



St. John's Episcopal Church

1623 Carmel Road * Charlotte, NC 28226

StJE.org * 704-366-3034

The First Sunday after the Epiphany The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ

(Year C)

10:15 a.m.

January 12, A.D. 2025

Welcome to worship! We pray that our time of worship will express praise and thanks to God for the gift of Christ, and help you live a more faithful and abundant life.

If you are a visitor, please know that we are delighted that you are here. We know that following the beautiful and ancient worship of the Episcopal Church is not always easy for those unfamiliar with the Anglican tradition. Please do not feel obligated to do anything but to enjoy the service reverently and expectantly.

We invite newcomers to fill out a visitor's card, found on the table in the back, and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of our ushers or clergy.

If you have young children, please know they are more than welcome at St. John's. Changing stations are available in the bathrooms. A nursery for children ages 3 and younger is available in Room 208 on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please see an usher to help you locate the nursery.

Please be advised that the 10:15 Sunday Service is live-streamed to St. John's web site, Facebook and YouTube accounts.

10:15 a.m.—Holy Baptism

The Word of God

Organ Voluntary

When Jesus went to Jordan's stream (Hymn 139)

Johann Pachelbel

Hymn 135

Songs of thankfulness and praise

Salzburg

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star to the sages from afar;
branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem;
anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana, wedding-guest, in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in power divine, changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill;
anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest on mountain height, shining in resplendent light,
where disciples filled with awe thy transfigured glory saw.
When from there thou leddest them steadfast to Jerusalem,
cross and Easter Day attest God in man made manifest.

—*Sts. 1–3, Christopher Wordsworth, +1885; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker, +1984.*

Acclamation and Versicles

Book of Common Prayer, Page 299

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant

There is one Body and one Spirit;

People

There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People

One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

Page 214

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray. Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as

Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

NRSV

Thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Psalm 29 *Afferte Domino*

Page 620

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you /gods, *
ascribe to the LORD glory and /strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his /Name; *
worship the LORD in the beauty of /holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of glory /thunders; *
the LORD is upon the mighty /waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a /powerful voice; *
the voice of the LORD is a voice of /splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the /cedar trees; *
the LORD breaks the cedars of /Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a /calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild /ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the LORD shakes the /wilderness; *
the LORD shakes the wilderness of /Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees /writhe *
and strips the forests /bare.
- +9 And in the temple of the /LORD *
all are crying, /"Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the /flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as King for ever/more.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his /people; *
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of /peace.



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

+*Second half of double chant*

New Testament Lesson: Acts of the Apostles 8:14-17

NRSV

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 121

Christ, when for us you were baptized

Caithness

**Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's Spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove and yet as urgent as a flame.**

**God called you his beloved Son, called you his servant true,
sent you his kingdom to proclaim, his holy will to do.**

**Straightway and steadfast until death you then obeyed his call
freely as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.**

**Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord, your cross on us be signed,
that, likewise in God's service we may perfect freedom find.**

—*F. Bland Tucker, +1984, revised.*

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The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

NRSV

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

. . . Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Peter M. Floyd

Hymn 294

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit (tune 8)

Bunessan

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King:
born of one Father, we are his children, joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

—*Michael Saward, +2015, altered.*

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Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

Emily Brooks Williams, daughter of Matthew & Sarah Williams,
granddaughter of Mark & Brooks Williams

The Celebrant says

Page 301

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents, and Godparents I present Emily Brooks Williams to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith
and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Question Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of
Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the child

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures
of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this child in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Celebrant Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Page 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread,
and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return
to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every
human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

Page 305

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for this child who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Page 306

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Page 307

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then pours water upon her, saying

Emily Brooks, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying

Emily Brooks, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant says Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized. *Celebrant and People*

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.** *(All gathered may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.)*

Birthday/Anniversary Prayer—**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as *they* celebrate(s) another year. Grant that *they* may continue to grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Carol of the Baptism

