



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-  
 mighty 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.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding; Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 17:22-31

A Reading from the Book of Acts.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord

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

<sup>7</sup>Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
 make the voice of his praise to be heard,  
<sup>8</sup>Who holds our souls in life, \*  
 and will not allow our feet to slip.  
<sup>9</sup>For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
 you have tried us just as silver is tried.  
<sup>10</sup>You brought us into the snare; \*  
 you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.  
<sup>11</sup>You let enemies ride over our heads;  
 we went through fire and water; \*  
 but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.  
<sup>12</sup>I will enter your house with burnt-offerings  
 and will pay you my vows, \*  
 which I promised with my lips  
 and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.  
<sup>13</sup>I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
 with the smoke of rams; \*  
 I will give you oxen and goats.  
<sup>14</sup>Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
 and I will tell you what he has done for me.  
<sup>15</sup>I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
 and his praise was on my tongue.  
<sup>16</sup>If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
 the Lord would not have heard me;  
<sup>17</sup>But in truth God has heard me; \*  
 he has attended to the voice of my prayer.  
<sup>18</sup>Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
 nor withheld his love from me.

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 THE EPISTLE: 1 PETER 3:13-22
 

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A Reading from First Peter.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you

are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

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 THE SEQUENCE HYMN 436 *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates*


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 THE GOSPEL: JOHN 14:15-21
 

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*All stand.*

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

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

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

*Reader* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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 THE SERMON
 

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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.**

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

*King of Glory, King of Peace*

arr. K. Lee Scott

*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 has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has 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.**

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.*

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.*

*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

*The Celebrant blesses the people*

Go now and walk in the light of God's glory.

Love Christ and keep his word.

Do not let your hearts be troubled,

but lead others to the waters of life.

And may God's face shine on you with favour;

May Christ Jesus mark you out as his own;

And may the Holy Spirit lead you into all truth and peace. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 516 *Come down, O love divine*

## THE DISMISSAL

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

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

## THE POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune*

Frederick Swann

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## TODAY'S SERVERS

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

The Rev. Mark E. Waldo, Jr., *Associate Rector*

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

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

**Organist:** Joel Gregory

**Acolytes:** Parker Mantooth, Davis Schremser, Sam Snyder, Harlan White

**Altar Guild:** Ashley Hamlett

**Lector and Intercessor:** Rich Anderson, Mary-Nelms Parsons

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Callie Deitz, William Haynes, Dudley Perry

**Ushers/Greeters:** Rich Anderson, Jon Dailey, Mary-Nelms Parsons, Ashley Roseboro

**Flower Guild:** Caroline Lawson, Laura McLemore

**Flower Delivery Team:** Anne Hamner, Allison Prillaman

**Videographer:** Ken Kline

**Instrumentalists:** Robert Scott, *flute*; David Simpson, *bassoon*

**Altar Flowers are given in memory of:** Marion Barefield, Christine Dillard, Barbara Mainor, Betty Horne

**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, Florence Young

**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, 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.*

### **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 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!

### **Memorial Day 2026 "For Whom the Bell Tolls" Event**

Please join us at 11:45 a.m. on Memorial Day (May 25, 2026), at the bell tower for St. John's annual For Whom the Bell Tolls, a service healing and remembrance. We will gather at the bell tower and ring the bell for each fallen service member whose name has been submitted.

If you have already provided names, you do not need to resubmit them. If you have a new name, please submit the full name, highest rank achieved and the

associated conflict to [emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org](mailto:emily@stjohnsmontgomery.org) no later than May 18. The service member need not have died in combat or even while on active service. All who served and died are eligible to be on this list. A lunch of barbecue and catfish sandwiches will be offered in the parish hall afterwards.

### **Organ Concert May 31**

St John's is proud to host an Organ Concert May 31 at 4 p.m. by Los Angeles organist Aaron Shows. Please see the concert page at [www.stjohnsmontgomery.org](http://www.stjohnsmontgomery.org) for the program, links to his YouTube channel, and more about the program and this exciting artist.

### **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.



*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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