



# St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✝ DECATUR, ALABAMA  
www.stjohnsdecaturn.org

Office: 256-353-9615 ✝ Pastoral Emergency Line: 256-280-3792

## THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT | MARCH 23, 2025

### 8:00 AM | THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

*Please keep a reverent silence before the liturgy.*

*Prayers and liturgy can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal. Hymns listed with an "S" in front of the number can be found in the front of the hymnal in the Service Music section.*

Organ Prelude

Prelude on "Martyrdom" (Hymn 658)  
Franklin D. Ashdown

#### THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

BCP 323

The Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Trisagion, *sung three times*

**Hymn S102**

The Collect of the Day

The First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

The Psalm

Psalm 63:1-8

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

The Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

The Sermon

Mother DiCarlo-Watts

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

The Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Confession & Absolution

BCP 330

The Peace

BCP 332

Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

*card in pew*

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

Presentation Hymn

**Hymn 9, verses 4-6**

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer I

BCP 333

Sanctus

**Hymn S114**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 337

The Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP 339

The Blessing

BCP 339

Procession Hymn

**Hymn 344**

Dismissal

BCP 339

# 10:30 AM | THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

*Please keep a reverent silence before the liturgy.*

*Prayers and liturgy can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal. Hymns listed with an "S" in front of the number can be found in the front of the hymnal in the Service Music section.*

Organ Prelude	Prelude on "Martyrdom" (Hymn 658) Franklin D. Ashdown
Procession Hymn	<b>Hymn 372</b>
<b>THE WORD OF GOD</b>	
Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
The Collet for Purity	BCP 355
Trisagion, sung three times	<b>Hymn S102</b>
The Collect of the Day	
The First Lesson	Exodus 3:1-15
The Psalm	Psalm 63:1-8
The Second Lesson	1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Sequence Hymn	<b>Hymn 149</b>
The Gospel	Luke 13:1-9
The Sermon	Mother DiCarlo-Watts
The Nicene Creed	BCP 358
The Prayers of the People, Form II	BCP 385
Confession & Absolution	BCP 360
The Peace	BCP 360
Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Prayers	card in pew
<b>THE HOLY COMMUNION</b>	
The Offertory	
Presentation Hymn	<b>Hymn 9, verses 4-6</b>
The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A	BCP 361
Sanctus	<b>Hymn S124</b>
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP 364
Communion Hymn	<b>Hymn 332</b>
Communion Hymn	<b>Hymn 685</b>
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 365
The Prayer over the People	
Procession Hymn	<b>Hymn 344</b>
Dismissal	BCP 366

*All who have been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, regardless of denomination, are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church. If you would like information regarding baptism at St. John's, please speak to one of the clergy. For reasons of public health, if you desire to intinct, please allow the Eucharist Minister to dip your host in the wine and place it on your tongue. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, simply indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

# TODAY'S READINGS

## The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The First Reading: Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

## Psalm 63:1-8

Robert Knox Kennedy  
(b. 1945)



- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*  
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live \*  
and lift up my hands in your Name.

5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,  
6 When I remember you upon my bed, \*  
and meditate on you in the night watches.

7 For you have been my helper, \*  
and under the shadow of your wings I will  
rejoice.  
8 My soul clings to you; \*  
your right hand holds me fast.

### **The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

### **The Gospel: Luke 13:1-9**

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

## **SERVING TODAY**

<b>Ushers</b>	8:00 AM: Ann Stewart	10:30 AM: Sarah Reed Thompson, Victoria Tumbleson
<b>Lay Eucharistic Minister</b>	8:00 AM: Lisa Dye	10:30 AM: Grant Thompson
<b>Lectors</b>	8:00 AM: Jesse Sawyer	10:30 AM: Rachel Wiley
<b>Acolytes</b>	8:00 AM: Rebecca Self	10:30 AM: Kathy Landis, Leilani Fleischman, Leo Salerno
<b>Media Minister</b>	Patrick Lokken	<b>Flower ReArranger</b> Anne Ledbetter
<b>Vestry Person of the Day</b>	Lisa Dye, Ann Stewart	<b>Flower Deliverer</b> Nina Mae