



SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026, 10:30 A.M.  
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
YOUTH SUNDAY

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

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THE PRELUDE      *Offertoire on 'O Sons and Daughters'*      Jean-Francois Dandrieu

THE OPENING HYMN 376 *Joyful, joyful we adore thee*

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THE OPENING ACCLAMATION *All stand.*

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*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People*      **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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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.**

## THE GLORIA

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-  
right-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 sent-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther re-  
ceive our pray-er. 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.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 7:55-60

A Reading from the Book of Acts.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord

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

## PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

*Sung by the choir.*

<sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;

let me never be put to shame; \*

deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; \*

make haste to deliver me.

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,

for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*

for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*

for you are my tower of strength.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*

for you have redeemed me,

O Lord, O God of truth.

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.  
<sup>16</sup>Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your lovingkindness save me.

THE EPISTLE: 1 PETER 2:2-10

A Reading from First Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 551 *Rise up, ye saints of God*

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 14:1-14

*All stand.*

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

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

Jesus told his disciples, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling

places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

*Reader* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Robert Marshall

*All sit.*

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 IV

*All kneel as able.*

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.  
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.  
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. *(Silence)*  
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, \_\_\_ 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 may add a concluding Collect.*

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Priest 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.**

*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

*All sit.*

*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.*

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Fairest Lord Jesus* Richard de Long

*All stand to sing the Offertory verse when the offering is brought to the altar.*

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

**Praise him all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Praise him above ye heavenly host.**

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

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A) *p. 361*

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and says*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord, but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he was destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he was won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven 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.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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.**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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.

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

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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

*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.**

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THE BLESSING

*The Celebrant blesses the people*

Go now, wherever the Spirit of God leads you.

Do not reject anything that God has accepted.

Show all people that you are Christ's disciples

by loving one another

just as he has loved you.

And may God be your beginning and your end;

May Christ Jesus make his home among you;

And may the Holy Spirit give you a vision

of the all-embracing love and goodness of God. **Amen.**

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THE CLOSING HYMN 371 *Thou, whose almighty word*

## THE DISMISSAL

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*Minister* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## THE POSTLUDE

*Prelude in C*

J.S. Bach

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## TODAY'S SERVERS

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**Clergy:** The Reverend Duncan Johnston, DMin, *Rector*

Robert Marshall, *youth preacher*

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

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

**Organist:** Joel Gregory

**Acolytes:** Nancy Bradford, Sam Snyder, Suzanne Holmes, Maggie Mantooth

**Altar Guild:** Chuck Moore

**Lector and Intercessor:** John Morgan Longshore, Lawton McCollum, Helen Johnston, Thomas Lawlor

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Betsy Cannon, Reg McLane, Maria Pacheco, Radney Ramsey

**Ushers/Greeters:** Samuel Collier, John David Collier, Will Evans Clark, Thomas Arrington

**Flower Guild:** Jean Smyth, Karen Westhauser

**Flower Delivery Team:** Jeanette Lynn, George Mathews, Stanley Marks

**Videographer:** Sam Collier

**Instrumentalists:** Robert Scott, *flute*; David Simpson, *bassoon*; Bob Hoit, *clarinet*

**Altar Flowers are given in memory of:** Algernon Sidney Coleman, Sr., Lucy Oliver Coleman, Algernon Sidney Coleman, Jr., William Irwin Grubb, Margaret Walker Grubb, Eugenia Grubb Schanbacher, Frances Harris Garrett, William A. (Billy) Hughes, and in honor of in honor of Phillip and Elizabeth Via Brown's 50th wedding anniversary on May 1.

