



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026, 10:30 A.M.**  
**THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

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THE PRELUDE      *Prelude in C*      *Johann Sebastian Bach*

THE OPENING HYMN 535 *Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim*

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THE OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)      *All stand.*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* 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.**

GLORIA (S280)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 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.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 58:1-9A

*All sit.*

A Reading from Isaiah.

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!

<sup>2</sup>Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup>Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.

<sup>8</sup>Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

<sup>10</sup>The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; \*  
the desires of the wicked will perish.

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THE EPISTLE: 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-12

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

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SEQUENCE HYMN 530 *Spread, O spread, thou mighty word*

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THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:13-20

*All stand.*

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

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

Jesus said: "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

*All sit.*

*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.**

*Celebrant*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray especially for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda our Bishop, for Richard our Bishop-Elect, Duncan & Mark our priests, and for Stewart our seminarian.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. 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, and for members of the military and those serving overseas, especially Ben and Eric.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially\_\_\_\_\_. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially those for whom the altar flowers have been given, for \_\_\_\_\_; that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*Celebrant*

Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,**

**We confess that we have sinned against you**

**In thought, word, and deed,**

**By what we have done,**

**And 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 Priest stands and says*

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 ANTHEM

*Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep*

John Rutter

*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, (BCP P. 361)

*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, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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.**

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 forever. **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

*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

*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 (BCP p. 365)

*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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You are the salt of the earth.  
You are the light of the world.  
Let your light shine before others  
that seeing your justice, mercy and compassion  
they may give glory to God in heaven.

And may God guide you continually;  
May Christ Jesus satisfy your needs even in parched places,  
And may the Holy Spirit keep you strong and well  
and make your life as rich as a garden  
whose springs of living water never fail. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 610 *Lord, whose love through humble service*

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THE DISMISSAL

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*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

THE POSTLUDE *Flourish in Five* Rob Danter

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TODAY'S SERVERS

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**Clergy:** The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston, *Rector*  
The Rev. Mark E. Waldo, Jr., *Associate Rector*

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

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

**Organist:** Joel Gregory

**Acolytes:** Samuel Collier, Adams Hill, Burton Holmes, Anna Lynn White

**Lector and Intercessor:** Natalie Snyder, Sarah Spratling

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Kat Dailey, Robbie Everitt, Fairley McDonald

**Ushers/Greeters:** Bill Eskridge, Jim Marshall, Tracey Campbell, Nick Prillaman

**Flower Guild:** Josie Eskridge, Jane Borganier, Alice Longshore

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

**Videographer:** Scott Mitchell

**Altar Flowers are given in memory of:** Clifford A. Lanier, Mary Seibels Ball Lanier, Phillipa Ball Stratford, Minnie Louise Lanier, Clifford Lanier, Sr., Mary Seibels Lanier Branch

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

Laura Brendle, Phillip Brown, Rick Durden, Marla Foster, Dave Funk, Carolyn Fillmore, Anne Hill, Emily Crump Johannes, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Mosely, Cameron Napier, Bud Nason, Jerry Pickett, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Hawthorne Ramsey, Debbie Steindorff, Barbara Wallace, Stewart Wallace, Florence Young

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Lizzy Dickens, John Ferguson, Bob Geddie, Roger Holliday, Stephanie Holmes, Josie Lee, Charles Lewis, Nicole Lusk, Margaret Moore, Karen Pacheco, Pat Patterson, Serge Ruffato, Alice Sewell, Ron Skoneki, Johnny Smith, Madera Spencer, 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 February:** Anne Hamner, Cindy Seibels, Florence Tyson, Margaret Ann Selman, Susan Harris

### **Giving statements now available**

St. John's giving statements for 2025 are now available for pickup in the church office. Please look for the box labeled "2025 Giving Statements" and locate the envelope with your name on it. Please note that statements will not be mailed unless specially requested. This will save on postage and the uncertainty of the postal system. Please call the church office at 334-262-1937 or email [churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org) for more information.

