



St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✝ DECATUR, ALABAMA
www.stjohnsdecatur.org

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

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | MAY 10, 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

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

Arr. Hustad

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 17:22-31

The Psalm

Psalms 66:7-18

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 3:13-22

The Gospel

John 14:15-21

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 492

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	Toccata in D Minor, J.S. Bach Jonathan Ackerman
Processional Hymn	Hymn 191
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 17:22-31
Psalm	Psalm 66:7-18
The Second Lesson	1 Peter 3:13-22
Sequence Hymn & Children's Chapel Procession	Hymn 405
The Gospel	John 14:15-21
The Homily	Elias Lokken, Class of 2026
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	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 516 "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring", J. S Bach Jake Wilder
Communion Hymn 2	Hymn 593
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 365
The Blessing	BCP 366
Procession Hymn	Hymn 492
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, 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.*

Acts 17:22-31

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."

Psalm 66:7-18

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)

S415



⁷ Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
⁸ Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
⁹ For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
¹⁰ You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
¹¹ You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of
refreshment.
¹² 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.

¹³ I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.
¹⁴ Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
¹⁵ I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.
¹⁶ If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;
¹⁷ But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
¹⁸ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my
prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me

1 Peter 3:13-22

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.

John 14:15-21

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."

SERVING TODAY

Ushers	8:00 AM Allen Sartain	10:30 AM: Leo Salerno, Anne Hatcher Thompson, Eliza Wilder
Lectors	8:00 AM: Lisa Dye	10:30 AM: Sara Reed Thompson, Jake Wilder
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	8:00 AM: Lisa Dye	10:30 AM: Sue Powell
Acolytes	8:00 AM: Rebecca Self	10:30 AM: Piper Nickels, Sully Nickels
10:30 AM, Offering	Frieda Pressnell, Leland Pressnell	
10:30 AM, Oblation Bearers	John David Calame, Gus Greenbaum	
Flower Deliverer	Ann Stewart	
Media Ministry	Ezra Lokken	
Vestry Person of the Day	Erika Huber	
Flower Rearrangers	Leo Salerno, Gus Greenbaum	