



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

1st Sunday after the Epiphany
The Baptism of Our Lord
10 a.m. 7 January 2024

*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

VoluntaryChrist our Lord came to Jordan, BWV 684
J.S. Bach

The sinless one to Jordan came (Stand)..... Hymn 120

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People There is one hope in God's call to us;
Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

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

The Celebrant continues

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

A Reading from the First Book of Kings

So Ahab sent to all the Israelites, and assembled the prophets at Mount Carmel. Elijah then came near to all the people, and said, "How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." The people did not answer him a word.

Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many; then call on the name of your god, but put no fire to it." So they took the bull that was given them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, crying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice, and no answer. They limped about the altar that they had made. At noon Elijah mocked them, saying, "Cry aloud! Surely he is a god; either he is meditating, or he has wandered away, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened." Then they cried aloud and, as was their custom, they cut themselves with swords and lances until the blood gushed out over them. As midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice, no answer, and no response.

Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come closer to me"; and all the people came closer to him. First he repaired the altar of the Lord that had been thrown down; Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord came, saying, "Israel shall be your name"; with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord. Then he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed. Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt-offering and on the wood." Then he said, "Do it a second time"; and they did it a second time. Again he said, "Do it a third time"; and they did it a third time, so that the water ran all round the altar, and filled the trench also with water.

At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding. Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt-offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench. When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord indeed is God; the Lord indeed is God." [1 Kings 18:20-21, 25-39]

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

Psalm 105:1-2, 12-15 (Prayed responsively by half verse)

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *

and speak of all his marvelous works.

- 12 When they were few in number, *
of little account, and sojourners in the land,
- 13 Wandering from nation to nation *
and from one kingdom to another,
- 14 He let no one oppress them *
and rebuked kings for their sake,
- 15 Saying, "Do not touch my anointed *
and do my prophets no harm."

A Reading from the Book of Amos

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a plumb-line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb-line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb-line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

[Amos 7:7-15]

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

Christ, when for us (Stand)..... Hymn 121

The Gospel

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

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."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

[Mark 1:4-11]

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O 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 HOLY BAPTISM

Descend, O Spirit, purging flame (*Stand*) **Hymn 297**

Presentation of the Candidates **BCP 301**

The Baptismal Covenant..... **304**

Prayers for the Candidates **305**

The Baptism.....**307**

Marie Sevim Kantas
Jack Harris Mannheimer

Baptismal Anthem ***You have put on Christ***
Howard Hughes

Welcoming the Newly Baptized..... **BCP 308**

The Peace..... **BCP 308**

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory ***Wade in the water***
arr. Linda Twine

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*)

To God the Father, heavenly Light,
to Christ, revealed in earthly night,
to God the Holy Ghost we raise
our equal and unceasing praise.

Eucharistic Prayer B.....**BCP 367**

The Sanctus**Hymn S 128**

The Lord’s Prayer **BCP 364**

The Fraction Anthem..... **Hymn S 155**

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..... **339, 370**

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

O love, how deep (*Stand*) **Hymn 448**

The Dismissal **BCP 366**

Voluntary..... **Praise God, you Christians, altogether**
BuxWV 202, Dietrich Buxtehude

Tower Bells

Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Cameron and Catherine Bertron, in memory of Lawson Susanne Mayfield.

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, Diana Daktere, Anne Anderson, Mary Smith, Bob, Lynn & Jean, Scott & Margaret, Louise Johns, Jim Coull, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Ben

The Departed:

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; Melanie Salsgiver