



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent
10 a.m. 22 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**Sleepers wake, a voice is crying**, BWV 645
J. S. Bach

O come, O come, Emmanuel (Stand)..... **Hymn 56**
vv. 1, 5-7

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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation,
that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a
mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Micah

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little
clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to
rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is
in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall
return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his
flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of
the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be
great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.
[Micah 5:2-5a]

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

Psalm 80:1-7

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



- 1 *Hear, O Shepherd* of Israel, leading Joseph like a / flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon / the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Man/asseh, *
stir up your strength and come / to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we / shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of / hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of / your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of / tears; *
you have given them bowls of / tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our / neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh / us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we / shall be saved.

A Reading from Letter to the Hebrews

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and
offerings you have not desired, but a body you have repared for
me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no
pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O
God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he
said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in
sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings"
(these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I
have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to
establish the second.

And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through
the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
[Hebrews 10:5-10]

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

Savior of the nations, come! (Stand).....**Hymn 54**

The Gospel

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean
town in the hill country, where she entered the house of
Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in
her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and
exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and
blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened
to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as
I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb
leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would
be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit
rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the
lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations
will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things
for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear
him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with
his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their
hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good
things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his
servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the
promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his
descendants forever." [Luke 1:39-55]

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 Our souls magnify you, O Lord,
People Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

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

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

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory..... **The angel Gabriel**
Basque Carol

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 **60, 258, 268**

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

Tell out, my soul, the greatness *(Stand)*..... **Hymn 438**

The Dismissal **BCP 366**

Voluntary..... **On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry**
Nicolas Lebègue

Tower Bells

Christmas Eve

The **1 PM** family-friendly service is offered for all ages and includes Holy Eucharist and a children's homily with music led by a soloist and trumpet. Childcare will be offered during this service, beginning at 12:45 PM.

The **4 PM** service is offered in person in the church and streamed live for those who wish to worship from home. This liturgy includes Holy Eucharist with music led by Adult Choir, Choristers, and a brass trio. Childcare is provided during this service starting at 3:30 PM. We encourage early arrival to this popular service.

The **8 PM** service includes Holy Eucharist with music led by Adult Choir and a brass trio.

The **11 PM** “Midnight Mass” includes Holy Eucharist with sung prayers, incense, and music led by Adult Choir and brass.

Christmas Day

There will be one 10 AM service on Christmas Day. It will be offered in person in the church, with Holy Eucharist, organ music and Christmas carols.

Sunday, December 29

Join us for one 10 AM service the Sunday after Christmas as we continue to celebrate the birth of Christ with scripture, carols, and seasonal prayers. This service includes Holy Eucharist.

**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.

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, Jacqueline Heckel, Jeanne Maria, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Maryann Carter, Julia Downing, Ellen, the Spivey Family, Ed Malin, Penny Hughes, Jann Calkin, Elton Jernigan, Jeanie Wood and family, Doug, Polly Pfost, Randy K

The Departed: John Wood, Boyd Baldwin, Van Page, Jennifer Kiser Lloyd

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