



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

18th Sunday after Pentecost
10 a.m. 1 October 2023

*We invite you to prepare for the service in quiet meditation and prayer.
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 **Andante (*Organ Concerto in F*)**
George Frederic Handel

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

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 S 236**

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, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing
mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we,
running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of
your heavenly treasure; 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 Exodus

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the
priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and
came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the
Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked,
and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses
said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why
the bush is not burned up.” When the Lord saw that he had
turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses,
Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Come no
closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on
which you are standing is holy ground.” He said further, “I am
the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac,
and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was
afraid to look at God.

The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also
seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you
to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to
them, “The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they
ask me, “What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said
to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say
to the Israelites, “I am has sent me to you.” God also said to
Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “The Lord, the God
of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and
the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’: This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.” [*Exodus 3:1-6, 9-10, 13-15*]

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

Psalms 63:1-8

Sung by the choir to an Anglican chant by Julius Harrison

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

- 8 My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord
drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned
the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The
Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a
wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians
pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s
horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the
Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the
Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He
clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty.
The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord
is fighting for them against Egypt.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over
the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians,
upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched
out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its
normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed
the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the
chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh
that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.
But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the
waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and
Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the
great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the
people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his
servant Moses. [*Exodus 14:21-31*]

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

When Israel was in Egypt's land (*Stand*) **Hymn 648**

The Gospel

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

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the
elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said,
“By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave
you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one
question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by
what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John
come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they
argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say
to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of
human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John

as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him. [Matthew 21:23-32]

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.....O God, thou art my God
Henry Purcell

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 (Sung by all, standing)

For each perfect gift of thine
to the world so freely given,
faith and hope and love divine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven.
Christ our God, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

Eucharistic Prayer A.....BCP 361

The SanctusHymn S 125

The Lord’s Prayer BCP 364

The Fraction Anthem..... Hymn 325, v. 1

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 325, v. 2-3, 339, 439, 308

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

Glorious things of thee are spoken (Stand)Hymn 522

The Dismissal BCP 366

Voluntary.....Postlude in G Major
George Frederic Handel

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.

About Today’s Readings

Today’s first two readings are selected with the Bishop’s permission to support St. John’s yearlong, parishwide journey through the Bible. The gospel is the regularly assigned gospel of the day. To view the usual lectionary readings, visit lectionarypage.net.

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.

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		
5:30 p.m.....	Evensong.....	Chapel
Sung by the Choristers		

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 Lee, Michael John, Hollis, Karen Leavesley, Kristi Myers, Jacqueline Heckel, Bob, Carlton Dean

The Departed: Pat Rowe, Peggy Moffitt, Nancy Stafford, Jerry Huft, Betty Ann Skelton

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