



King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: JEREMIAH 4:11-12, 22-28

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse—a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

“For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good.”

I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled.

I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 14

*Sung by the choir.*

<sup>1</sup>The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” \*

All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
 there is none who does any good.

<sup>2</sup>The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, \*

to see if there is any who is wise,  
 if there is one who seeks after God.

<sup>3</sup>Everyone has proved faithless;

all alike have turned bad; \*

there is none who does good; no, not one.

<sup>4</sup>Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*

who eat up my people like bread  
 and do not call upon the Lord?

<sup>5</sup> See how they tremble with fear, \*

because God is in the company of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*

but the Lord is their refuge.

<sup>7</sup> Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*

when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,

Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

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THE EPISTLE: 1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost.

But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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THE SEQUENCE HYMN 440 *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

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THE GOSPEL: LUKE 15:1-10

*Remain standing.*

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a

hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

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THE SERMON

The Rev. Mark E. Waldo, Jr.

*All sit.*

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THE NICENE CREED

*All stand.*

*The Celebrant and People say together*

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM VI)

*All kneel as able.*

*Celebrant* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work, and for those who serve in our local hospitals, care facilities, schools, colleges, and correctional facilities; for those who serve in law enforcement and in the legal system; and for members of the military and those serving overseas, especially Ben and Eric.  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; for our President Donald, our Governor Kay, and our Mayor Steven; for members of our state legislature, and our national representatives and senators, that there may be respectful and wise governance for the welfare of our nation and of the world; and for victims of violence and conflict, especially in Eastern Europe and in the Middle East.  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation, and an awareness and sense of gratitude for the beauty of the world around us;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda and Brian our Bishops, Duncan and Mark our priests, Mawande our deacon; for Stewart our seminarian, and for all bishops and other ministers.  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

*The people stand to greet one another.*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The celebrant will say an offertory sentence. The people sit.*

THE OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

*All stand to sing the offertory verse when the offertory is brought up to the altar.*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise him all creatures here below.**

**Praise him above ye heavenly host.**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)

*All stand.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*All kneel as able.*

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say,

*Celebrant and People*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy Name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

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#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant presents the holy gifts to the congregation saying*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*The priest receives the Sacrament, and then serves the people with these words:*

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

*You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest.*

*Communion is offered in both kinds at the communion rail or station on the floor.*

*Communicants may receive the wine by intinction or by drinking directly from the cup.*

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#### THE AGNUS DEI

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*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

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#### THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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*All kneel as able.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,**

**you have graciously accepted us as living members**

**of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**and you have fed us with spiritual food**

**in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace,**

**and grant us strength and courage**

**to love and serve you**

**with gladness and singleness of heart;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

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*Celebrant* Go now, overflowing with faith and love  
and seek out those who are lost.  
Side with the poor and sit with the just;  
mourn for the earth  
and rejoice with heaven over any who turn to God.  
And may God judge you faithful;  
May Christ Jesus strengthen you;  
And may the Holy Spirit fill you with wisdom and grace. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 307 *Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor* *All stand.*

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## THE DISMISSAL

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*When the clergy have moved to the front door of the church, the Deacon then sings*

*Deacon*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia.

*People*

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE POSTLUDE *The people respond 'Amen' (Rubrics)* Dan Locklair

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## TODAY'S SERVERS

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**Clergy:** The Reverend Dr. Duncan Johnston, *Rector*  
The Reverend Mark E. Waldo, Jr., *Associate Rector*  
The Reverend H. Mawande Mzongwana, *Associate Rector*

**Director of Children's Formation:** Sarah Collier

**Director of Youth Ministries:** J.R. Marshall

**Altar Guild:** Ashley Hamlett

**Lector and Intercessor:** Ashley Hamlett, Sarah Spratling

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Maria Pacheco, Mary-Nelms Parsons

**Ushers/Greeters:** Keith Miller, Allison Prillaman, Ashley Roseboro,  
Florence Tyson

**Flower Guild:** Betty Beale, Amy Marshall

**Flower Delivery Team:** Maria Pacheco, Anne & Reggie Hamner,  
Allison Prillaman

**Videographer:** Scott Mitchell

**Instrumentalists:** Jihye Choi, *violin*; David Simpson, *bassoon*

**Altar Flowers are given in memory of:** Charles Andrew Harris, Sr.,  
Lucille Jackson Harris, Julia Marks Dozier, Jane Dozier Harris,  
Charles Andrew Harris, Jr.

**Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:**

Nancy Buzard, Rosa Davis, Rick Durden, Dave Funk, Emily Crump Johannes, Bill Marks, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Mosely, Cameron Napier, Bud Nason, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Hawthorne Ramsey, Scott Simmons, Debbie Steindorff, Barbara Wallace

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:**

Emma Allshouse, Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Willie "Bill" Carden, John Ferguson, Bob Geddie, Stephanie Holmes, Charles Lewis, Leslie Little, Margaret Moore, Karen Pacheco, Pam Slate, Ron Skoneki, Madera Spenser, Chandler Taylor, Connie Thomas, Katherine Weidner, Frank Winkler, Sharon Carney Wright

*Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care. The prayer list will be updated monthly, please notify us if names need to remain longer.*

**Pastoral Care Team for September:** Emmi Harrell, Meri Moody,  
Nancy Bradford, Mary Helen Mahan

### **St. John's Unveils New Mission Statement**

Mission statements are living words that should help churches discern God's voice and leading. The vestry adopted our new mission statement at its meeting in July: *St. John's is a beacon in the heart of Montgomery, welcoming all into Christ's transforming love.* It is short, laser focused, and tells the city and state who we are and why we're here. It is an outward-looking mission statement. Beacons shine. They can be clearly seen – for many miles. They give comfort and hope. They communicate Good News.

### **Be on the lookout for your Breeze invite**

Last week St. John's officially changed to a new system called Breeze for its giving, directory, calendar, website, and app. Parishioners received an invite via email to create an account. Information guides are printed and available in the church office or on the St. John's website. A training is scheduled for today, September 14 at 11:30 in the Parish Hall. Bring your laptop and all your questions!

### **New Rector's Forum: "Scrolling Ourselves to Death"**

Sundays at 9:15 a.m. | Beginning September 14 | St. John's Library

How is constant connectivity shaping our souls? Join us for a new Rector's Forum exploring the impact of technology, social media, and digital distraction on our spiritual lives.

### **Youth Department Presents: Dio-Olympics**

Join us on Sunday, Oct. 5, from 2-4 p.m. at Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Trussville for Dio Day "DioLympics", an afternoon of fun and games hosted by the diocesan Youth Department. Registration is free and can be found at [www.dioala.org/news-events](http://www.dioala.org/news-events). If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact JR Marshall at [jr@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:jr@stjohnsmontgomery.org).

### **New Grief Support Group**

St. John's will be offering a nationally recognized grief support program called Grief Share this fall and winter—one before Thanksgiving and one before Christmas. We hope that this will be a safe and welcoming space to pray, reflect, and learn coping skills for managing grief, all in the care and support of others who may be going through the same. Registration is to follow in the newsletter next week. Please get in touch with Rev. H. Mawande Mzongwana if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

**The Right Reverend Glenda S. Curry**, PhD, Bishop of Alabama  
**The Right Reverend Brian N. Prior**, Assisting Bishop

### ST. JOHN'S CLERGY AND STAFF

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**The Reverend Duncan H. Johnston**, DMin, Rector  
**The Reverend Mark E. Waldo, Jr.**, Associate Rector  
**The Reverend Hleziphi Mawande Mzongwana**, Deacon  
**Joel Gregory**, Organist & Choirmaster  
**Sarah Collier**, Director of Children's Christian Formation  
**J.R. Marshall**, Director of Youth Ministries  
**Emily Howard**, Director of Communications  
**Constance Rodgers**, Assistant to the Rector  
**Myron Smoke**, Maintenance Superintendent

### ST. JOHN'S VESTRY AND OFFICERS

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**Keith Miller**, Senior Warden  
**Chuck Ocheltree**, Junior Warden  
**Richard Bradford**, Treasurer

**Class of 2025:** Melissa Carter, Mark Chappell, Anne Hamner,  
Keith Miller, Allison Prillaman

**Class of 2026:** Elizabeth Lawlor, Liam McMullan, Mary Martin Mitchell,  
Chuck Ocheltree, Ashley Roseboro, Cole Wise

**Class of 2027:** Richard Anderson, Jon Dailey, Bill Johnson,  
Jim Marshall III, Florence Tyson, Karen Westhauser





**We're glad you are at St. John's today.**

Whether you are visiting for the first time or attending regularly,  
you are a part of the St. John's family.

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Visitor Card



Visitors, please use this QR code to provide us with some information about you and your family so that we can better serve you.

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[stjohnsmontgomery.org](http://stjohnsmontgomery.org)

Visit our website to see service times,  
news from the parish, upcoming events,  
mission opportunities and more.



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Online Giving



If you wish to make a gift to St. John's,  
our online giving portal makes it easier than ever.  
Your generosity supports our ministries  
in Montgomery and beyond.

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