



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

2nd Sunday in Lent
10 a.m. 25 February 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

Organ Voluntary **Solemn Prelude**
Charles Callahan

What star is this (Stand) **Hymn 124**

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures for ever.

The Decalogue (Kneel) **BCP 350**

At the end of each commandment:

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

After the Decalogue, the Celebrant says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." [Mark 12:29-31]

The Confession & Absolution (Remain kneeling)

Deacon

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Deacon and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the

sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Kyrie (Remain kneeling) **Hymn S 91**

The Collect of the Day (Remain kneeling)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

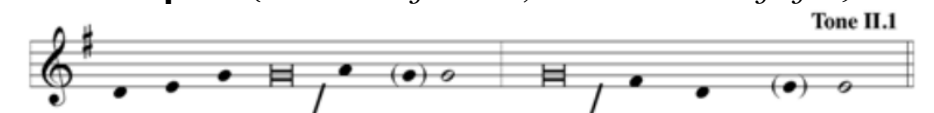
In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. [Matthew 2:1-12]

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84:1-8 (the choir sings verse 1, verses 2-8 are sung by all)



- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of / hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in / the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her / young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King / and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your / house! *
they will always / be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in / you! *
whose hearts are set on / the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley
will find it a place of / springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools / of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to / height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself / in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, / hear my prayer; *
hearken, O / God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O / God; *
and look upon the face of your / Anointed.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean." [Matthew 2:13-23]

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Take up your cross (*Stand*) **Hymn 675**

The Gospel

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

Then Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” [Mark 8:31-38]

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 388**

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

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory.....**Adagio in G minor**
J. S. Bach

Christopher Wheaton, Violin

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 143, v.5**

Eucharistic Prayer C..... **BCP 369**

The Sanctus **Hymn S 114**

The Lord’s Prayer **BCP 364**

The Fraction Anthem.....**Hymn S 158**

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 Music

Voluntary**Allemande** (Partita No. 1)
J. S. Bach

Hymns.....**442, 653, 517**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving (*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.

The Blessing

O Love of God (*Stand*)**Hymn 455**

The Dismissal **BCP 366**

Organ Voluntary..... **O Lamb of God, innocent**
Johann Pachelbel

Tower Bells

**St. John’s
Episcopal Church**

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 ComplineSanctuary

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, Ellen Sloyer, Diana Daktere, Ross Sepielli, John Henry Mitchell, Tom & Marsha, Mert Dollar, James, Gary

The Departed: Bill Grubbs, Hollis Powers

Our Clergy: The Rev. Lonnie Lacy, Rector; The Rev. Leslie Roraback, Associate Rector; The Rev. Dcn. Joe Bakker, The Rev. Dcn. Mike Hall, The Rev. Dcn. Linda Liebert-Hall, Deacons; Melanie Salsgiver, Postulant for holy orders