



# St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✦ DECATUR, ALABAMA  
www.stjohnsdecaturn.org

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

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | APRIL 26, 2026

### 8:00 AM | THE 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.*

Organ Prelude

Lift High the Cross  
Sydney Nicholson

#### THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

BCP 323

The Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Gloria in excelsis

**Hymn S204**

The Collect of the Day

The First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

The Psalm

Psalm 23

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:19-25

The Gospel

John 10:1-10

The Sermon

Deacon Burcham

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

The Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Confession & Absolution

BCP 330

The Peace

BCP 332

Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

*Inside Back Cover, BCP*

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

Presentation Hymn

**Hymn 380**

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer 1

BCP 333

Sanctus

**Hymn S114**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 337

Fraction Anthem

***God's Paschal Lamb is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore with joy we keep the Easter feast;  
forsaking sin, we share the bread of truth. Alleluia, Alleluia!***

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP 339

The Blessing

BCP 339

Procession Hymn

**Hymn 708**

Dismissal

BCP 339

# 10:30 AM | THE 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  
Lift High the Cross  
Sydney Nicholson  
**Hymn 182**

Processional Hymn

## THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation BCP 355  
The Collect for Purity BCP 355  
Gloria in excelsis **Hymn S280**  
The Collect of the Day  
The First Lesson Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm Psalm 23  
The Second Lesson 1 Peter 2:19-25  
Sequence Hymn & Children's Chapel Procession **Hymn 645**  
The Gospel John 10:1-10  
The Sermon Deacon Burcham  
The Nicene Creed BCP 358  
Prayers of the People Form III BCP 387  
Confession & Absolution BCP 360  
The Peace BCP 360  
Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Prayers *Inside Back Cover, BCP*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory  
Presentation Hymn **Hymn 380**  
The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361  
Sanctus **Hymn S125**  
The Lord's Prayer BCP 364  
The Breaking of the Bread BCP 364  
Fraction Anthem

***God's Paschal Lamb is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore with joy we keep the Easter feast;  
forsaking sin, we share the bread of truth. Alleluia, Alleluia!***

Communion Hymn 1 **Hymn 343**  
Communion Hymn 2 **Hymn 304**  
The Post Communion Prayer BCP 365  
The Blessing BCP 366  
Procession Hymn **Hymn 708**  
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

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## Psalm 23

Jerome Webster Meachen  
(b. 1930)

S415



- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for  
his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me; your rod and your  
staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the  
presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil, and  
my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow  
me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of  
the LORD for ever.

## 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## **John 10:1-10**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

## **SERVING TODAY**

<b>Ushers</b>	8:00 AM: Harry Moore	10:30 AM: David Rice, Steven Tumbleson
<b>Lectors</b>	8:00 AM: Lisa Dye	10:30 AM: Anne Ness
<b>Lay Eucharistic Ministers</b>	8:00 AM: Lisa Dye	10:30 AM: Erika Huber
<b>Acolytes</b>	8:00 AM: Rebecca Self	10:30 AM: Jack Hughes
<b>Media Ministry</b>	Kevin Wilson	
<b>Vestry Person of the Day</b>	Nora Hall	
<b>Flower Rearranger</b>	Nina Mae Blackburn	
<b>Flower Deliverer</b>	Nina Mae Blackburn	