

18th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 and 11:15 a.m. 27 September 2026

*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 Vater unser in Himmelreich, BuxWV 219
Dieterich Buxtehude

All praise to thee (Stand) Hymn 477

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

Song of Praise Hymn S 236

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing
mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we,
running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of
your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for
ever and ever. Amen.

Children’s Chapel (9:00 a.m. only)

*Pre-K through 3rd grade children gather at the front steps of the chancel
for a blessing before processing to Children’s Chapel.*

A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by
repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The
parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set
on edge”? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no
more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the
life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only
the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O
house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are
unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness
and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that
they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn
away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is
lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they
considered and turned away from all the transgressions that
they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet
the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house
of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you
according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn
from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your
ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have
committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a
new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no
pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then,
and live. [Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32]

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

Psalm 25:1-8

Sung by the choir to an Anglican chant by Maxine Thevenot

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed
in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my
youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any
consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any
compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the
same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of
one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in
humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of
you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of
others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality
with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And
being found in human form, he humbled himself and became
obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the
name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the
earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me,
not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence,
work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is
God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to
work for his good pleasure. [Philippians 2:1-13]

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

Help us, O Lord, to learn (Stand) Hymn 628

The Gospel

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the
elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said,
“By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you
this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one
question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by
what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come
from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with
one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why

then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

[Matthew 21:23-32]

Gospeller	The Gospel of the Lord.
People	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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	To will and work for your good pleasure,
People	O Lord, enable us.

The Confession & Absolution..... BCP 360

The Peace..... BCP 360

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory.....*Let this mind be in you*
Lee Hoiby

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 432, v.4

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along!
For love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The Sanctus (Sung by all)Hymn S 125

The Lord’s Prayer BCP 364

Fraction (Sung by all)Hymn S 154

Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. Approach the altar in a double line via the center aisle. Stand or kneel at the rail and receive the Bread in your hand. You may sip from the common cup or allow the minister to dip the Bread in the Wine for you. If you prefer a blessing, fold your arms across your chest. If coming forward is difficult, tell an usher and a minister will bring Communion to your pew.

Intercessory prayer is available during Communion at the rear of the nave near the baptismal font; trained ministers offer brief, confidential prayer and anointing for comfort, healing, or strength.

Communion Hymns.....339, 706, 630

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 praise ye the Lord! (Stand) Hymn 432

The Dismissal BCP 366

Voluntary...Der Tag, der ist so freudeneich, BuxWV 182
Dieterich Buxtehude

Tower Bells

Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Susan and Martin Proctor in memory of Rosetta Tully.

St. John’s
Episcopal Church

211 North Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 222-2636 | www.saint-john.org

Deep Roots. True Belonging. Abundant Grace.

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 primarily 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 8:45 a.m. – 12:30 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 and north tower 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

7:45 a.m.....Holy Eucharist (Rite I).....Sanctuary

9:00 a.m..... Holy Eucharist (Rite II)Sanctuary
service is livestreamed

11:15 a.m..... Holy Eucharist (Rite II)Sanctuary

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: Charley, Ray, Maryann, Rick & Kathy, Jim, Michael Gillman, Jacqueline Heckel, William Irvine, Kelsey & Baby Amelia Edwards, Stephen Parker Mason, Millie & Seth Watson, Walter, Earle, Phil

The Departed: Kurtis Davis Ventry, Jeffrey Thornton, Hilda May Hunter

Our Clergy: The Rev. Lonnie Lacy, Rector; The Rev. Melanie Salsgiver, Deacon and Seminarian; The Rev. Pierce Withers, Deacon; Michael Stewart-Meza, Jonathan Jackson, Postulants for Holy Orders