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

Dick Arrington, Laura Brendle, Rick Durden, Marla Foster, Carolyn Fillmore, Emily Crump Johannes, Valinda Johnson, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory, Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Dot Moore, Martha Collier Mosely, Cameron Napier, Bud Nason, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Carrie Shaw, Sarah Spratling, Debbie Steindorff, Bill Stewart, Barbara Wallace

**Prayers are also requested for these friends:** Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Phil Butler, Lizzy Dickens, John Ferguson, Bob Geddie, Mark Grantham, Roger Holliday, Stephanie Holmes, Josie Lee, Martha Ellen Locke, Charles Lewis, Nicole Lusk, Margaret Moore, Skip Parks, Pat Patterson, Serge Ruffato, Ron Skoneki, Johnny Smith, Madera Spencer, Chandler Taylor, Connie Thomas, Katherine Weidner, Michael White, Frank Winkler, Ross Wisnewski, Sharon Carney Wright

**Pastoral Care Team for May: Pastoral Care Team for May:** Florence Young, Jeanne Drummond, Marla Foster, Cam Hughes, Mitzi Waldo

*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.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Rector's Forum: Bouncing Back

Beginning Sunday, April 12, join us for a new Rector's Forum series, Bouncing Back, focused on what it means to live resilient Christian lives in an ever-changing and often challenging world. Together, we will explore how our faith equips us to navigate setbacks, uncertainty, and growth with hope, courage, and trust in God's enduring presence. Through thoughtful conversation and reflection, we'll consider practical ways to cultivate spiritual resilience in our daily lives. The forum meets Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the library. All are welcome—come as you are and join the conversation.

### Youth Sunday May 3

Join us at the Holy Eucharist Service at 10:30 a.m. at St. John's on May 3 for Youth Sunday, when our young people lead every part of worship. From readings to music to prayers to preaching, their voices guide the service in a meaningful, joyful celebration of faith and community. Everyone is invited to a hamburger and hot dog lunch after the service and water inflatables will be available for the kids.. .don't forget your swimsuits and towels! Please be aware this will be the last Sunday for children's Sunday School for the summer.

### Ladies' Lunch Bible Study

Join our new Ladies Bible Study at St. John's beginning May 5. We will meet Tuesdays from 12–1 in the Parish Hall, exploring the Gospel of Mark together in fellowship, conversation, and faith. All are welcome. Contact Libby at [libfitz1@gmail.com](mailto:libfitz1@gmail.com) for more information.

### All Ages Worship Service is Back

This summer at St. John's, we invite you to gather for a joyful, all-ages worship service beginning May 10 at 9:30 a.m. Designed especially for the rhythm of summer, this shorter, lively service offers a welcoming space for children, youth, and adults alike. Together we'll share in music, prayer, Holy Communion, and an interactive message that engages hearts and minds of every age. Whether you're a longtime member or visiting for the season, come experience a warm, meaningful way to worship as a community.

### Heavenly Hosts

Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, May 12, 6-8 p.m. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us at the home of Cindy and Bobby Seibels. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages.

### S'mores Social May 16

St. John's is looking forward to a relaxed and joyful evening of fellowship at our S'more Fellowship in 2026! All parishioners are invited to join us on Saturday, May 16, starting at 4:30 p.m. in the church parking lot for a laid-back gathering filled with food, fun, and community.

Enjoy a classic s'mores station around the fire pit, a simple supper of hotdogs and chips, and Camp McDowell-style songs as we sing together. There will also be cornhole and free play for all ages, making this a perfect event for everyone in the parish family. Be sure to bring a lawn chair, come hungry, and settle in for a warm evening of connection and fellowship. We hope to see you there!

### VBS Is on the Horizon...

Step back in time this summer at St. John's for an unforgettable Vacation Bible School experience! From June 1-4, children are invited to journey to ancient Rome for "ROME: Paul and the Underground Church," a vibrant marketplace-style VBS. Each day, participants will explore bustling shops, meet early Christians, and discover what life was like for Paul and the underground church as they shared the Good News in a challenging time. Through hands-on activities, storytelling, music, and crafts, children will experience Scripture in a whole new way—immersing themselves in the sights, sounds, and spirit of the early Church. You can register using the QR code provided.



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

### ST. JOHN'S CLERGY & STAFF

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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

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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 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)



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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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