George Brandon

"I come," the great Redeemer cries, "to do thy will, O Lord!" At Jordan's stream, behold! he seals the sure prophetic word. "Thus it becomes us to fulfill all righteousness," he said. Then, faithful to the Lord's commands, through Jordan's flood was led. Hark, a glad voice! The Father speaks from heaven's exalted height: "This is my Son, my well-beloved, in whom I take delight." The Savior Jesus, well-beloved! His Name we will profess, like him desirous to fulfill God's will in righteousness. No more we'll count ourselves our own but his in bonds of love. Oh, may such bonds for ever draw our souls to things above!—Hymn 116. *Author unknown; from Christian Hymnbook, 1865, altered.*

Hymn 380, st. 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.—Thomas Ken

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A *The people stand.*

Page 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S-125

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a repeat sign at the end of the fifth staff.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

From *A Community Mass* by Richard Proulx.

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The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Page 364

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction anthem: Christ our Passover (David Hurd, Hymnal S-154)

Page 364

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

From *New Plain Song*, Copyright © 1981 by
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Invitation to Communion

All baptized Christians, including children, are invited to receive Communion. Please stand or kneel to receive Communion. The bread will be placed on your palm. Then you may arise or wait to receive the cup, grasping the base to guide it to your lips. If you want the minister to dip the wafer in the wine, please keep the bread in your hand, and s/he will dip the wafer and place it between your fingers or on your tongue. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. If you would like to receive gluten free bread, please tell the priest.

Communion Hymns

Hymn 76

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry

Winchester New

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.**

*—Charles Coffin, +1749; translated by Charles Winfred Douglas, +1944, after John
Chandler, +1876; altered.*

Hymn 370, sts. 1, 2, 6, 7

I bind unto myself today

St. Patrick's Breastplate

**I bind unto myself today the strong Name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same, the Three in One, and One in Three.**

**I bind this day to me for ever, by power of faith, Christ's Incarnation;
his baptism in the Jordan river; his death on cross for my salvation;
his bursting from the spiced tomb; his riding up the heavenly way;
his coming at the day of doom: I bind unto myself today.**

**Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.**

**I bind unto myself the Name, the strong Name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same, the Three in One, and One in Three.
Of whom all nature hath creation, eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
praise to the Lord of my salvation, salvation is of Christ the Lord.**

—*Attributed to St. Patrick, +466; translated by Cecil Frances Alexander, +1895. Public domain.*

Hymn 490

I want to walk as a child of the light

Houston

**I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

Refrain: **In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.**

Refrain

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

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Hymn 513

Like the murmur of the dove's song

Bridegroom

**Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might:
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**To the members of Christ's Body, to the branches of the Vine,
to the Church in faith assembled, to her midst as gift and sign:
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare:
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

—*Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944. Copyright ©1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-711238.*

Commissioning of Home Communion Visitors

When Communion is to be taken to homebound parishioners, Eucharistic ministers will be sent forth from our gathering with the consecrated bread using these words:

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Body and Blood of Christ.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, and one cup.**

Postcommunion Prayer

Page 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant may bless the people. . . . Amen.

Hymn 448

O Love, how deep, how broad, how high

Deus tuorum militum

**O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how passing thought and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake.**

**For us baptized, for us he bore his holy fast and hungered sore;
for us temptations sharp he knew; for us the tempter overthrew.**

**For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his daily works he wrought:
by words and signs and actions, thus still seeking not himself, but us.**

**For us to wicked men betrayed, scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
he bore the shameful cross and death; for us gave up his dying breath.**

**For us he rose from death again; for us he went on high to reign;
for us he sent his Spirit here to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.**

**All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad;
the Trinity whom we adore for ever and for evermore.**

—Latin, 15th century; translated by Benjamin Webb, +1885, altered. Public domain.

The Dismissal: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Now thank we all our God (Hymn 397)

Paul Manz

*The flowers at the Altar are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of **Bo Rochester**
by **his wife and children.***

Looking ahead to the Second Sunday after the Epiphany (Year C), January 19

Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, I Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

PARISH LIFE at St. John's

News and Announcements

Priceless!

