



St. John's Episcopal Church

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

3rd Sunday in Lent
10 a.m. 23 March 2025

*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 **Partita on *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich***
James Woodman

Come, we that love the Lord (*Stand*) **Hymn 392**

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

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

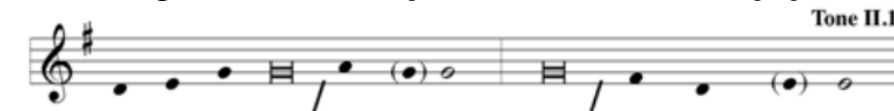
But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the

Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations." [Exodus 3:1-15]

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1-8 (*the choir sings verse 1, verses 2-8 are sung by all*)



- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I / seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is / no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your / holy place, *
that I might behold your power and / your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than / life itself; *
my lips / shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I / live *
and lift up my hands / in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and / fatness, *
and my mouth praises you / with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you up / on my bed, *
and meditate on you in the / night watches.
- 7 For you have been my / helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings / I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul / clings to you; *
your right / hand holds me fast.

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be

tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

[1 Corinthians 10:1-13]

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

What wondrous love is this (Stand).....Hymn 439

The Gospel

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

[Luke 13:1-9]

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 O God, your loving-kindness is better than life itself.
People Our lips shall give you praise.

The Peace..... BCP 360

Announcements

Welcoming our New Members

Celebrant:
Dear Friends in Christ, in companionship with each other as we journey in faith, we welcome new members into this community of St. John’s Episcopal Church. We welcome them to join us as we seek to love the Lord our God with heart and soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We welcome and cherish their unique gifts and experiences as together we follow the Holy Spirit in transforming this community for the work and mission of Jesus Christ.

Presenter: I present N.N. to be welcomed as members of this Parish community.

Celebrant: Do you desire to continue your journey into Christ as a member of St. John’s Episcopal Church?

New Members: I do.

Celebrant: Will you commit yourself to seek and serve Christ in this community of faith and pledge to work, pray, and give to build up our common life?

New Members: I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant: Will you who witness these promises, do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Loving God, we give thanks that you have brought these new members to join us in ministry. Knit us together, one to another, so that in unity we may know you and serve you in Jesus’ name. *Amen.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OffertoryLike as the hart
Herbert Howells

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)

O Father, Son, and Spirit blest, to thee be every prayer addressed, who art in threefold Name adored, from age to age, the only Lord.

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. 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.

Communion Hymns.....332, 140, 648

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

Eternal Lord of love (Stand).....Hymn 149

The Dismissal.....BCP 366

Organ VoluntaryO humanity, bemoan thy sin
Johannes Brahms

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



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.

Parish Prayer List

Please take this list home each week and commit to praying daily for your fellow parishioners.

Prayers: Diana Daktere, Paul Sawyer, Stephen Kraus, Petrina, Deanna, Pamela Williams, Steve Watson, Georgia Turner, Fernando, Cindy, Kaya Mills, Jerry Dickinson

The Departed: John Dean, Christie Landstrom, Steve Taylor

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