



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

Second Sunday of Advent
10 a.m. 10 December 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 Come now, Savior of the nations
BuxWV 211, Dieterich Buxtehude

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (Stand) Hymn 76

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.

Prayed by a family of the Parish

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to
preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:
Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our
Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the First Book of Kings

Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established. 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. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life." [1 Kings 2:12; 3:5-14]

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

Psalm 111:1, 7-10

The choir sings the first verse; all join for the remaining verses.



- 1 Hallelujah!
I will give thanks to the Lord with my / whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the con/gregation.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and / justice; *
all his command/ments are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and / ever, *
because they are done in truth / and equity.

- 9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for / ever; *
holy and awe/some is his Name.
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of / wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures / for ever.

A Reading from the First Book of Kings

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive." [1 Kings 8:22-30]

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

Prepare the way, O Zion (Stand) Hymn 65

The Gospel

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from

the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” [Mark 1:1-8]

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

A brief period of silence follows the sermon.

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

The Prayers of the People (*Kneel*) **BCP 383**

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

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

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory*Christ the Appletree*
Stanford Scriven

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 66**

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.....**75, 53, 308**

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

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.

Sending of Las Posadas Figures

The Blessing

Comfort, comfort ye my people (*Stand*)..... **Hymn 67**

The Dismissal **BCP 366**

Voluntary**Lord Christ, the only Son of God**
Johann G. Walther

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

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, Hollis, Deacon Mike Hall, Ellen Sloyer, John Larson, Theresa, Diana Daktere, Mert Dollar, Jim Dodd, Petrina Herring, Leslie, Bob, Glen and Jean, Kathy Shields, Chris Carter

The Departed: Gordon Dean, Tom Ogorek, Lana Johnson, Lucille

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