



# St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✦ DECATUR, ALABAMA  
www.stjohnsdecaturn.org

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

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | MAY 3, 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

Jesus Christ is Risen Today  
Lyra Davidica

#### 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 7:55-60

The Psalm

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

The Gospel

John 14:1-14

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

*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 213**

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	Jesus Christ is Risen Today Lyra Davidica
Processional Hymn	<b>Hymn 1</b>
<b>THE WORD OF GOD</b>	
Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
The Collect for Purity	BCP 355
Gloria in excelsis	<b>Hymn S280</b>
The Collect of the Day	
The First Lesson	Acts 7:55-60
Psalm	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
The Second Lesson	1 Peter 2:2-10
Sequence Hymn & Children's Chapel Procession	<b>Hymn 51</b>
The Gospel	John 14:1-14
The Sermon	Father Ackerman
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	<i>Inside Back Cover, BCP</i>

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory	
Presentation Hymn	<b>Hymn 380</b>
The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A	BCP 361
Sanctus	<b>Hymn S125</b>
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	<b>Hymn 487</b>
Communion Hymn 2	<b>Hymn 455</b>
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 365
The Blessing	BCP 366
Procession Hymn	<b>Hymn 213</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, 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.*

## Acts 7:55-60

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.

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

Jerome Webster Meachen  
(b. 1930)

S415



<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 loving-kindness save me.

## 1 Peter 2:2-10

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.

### **John 14:1-14**

Jesus said, "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."

## **SERVING TODAY**

<b>Ushers</b>	8:00 AM Mike and Amy Faruqui	10:30 AM: Sara Reed Thompson, Ann Stewart
<b>Lectors</b>	8:00 AM: Linda Miller	10:30 AM: Lauren Riddell
<b>Lay Eucharistic Ministers</b>	8:00 AM: Hagler Wiley	10:30 AM: Bynum Kirby
<b>Acolytes</b>	8:00 AM: Rebecca Self	10:30 AM: Freida Pressnell, Leland Pressnell, Anne Hatcher Thompson
<b>Media Ministry</b>	Patrick Lokken	
<b>Vestry Person of the Day</b>	Nora Hall	
<b>Flower Rearranger</b>	Julia Chenault	
<b>Flower Deliverers</b>	Mike and Amy Faruqui	