



# St. John's Episcopal Church

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,  
St. John's welcomes you.

Third Sunday of Advent  
10 a.m. 11 December 2022

*Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982.  
"BCP" refers to pages in the red Book of Common Prayer.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Tower Bells

**Voluntary** ..... **Savior of the nations, come**  
Helmut Walcha

**Rejoice! Rejoice, believers** (Stand) ..... **Hymn 68**

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

*The Celebrant continues*

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.*

**Kyrie** ..... **Hymn S 96**

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant continues*

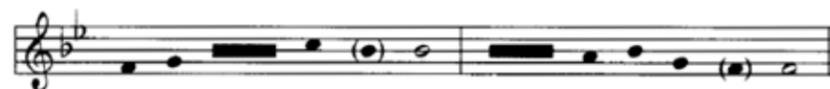
Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come  
among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins,  
let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver  
us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and  
the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### A Reading from the prophet Isaiah:

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the  
desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall  
blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The  
glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel  
and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the  
majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make  
firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful  
heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will  
come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will  
come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be  
opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame  
shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing  
for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and  
streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a  
pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of  
jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds  
and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called  
the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall  
be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go  
astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast  
come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the  
redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord  
shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy  
shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and  
gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. [Isaiah  
35:1-10]

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

**Psalm 146:4-9** (Choir sings the first verse; congregation will join for  
the remaining verses)



- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob / for their help! \*  
whose hope is in / the Lord their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas,  
and all that is / in them; \*  
who keeps his pro/mise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who / are oppressed, \*  
and food to / those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the / blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those / who are bowed down;
- 8 The Lord loves the righteous;  
the Lord cares for the / stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way / of the wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for / ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. / Hallelujah!

### A Reading from the letter of James:

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the  
Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the  
earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and  
the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your  
hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not  
grumble against one another, so that you may not be  
judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an  
example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the  
prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. [James 5:7-10]

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

**Tell out, my soul** (Stand) ..... **Hymn 438**

### The Gospel

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was  
doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are  
you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"  
Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and  
see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers  
are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the  
poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is  
anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds  
about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to  
look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go  
out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those  
who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you  
go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a  
prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I  
am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare  
your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one  
has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in  
the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." [Matthew 11:2-11]

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### Children's Chapel

*Pre-K through 3rd grade children gather at the front steps of the chancel  
for a blessing before processing to Children's Chapel.*

**The Sermon** ..... **The Rev. Lonnie Lacy**

*A brief period of silence follows the sermon.*

**The Nicene Creed** (Stand)..... **BCP 358**

**The Prayers of the People** (Kneel) ..... **BCP 392**

**The Confession & Absolution**..... **BCP 360**

**The Peace**..... **BCP 360**

**Announcements**

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory** ..... **Magnificat (from Collegium Regale)**  
Herbert Howells

*If you are worshipping with us in person, we encourage you to place your gift in the offering plates as they are passed in the pews. For instructions on online and text giving, see the back panel of this bulletin.*

**Presentation of Gifts** (Stand) ..... **Hymn 76, v.5**

**Eucharistic Prayer B** ..... **BCP 367**

**The Sanctus** ..... **Hymn S 130**

**The Lord’s Prayer** ..... **BCP 364**

**The Fraction Anthem** ..... **Hymn S 164**

**Communion**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion at St. John’s. Approach the altar in a double line in the center aisle. Stand or kneel at the rail and receive the bread in your hand. You may sip the wine directly from the common cup, or you may allow the Eucharistic Minister to dip the bread in the cup and return it to you. If you do not wish to receive the bread or wine for any reason, fold your arms across your chest, and the priest will give you a blessing instead.*

*If you would like to receive Communion but are unable to walk to the rail, tell a greeter, and a minister will be happy to bring Communion to you at your pew.*

**Communion Hymns** ..... **272, 640**

**The Postcommunion Prayer** (Kneel) ..... **BCP 366**

**Sending of Eucharistic Visitors**

*When Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take Communion to the sick or homebound, the following is said.*

*Celebrant* N., we send you forth in the Name of this Congregation, to N. bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s body and blood.

*People* We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

**The Blessing**

**On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry** (Stand)..... **Hymn 76**

**The Dismissal** ..... **BCP 366**

**Voluntary** ..... **Veni, redemptor gentium**  
Samuel Scheidt

**Tower Bells**

*Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God*

*by Helen Haines in thanksgiving for Bill Bazzel, Sr. and Jeff Haines on their December birthdays*

*by Karen Leavesley in thanksgiving for children and grandchildren*

**St. John’s  
Episcopal Church**

211 North Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 222-2636 | www.saint-john.org

**Welcome!**

Since 1829, St. John’s Episcopal Church has sought to love Christ and our neighbors in Tallahassee and the world. Whether you are a lifelong Christian or it is your first time entering a church, welcome. We are glad you are here.

**Your Gift Makes a Difference**



**GIVING**

St. John’s runs solely on the generosity of its members. Give today via the offering plate; or text STJOHNS to 73256; or scan this code with your phone to give online. You can also mail your gift to St. John’s Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance Office, 211 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32301. Every gift, large or small, sustains the church you love.

**Childcare**

Free, professional childcare is provided 9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. each Sunday.

**Hearing System**

To access our hearing loop system, set your hearing aid to tele-coil or “t” telephone mode. If your hearing aid does not have this capability, wireless headsets are available at the north tower entrance or from an usher.

**Altar Flower Dedications**

Altar flower dedications are wonderful way to honor loved ones. Visit the GIVE page on St. John’s website or contact the church office for assistance.

**Weekly Services**

**SUNDAY**

8 a.m. .... Holy Eucharist (Rite I) .....Sanctuary

10 a.m. .... Holy Eucharist (Rite II) .....Sanctuary  
*service is livestreamed*

5:30 p.m. .... Holy Eucharist (Rite II) ..... Chapel

7:30 p.m. .... Sung Compline .....Sanctuary

**WEDNESDAY**

12:10 p.m. .... Holy Eucharist (Rite II) ..... Chapel  
with Healing Prayer

**Parish Prayer List**

Please take this list home each week and commit to praying daily for your fellow parishioners.

**Prayers:** Julia Livingston, Kathy Vanderee, Abraham Yousef, Stan Shephard, Candy Williams, Rachel

**The Departed:** Dean Knox, Robert Flanagan

**Our Clergy:** The Rev. Lonnie Lacy, Rector; the Rev. Bill Trexler, Priest Associate; the Rev. Dcn. Joe Bakker, the Rev. Dcn. Mike Hall, the Rev. Dcn. Linda Liebert-Hall, Deacons