



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

Third Sunday of Advent
10 a.m. 15 December 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

Voluntary **Prelude on Richmond**
Healey Willan

Hark! the glad sound! (Stand) **Hymn 72**

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.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come
among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins,
let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver
us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and
the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and
exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has
taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your
enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall
fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The
Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he
will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his
love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of
festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not
bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that
time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will
change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At
that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised among all the
peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your
eyes, says the Lord. [Zephaniah 3:14-20]

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

Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah

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



*Surely, it is God who / saves me; **
I will trust in him and not / be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de/fense, *
and he will be / my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with re/joicing *
from the springs of / salvation.

And on that day you shall / say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call u/pon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the / peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is / exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done / great things, *
and this is known in / all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your / joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of / Israel.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Phillipians

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your
gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not
worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known
to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all

understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ
Jesus. [Philippians 4:4-7]

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 Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him,
"You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to
come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to
yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you,
God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.
Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree
therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown
into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In
reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with
anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise."
Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him,
"Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no
more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked
him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not
extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be
satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were
questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might
be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize
you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming;
I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will
baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is
in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat
into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable
fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good
news to the people. [Luke 3:7-18]

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*)

At the end of each petition

Leader Stir up your power, O Lord,
People And with great might, come among us.

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

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

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

Kat Ledbetter, soloist

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 **53, 481, 679**

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.

The Blessing

Rejoice! rejoice believers (*Stand*).....**Hymn 68**

The Dismissal **BCP 366**

Voluntary.....**Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme**
Johann Gottfried Walther

Tower Bells

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.

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.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print bulletins are available in the south transept for the visually impaired. Pick one up by the door or ask an usher.

Altar Flower Dedications

Altar flower dedications are a wonderful way to honor loved ones. Visit the GIVE page on St. John’s website or contact the church office for assistance.

Weekly Services

SUNDAY

8 a.m.....Holy Eucharist (Rite I).....Sanctuary

10 a.m.....Holy Eucharist (Rite II).....Sanctuary
service is livestreamed

WEDNESDAY

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: Diana Daktere, Ginny Smoller, Polly Pfof, Joanna Hunt, Jacqueline Heckel, Jeanne Maria, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Maryann Carter, Julia Downing, Ellen, the Spivey family, Jennifer Kiser Lloyd, Ed Malin, Penny Hughes, Jann Calkin, Elton Jernigan, Jeanie Wood and family, Doug

The Departed: Mary Doug Buchanan, John Wood

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, Seminarian

**St. John’s
Episcopal Church**

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