



St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✝ DECATUR, ALABAMA
www.stjohnsdecatour.org

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

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | JULY 12, 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

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Arr. Don Phillips

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation	BCP 323
The Collect for Purity	BCP 323
Hymn of Praise	Hymn 376
The Collect of the Day	
The First Lesson	Isaiah 55:10-13
The Psalm	Psalm 65:9-14
The Second Lesson	Romans 8:1-11
The Gospel	Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
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	
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	Hymn S163
The Post Communion Prayer	BCP 339
The Blessing	BCP 339
Procession Hymn	Hymn 530
Dismissal	BCP 493

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
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Arr. Don Phillips
Processional Hymn
Hymn 48

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation BCP 355
The Collect for Purity BCP 355
Hymn of Praise **Hymn 376**
The Collect of the Day
The First Lesson Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm Psalm 65:9-14
The Second Lesson Romans 8:1-11
Sequence Hymn & Children's Chapel Procession **Hymn 632**
The Gospel Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
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 *Inside Back Cover, BCP*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory
Presentation Hymn **Hymn 380**
The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361
Sanctus **Hymn S129**
The Lord's Prayer BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread BCP 364
Fraction Anthem **Hymn S163**
Communion Hymn 1 **Hymn 593**
Communion Hymn 2 **Hymn 679**
The Post Communion Prayer BCP 365
The Blessing BCP 366
Procession Hymn **Hymn 530**
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 Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Psalms 65:9-14

S415

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.

¹⁰ You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.

¹¹ You drench the furrows and smooth out
the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground
and bless its increase.

¹² You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹³ May the fields of the wilderness be rich
for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.

¹⁴ May the meadows cover themselves with
flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves
with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

continues

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" "Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

SERVING TODAY

Ushers	8:00 AM Harry Moore	10:30 AM: D Hall, Steven Price
Lectors	8:00 AM: Lisa Dye	10:30 AM: Rob Getman
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	8:00 AM: Brian White	10:30 AM: Sue Powell
Acolytes	8:00 AM: Rebecca Self	10:30 AM: Jack Hughes
Media Ministry	Kevin Wilson	
Flower Rearranger	Nina Mae Blackburn	
Flower Deliverer	Nina Mae Blackburn	
Vestry Person of the Day	Julie Leavitt	