



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

9th Sunday after Pentecost
10 a.m. 30 July 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 **Chromhorne sur la Taille**
Messe pour les Couvents, Francois Couperin

O worship the King (*Stand*).....**Hymn 388**

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

Song of Praise **Hymn 421**

The Collect of the Day

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

The Celebrant continues

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom
nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply
upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not
the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever
and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of First Kings

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night;
and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You
have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David,
because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in
uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great
and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne
today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in
place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not
know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of
the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they
cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an
understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between
good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him,
"Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long
life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for
yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to
your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like
you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

[1 Kings 3:5-12]

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

Psalm 119:129-136 (*Prayed responsively by half verse*)

- 129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- 130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
- 131 I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
- 132 Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
- 133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- 134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
- 135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
- 136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to
pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep
for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind
of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to
the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love
God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he
foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his

Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And
those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called
he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who
is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up
for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who
will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who
is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who
is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will
separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or
persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is
written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are
accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him
who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor
angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor
powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will
be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[Romans 8:26-39]

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

Thy kingdom come! **Hymn 615**

The Gospel

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of
heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his
field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the
greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air
come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like
yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour
until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which
someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he
has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of
fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all
that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into
the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it
ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the
bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and
separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace
of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he
said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the
kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out
of his treasure what is new and what is old."

[Matthew 13:31-33,44-52]

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 prayer before processing to Children’s Chapel

The Sermon

A brief period of silence follows the sermon.

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

The Prayers of the People (Kneel) BCP 388

The Confession & Absolution..... BCP 360

The Peace..... BCP 360

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Hymn (Stand)..... Gather us in
Marty Haugen**

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.

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of the day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away;
here in this place the new-light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, 1979, ©1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

Presentation of Gifts (Stand) Hymn 380, v. 3

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The Sanctus Hymn S 129

The Lord’s Prayer BCP 364

The Fraction Anthem..... Be known to us

The refrain is sung by the choir, then repeated by all.

Refrain: The disciples knew the Lord Jesus,
in the breaking of the bread.

Choir: The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ.

All repeat the refrain.

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.....302, 447, 333

The Postcommunion Prayer (Kneel)..... BCP 365

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

If 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

How wondrous and great (Stand)Hymn 533

The Dismissal BCP 366

**Voluntary.....Plein jeu
Messe pour les Couvents, Francois Couperin**

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



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

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, Gordon Dean, Mary Bode, Jacqueline Heckel, Richard Norton, Stephen Parker Mason, Karen Leavesley, Marjorie Greene, Frank, Mary Ann E. Carter, Chris O'Brian

The Departed: Robert Doan, Deborah Richbourg, Danna Rutledge, John Ingle, Max Williams, Gregory Van Dercreek

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