



# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

Second Sunday in Lent  
10 a.m. 5 March 2023

*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 .....O Mensch, bewein dein Sunde gross**  
BWV 622, J. S. Bach

**The God of Abraham praise (Stand) ..... Hymn 401**

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* His mercy endures for ever.

**The Decalogue (Kneel) .....BCP 350**

*At the end of each commandment:*

*People* Amen. Lord have mercy.

*After the Decalogue, the Celebrant says*

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." [Mark 12:29-31]

**The Confession & Absolution (Remain kneeling)**

*Deacon*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Deacon and People*

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 Celebrant stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

**The Kyrie (Remain kneeling) ..... Hymn S 96**

**The Collect of the Day (Remain kneeling)**

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

*The Celebrant continues*

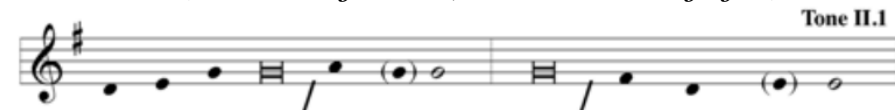
O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,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

**A Reading from Genesis:**

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. [Genesis 12:1-4a]

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

**Psalm 121 (the choir sings verse 1, verses 2-8 are sung by all)**



- 1 I lift up my eyes to the / hills; \*  
from where is / my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the / Lord, \*  
the maker of hea/ven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your / foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will / not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over / Israel \*  
shall neither slum/ber nor sleep;

- 5 The Lord himself watches / over you; \*  
the Lord is your shade at / your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by / day, \*  
Nor / the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all / evil; \*  
it is he who shall / keep you safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and  
your / coming in, \*  
from this time forth / for evermore.

**A Reading from the letter to the Romans:**

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. [Romans 4:1-5, 13-17]

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

**Kind Maker of the world (Stand) ..... Hymn 152**

**The Gospel**

*Gospeller* 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.”  
[John 3:1-17]

*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 387**

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

**Announcements**

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory**..... **God so loved the world**

John Stainer

*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 143, v.5**

**Eucharistic Prayer C** ..... **BCP 369**

**The Sanctus** ..... **Hymn S 127**

**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.*

**Anthem**..... **Jesus, so lowly**  
Harold Friedell

**Hymns** ..... **141, 440, 489**

**The Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*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**

**Lift high the cross** (*Stand*) .....**Hymn 473**

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

**Voluntary**..... **Improvisation on Auf tiefer Not**  
Martin Luther, The Hymnal 1982, No. 151

**Tower Bells**

**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*

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 Hall, Bobby Ventry, Ashley Kummer, Maryann Carter, Frank

**The Departed:** Ed Babcock

**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