Each Sunday Breakfast is offered 8:45-9:45 a.m. Christian Education for all ages is offered at 9:15 a.m.

Children (age 3 to first grade) are invited to meet in the Children's Chapel. **Explorers** (grades 1-5) meet in Room 208. Both groups meet at 10:10 a.m. and join the service in the church during the Peace each Sunday.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) meets tonight at 6:00 p.m. All in grades 6-12 are invited to attend.

Wednesday Night Supper!—Jan. 15. Menu: barbecued chicken sandwiches, soup, salad, dessert. Supper is served 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

The Way Forward Presents Forward Facts: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son—*John 3:16*. The Way Forward meets the third Wednesday of the month. Join us on Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 309.

Hagar's Basket – Pantry Day Saturday, Jan. 18, 8:00-11:00 a.m.; Prep Day, Thursday, Feb. 6, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Please continue to donate hygiene items like sanitary pads, cleaning supplies, shampoo, detergent, toilet paper, and \$\$\$. More volunteers are needed at tinyurl.com/pum7zk3f We served a record

245 families last month! Contact Erin Richardson for details.

The New Year is a great time to join a choir! St. Nicholas Training Choir, PK3-grade 2, Wednesdays, 4:30-5:00 p.m. Treble Youth RSCM Choir, treble voices grades 3-12, Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. St. John's Choir for SATB teens and adults meets Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Handbell choirs resume on Wednesday evenings as well. Contact Alan Reed in the church office for information about a choir for you or your child. Come join us!

Annual Meeting of the Parish, Sunday, January 26, 9:15 a.m. in the parish hall.

Lectio Divina Bible study meets via Zoom each Thursday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. The Zoom link is in the weekly announcements.

Let Us Pray - The Intercessory Prayer Team would love to pray for you! Fill out a prayer card from the church pews or e-mail jpdigcharlotte@gmail.com All requests are confidential. New team members are always welcome. Contact the e-mail for details.

Centering Prayer meets Mondays, 3:30 p.m. and Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

St. John's supports Nourish Up (formerly Loaves & Fishes) food pantry by serving three Thursdays each month, and by your kind donations of non-perishable food. Especially needed are cooking oil, flour, and dried and canned beans (not green beans). To help distribute the food, contact Louise Palmer at Louisepalme@gmail.com

Wednesday Night Book Club January 22, 6:00 p.m. in Room 315 will discuss *The One-in-a-Million Boy* by Monica Wood. All are welcome. Contact Matt Williams for details.

Lost and found is located near where you received your bulletin today.

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. For more information, or to request a Stephen Minister, contact Deacon Wendy Merrill.

The Good Samaritan Fund provides financial assistance to members of the St. John's family. To make a donation to help others, note "Good Samaritan Fund" on the memo line of a check to St. John's.

How to Receive Communion

To receive the bread alone.



To drink from the chalice, please help guide it to your lips.



To receive a blessing only (no bread or wine) or to decline the chalice.



For Intinction

Please leave the bread in your hands. The chalice bearer will take it from you dip it in the wine, and return it to you. Do not attempt to dip the bread in the chalice yourself.



To receive gluten free bread, just ask the priest.



Clerics

The Rev. Peter M. Floyd, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Brad Smith, Senior Associate Rector
The Rev. Wendy Merrill, Deacon

Musicians

Mr. Alan C. Reed, Organist and Choirmaster
Ms. Angela Swicegood, Assisting Organist
Ms. Tracy Reed, Assistant for Children's Choirs
Ms. Madeline Seconi, Soprano Section Leader
Mr. Greg McAbee, Master of the Choirs of Bell and Chime
Mr. Jamey Graves, Associate for Technology and Music

If you would like to contribute digitally to the general offering, just scan the QR code below with your smart phone.



You may also pay from our web site or mail a check to the church office.

Vestry

Fred Alexander, Brian Emigh, Mary Jane Gommel, Bill Grant, Kathleen Harrington, Grant Hawgood, John Horn, Suzy Johnson, Greg McAbee, Steve Nason, John Newton, Cindy Winslow



St. John's Episcopal Church

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