



# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
10 a.m. 15 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** .....**Beloved Jesus**, Op.122  
Johannes Brahms

**Rejoice, ye pure in heart!** *(Stand)* ..... **Hymn 556**

*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*

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow  
us, that we may continually be given to good works; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### A Reading from the Book of Numbers

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the  
Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat!  
We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the  
cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic;  
but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but  
this manna to look at.”

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families,  
all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very  
angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord,  
“Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not  
found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this  
people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to  
them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as  
a nurse carries a sucking child,’ to the land that you promised  
on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all  
this people? For they come weeping to me and say, “Give us  
meat to eat!”

Then a wind went out from the Lord, and it brought quails  
from the sea and let them fall beside the camp, about a day’s  
journey on this side and a day’s journey on the other side, all  
around the camp, about two cubits deep on the ground. So the  
people worked all that day and night and all the next day,  
gathering the quails; the least anyone gathered was ten homers;  
and they spread them out for themselves all around the camp.

*[Numbers 11:4-6, 10-13, 31-32]*

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

### Psalm 78:18-19, 23-29

*Sung by the choir to an Anglican chant by Robert Cooke*

- 18 They tested God in their hearts, \*  
demanding food for their craving.
- 19 They railed against God and said, \*  
“Can God set a table in the wilderness?”
- 23 So he commanded the clouds above \*  
and opened the doors of heaven.
- 24 He rained down manna upon them to eat \*  
and gave them grain from heaven.
- 25 So mortals ate the bread of angels; \*  
he provided for them food enough.
- 26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens \*  
and led out the south wind by his might.
- 27 He rained down flesh upon them like dust \*  
and winged birds like the sand of the sea.
- 28 He let it fall in the midst of their camp \*  
and round about their dwellings.

- 29 So they ate and were well filled, \*  
for he gave them what they craved.

### A Reading from the Book of Numbers

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to  
go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient  
on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses,  
“Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the  
wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest  
this miserable food.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents  
among the people, and they bit the people, so that many  
Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have  
sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to  
the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed  
for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous  
serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall  
look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put  
it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that  
person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

*[Numbers 21:4-9]*

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

**My God, thou table now is spread** *(Stand)* ..... **Hymn 321**

### The Gospel

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

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying:  
“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave  
a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those  
who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would  
not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who  
have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen  
and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is  
ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it  
and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while  
the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.  
The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those  
murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves,  
‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go  
therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to  
the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets  
and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the  
wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a  
man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to  
him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’  
And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants,

‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’  
For many are called, but few are chosen.”    *[Matthew 22:1-14]*

*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**..... **Teach me, O Lord**  
David Hurd

*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 Sanctus** ..... **Hymn 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, **316**, **328**, **334**

**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**

**God of grace and God of glory** *(Stand)* .....**Hymn 594**

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

**Voluntary**..... **Pasticcio**  
Jean Langlais

**Tower Bells**

*Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God  
by Helen Haines in memory of Garnet Ogle Haines Samuell,  
and by Patricia Garrett in loving memory of Emmett and Hattie Garrett.*

**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](http://lectionarypage.net).

**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.

**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**

5:30 p.m..... Evensong..... Chapel  
*Sung by the Choristers*  
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 Lee, Hollis, Bill Burleson, Cheryl, Chris Carter, Carolyn Petrosch, Diana Daktere, Nell and Matt Dillard

**The Departed:** 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