### **Heavenly Hosts**

Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, February 10, 6-8 p.m. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us at the home of Lee Frazer, 663 Cloverdale Road. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages

### **Day by Day Devotionals**

St. John's provides Forward Day by Day to parishioners as a simple and effective daily prayer practice. Each day features a Bible verse from the daily readings and a related reflection written by a different author each month. Booklets are available in the Narthex, Parish Hall, and Church Office. Large print available upon request.

### **Rector's Forum: Welcome Course**

Beginning Sunday, January 11, at 9:15 a.m. in the Library, join Duncan for an 8-week Welcome Course. This is an engaging program of presentations and discussions about the Christian faith and Episcopal tradition. Email [Duncan@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:Duncan@stjohnsmontgomery.org) to register.

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

Join us on Tuesday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's for a beloved Shrove Tuesday tradition! Enjoy a hearty supper of pancakes, bacon, and plenty of coffee and tea. The meal is cooked and served by the Scouts, and all proceeds benefit Scout Troop 8. Tickets are \$6 per plate, making it an easy (and delicious) way to support our local Scouts as we prepare for the season of Lent.

### **Lenten Lunch Series: Encounters with Jesus**

Join us for a Lenten Lunch Series at St. John's on Wednesdays during Lent at 12:05 p.m. Each week we will gather for midday prayer followed by a short message reflecting on Encounters with Jesus in John's Gospel—stories that invite us to slow down, listen, and notice how Christ meets people where they are. A simple soup lunch will be served for \$6 following the service.

### **Lenten Dinner Series: Lost for Words**

Join us for a Lenten Dinner Teaching Series at St. John's beginning Wednesday, February 25, at 6 p.m. Each week, a full dinner will be served for donations, followed by a thoughtful teaching exploring a question many are asking: Why has the church lost relevance—and what can we do about it?

### **Living Well through Lent**

You're invited to join a Lenten small group hosted by Marney Garzon, gathering weekly throughout Lent for prayerful reflection and conversation. The group begins Sunday, February 22, at 6:00 p.m. at Marney's home, 2453 E. Cloverdale Park. Please park in the back and enter through the back door. The group will use this year's Lenten devotional booklet as a guide. A PDF version is available on the St. John's website, and printed copies will also be available at the church desk.

### THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALABAMA

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The Right Rev. Glenda Curry, *Bishop of Alabama*  
The Rev. Richard Lawson, *Bishop-elect*

### **St. John's Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Duncan H. Johnston, DMin, *Rector*  
The Rev. Mark E. Waldo, Jr. *Associate Rector*  
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*

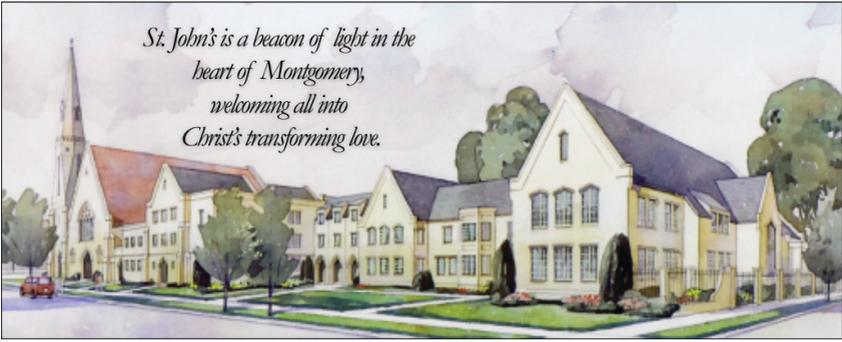
### **Vestry and Officers**

Bill Eskridge, *Senior Warden*  
Florence Tyson, *Junior Warden*  
Richard Bradford, *Treasurer*

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

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

Class of 2028: Libby Beck, Tracey Campbell, Sommerville Hill, Ken Kline, Mary-Nelms Parsons, Nick Prillaman



*St. John's is a beacon of light in the  
heart of Montgomery,  
welcoming all into  
Christ's transforming love.*

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

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



Online Giving



If you wish to make a gift to St. John's,  
our online giving portal makes it easier than ever.

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