry Walford Davies

*Sung by choir*

- 1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills; \*  
from whence cometh my help?
- 2 My help cometh even from the Lord, \*  
who hath made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved \*  
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
- 4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself is thy keeper; \*  
the Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, \*  
neither the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; \*  
yea, it is even he who shall keep thy soul.
- 8 The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

## THE EPISTLE: ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## SEQUENCE HYMN 603 *When Christ was lifted from the earth*

## THE GOSPEL: JOHN 3:1-17

*All stand*

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

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the

sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

*Priest* The Gospel of our 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 IV)** *All kneel as able. p. 388.*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; especially, \_\_\_\_\_ that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially, \_\_\_\_\_, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially, \_\_\_\_\_, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*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 *Remember, O Thou Man* Thomas Ravenscroft

Remember, O thou man, thy time is spent. Remember, O thou man, how thou art dead and gone and I did what I can, therefore repent. Remember Adam's fall, O thou man, from heav'n to hell; how we were condemned and all in hell perpetual therefore to dwell. Remember God's goodness, O Thou man, and his promise made. How he sent his son doubtless our sins to redress, be not afraid. Give Thanks to God alway, O thou man, with heart most joyfully for this your happy day. Let all men sing and say, "Holy, Holy."

*All stand as the offertory is brought up to the altar.*

## THE OFFERTORY

*The Celebrant presents the gifts with these words*

Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is thine.

**All things come from thee, O Lord, and of thine do we give thee.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)

*All stand. p.361*

*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, for you sent your Son into the world, not to condemn it, but to save it, and to open the life of your Kingdom to all who are born of water and Spirit. 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven 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 sing on a monotone:*

**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

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*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. p. 366*

*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.*

*The Celebrant blesses the people*

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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**THE CLOSING HYMN 636** *How firm a foundation*

**THE SENDING OUT**

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

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

**THE POSTLUDE** *Fugue in g minor*

Johann Sebastian Bach

## TODAY'S SERVERS

**Acolytes:** Eloise Carlisle, John Longshore, Lawton McCollum, Walton Norrell, Molly Selman, Wyatt Wells

**Lector and Intercessor:** Debbie Schremser, J.R. Marshall

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Leale McCall, Mary-Nelms Parson, Dudley Perry

**Ushers/Greeters:** William Haynes, Kathleen Bradford, Allison Prillaman, Anne Hamner

**Altar Guild:** Josie Eskridge, Chuck Moore

**Flower Guild:** Caroline Lawson, Catherine McLemore

**Flower Delivery Team:** Jeanette Lynn, Carma Marks, George Mathews

**Videographer:** Sam Collier

**Instrumentalists:** Jihye Choi, *violin*; David Simpson, *bassoon*; Robby Gibson, *guitar*.

**Altar Flowers given in memory of:** John Geraerdt Crommelin, Henry Crommelin, Charles Laurence Crommelin, Richard Gunter Crommelin, Capt. Quentin Clairborne Crommelin, Mozelle Scott Pointer, Mary Helen Scott Foster, Elizabeth Crommelin Gunster, Katharine Crommelin Jenkins, Lucy Crommelin Leak, Priscilla Cooper Scott Crommelin, Robert Tyler Scott, Grace Scott Lacy, Charles Laurence Crommelin, II, Lillian E. Crommelin

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

Bill Bowman, Rod Frazer, Leslie Little, Ken Mahan, Christopher Marshall, Richard McCrory, Eddie McDowell, Marilyn Pickett, Shirley Price, Evelyn Sherbert, Tommy Tyson, Larry Worriow.

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** Hope Hamblin, Johnathan Pace, Karen and Angelo Pacheco, Robert Proctor

We pray for one who has died, Davidson (David) Carter Tankersley. Rest Eternal Grant unto him, O Lord. Let Light perpetual shine upon him.

*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 February:** Seibels Marshall, Emily Wise, Libby Fitzpatrick, Fairlie Herron, Laura Knapp, Anne Elizabeth McGowin

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lenten Suppers:** Wednesday 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**Lenten Program:** Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. “Be Happitudes”. 8 statements that define the children of God.

**Children’s Lenten Program:** Countdown to Lent. Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Each week, we will participate in exciting skits, object lessons, crafts, games and small group discussions. A modified version will be done for Toddlers through preschoolers in the Run-Around-Room.

**Ephesians Winter Bible Study-** Deonna is leading a Bible study on Paul’s letter to the Ephesians. Two identical sessions are offered: Sunday mornings (in-person) from 9.15 to 10.15am in the Archives room and Tuesday nights (via Zoom) from 7pm to 8pm.

**New Rector’s Forum:** “*To the Ends of the Earth.*” Beginning March 12<sup>th</sup>, this original course will follow the growth and development of the early church in the book of Acts. Each week will feature a key moment in the life of the new church. This will not merely be an academic series. Rather, we will discover the uncanny similarities between the earliest church in the pre-Christian world and today’s church in the post-Christian West. Together we will discover clues as to how churches can reach into our neighborhoods in ways that are biblical and fruitful.

**EYC:** March 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-8:00. March Madness, make a bracket, eat Tabletop Nachos and enjoy fellowship. Friends are invited. Email [connie@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:connie@stjohnsmontgomery.org) for information.

**Lenten Organ Meditations-** Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross paintings by Camilla Armstrong will be on display.

**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 833-251-144