



St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✝ DECATUR, ALABAMA
www.stjohnsdecaturn.org

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT | MARCH 8, 2026

8:00 AM | HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

Please keep a reverent silence before the liturgy and ensure all electronic devices are silenced.

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.

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation	BCP 323
Collect for Purity	BCP 323
The Collect of the Day	
The First Lesson	Exodus 17:1-7
The Psalm	Psalm 95
The Second Lesson	Romans 5:1-11
The Gospel	John 4:5-42
The Sermon	Father Ackerman
The Nicene Creed	BCP 326
The Prayers of the People	BCP 328
Confession & Absolution	BCP 330
The Peace	BCP 332
Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Prayers	<i>Inside Back Cover, BCP</i>

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory	
The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer 1	BCP 333
Sanctus	BCP 334
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP 337
The Fraction	BCP 337
The Prayer of Humble Access	BCP 337
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 339
The Blessing	BCP 339
Dismissal	BCP 339

10:30 AM | HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Please keep a reverent silence before the liturgy and ensure all electronic devices are silenced.

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

Priere

Jaques-Nicolas Lemmens

Processional Hymn

Hymnal 686

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

The Collect for Purity

BCP 355

Trisagion

Hymnal S100

The Collect of the Day

The First Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7

The Psalm

Psalm 95

The Second Lesson

Romans 5:1-11

Sequence Hymn & Dismissal to Children's Chapel

Hymnal 685

The Gospel

John 4:5-42

The Sermon

Father Ackerman

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

Inside Back Cover, BCP

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

Presentation Hymn

Hymnal 9 v 4-6

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

Sanctus

Hymnal S124

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S161

Communion Hymn 1

Hymnal 343

Communion Hymn 2

Hymnal 679

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

The Prayer over the People

Procession Hymn

Hymnal 690

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.

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Psalm 95

Psalm 95

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and
the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his
voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.

¹⁰ Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."

*¹¹ So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."

Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

John 4:5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him

must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

SERVING TODAY

Ushers	8:00 AM: Mike & Amy Faruqui	10:30 AM: Bingham Edwards, David Rice
Lectors	8:00 AM: Jerry Jacob	10:30 AM: Anne Ness
Lay Eucharistic Minister	8:00 AM: Sue Powell	
Acolytes	8:00 AM: Rebecca Self	10:30 AM: Ezra Lokken, Parker Tubb, Sadie Wilson
Media Ministry	Kevin Wilson	
Vestry Person of the Day	Victoria Tumbleson and Rob Getman	
Flower Rearranger	Dodie Hall	
Flower Deliverer	Nora Hall	

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Chase Ackerman, Rector chase@stjohnsdecaturn.org
The Rev. Sam Burcham, Deacon, Outreach & Family Ministries sam@stjohnsdecaturn.org
Vickie Reed, Financial Administrator vickie@stjohnsdecaturn.org
Mary Coe, Director of Communications mary@stjohnsdecaturn.org

Lauren Cantrell Choirmaster
Foster Bailey Organist
Julia Sanford Seminarian
Natalie Huber Children's Ministry Assistant
Callie Melick Nursery Attendant
Rebecca Bailey Nursery Attendant
Melba Middleton Food & Hospitality
Paul Montgomery Sexton

VESTRY

Class of 2026: Nora Hall, Sue Hennessy, Julie Leavitt (Senior Warden), Lyla Peebles, Kevin Wilson
Class of 2027: Bynum Kirby, Jackie Joiner, Ann Stewart (Junior Warden), Suzanne Thompson, Victoria Tumbleson
Class of 2028: Alex Adams, Rob Getman, Erika Huber, Luke Slaton, Emly White
Stuart Tubb Treasurer
Stan Evans Assistant Treasurer
Carol Sartain Clerk
Ken Schuppert Chancellor



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Monday - Thursday | 8:30 am - 4:30 pm | closed Friday
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