

SAINT JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

A Parish of the Anglican Church in North America

2401 College Ave., Fort Worth, Texas 76110

Telephone 817-927-5341

Parish Website—www.stjohnsfortworth.com

Facebook and Vimeo Live Stream Page—www.stjohnsfortworth.com

JESUS CHRIST – HEAD OF THE CHURCH

The Rev. Richard Moseley, SSC, Priest in Charge

The Rev. Randall Foster, Sunday Assistant

The Rev. Canon Dr. Robert W. Bosworth, Jr., SSC, Associate

Mr. Alan Potts, Organist/Choirmaster

Miss Amber N. Ahart, Parish Secretary

THE HOLY EUCHARIST – 8:00 AM

Traditional Rite

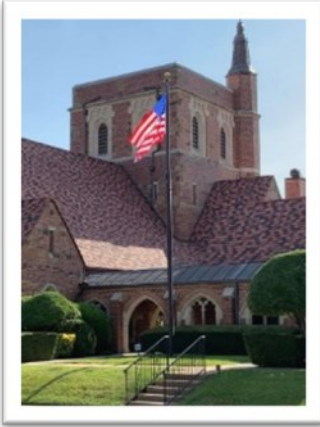


December 25, 2023

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Welcome from the Rector

Greetings on behalf of our vestry leadership and the people of St. John's.



St. John's is a community of faith formed and nurtured by its worship, love, and Christian service. St. John's Church was founded October 1924. Our current sanctuary was built in 1953.

We work hard to articulate the historic faith of Anglican Christianity and practice the liturgical customs and traditions of the historic Book of Common Prayer. St. John's is driven by a love for Jesus Christ, fidelity to Holy Scripture, to sacred Tradition where the historic faith was birthed and formed and to the continual pursuit of Truth guided by divine revelation.

We use the **Book of Common Prayer 2019 (Traditional Language Edition)** at 7:30 am Wednesday morning in the chapel (followed by breakfast at the Old Neighborhood Grill, 1617 Park Place Avenue), 6:00 pm

Saturday afternoon, 8:00 am and 11:15 am Sunday morning. On Sunday morning 9:00 am we use the **Book of Common Prayer 2019 (Contemporary Language Edition)**.

Our **Mission Statement** reads: *“With God's grace, St John's Church is seeking to be a welcoming community living the Christian faith, dedicated to the work of Jesus Christ, through reverent worship of Almighty God, exercising daily prayer, providing fellowship, Christian formation, and outreach, that by faithful stewardship we will take the message of Christ into the world through our daily lives.”*

St. John's is a Parish of the Anglican Communion, the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) and the Episcopal/Anglican Diocese of Fort Worth. Our Bishop is the Right Reverend Ryan S. Reed, SSC, D.D.

God bless you for being with us this morning.

Fr. Richard Moseley, Priest in Charge

anglican.moze@gmail.com

Gathering of the People

Please talk to God before Mass and to each other afterwards. The opportunity for people to prepare properly for worship by saying their prayers before the service begins is of the greatest importance.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Procession of the Cross and ministers and clergy. The People standing. When the Opening Hymn is complete the Celebrant begins the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born,

People: **Unto us a son is given.**

The Celebrant prays the Collect of Purity.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Then follows the Summary of the Law. The Celebrant says.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Celebrant says to the People.

The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant offers the following prayer.

Almighty God, who hast given us thine only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the same Spirit be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the hearing of God's Word.

The Lessons from Holy Scripture

First Reading – Isaiah 62:6-12 On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the LORD in remembrance, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth. The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: “I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink your wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in the courts of my sanctuary.” Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples. Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, “Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.” And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 97

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.

- 1 The LORD is King; let the earth be **glad**. *
Indeed, let the multitude of the isles be **glad**.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round a-**bout him**; *
righteousness and judgment are the foundation of his **throne**.
- 3 There goes a fire be-**fore him** *
and burns up his enemies on every **side**.
- 4 His lightnings gave light to the **world**; *
the earth saw it and was a-**fraid**.
- 5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the **LORD**, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole **earth**.
- 6 The heavens have declared his **righteousness**, *
and all the people have seen his **glory**.
- 7 Confounded be all those who worship carved images, and who delight in false **gods**; *
worship him, all you **gods**.
- 8 Zion heard of it and **rejoiced**, *
and the daughters of Judah were glad, because of your judgments, O **LORD**.
- 9 For you, LORD, are most high over all the **earth**; *
you are exalted far above all **gods**.

10 O you who love the LORD, see that you hate the thing which is **evil**; *
the LORD preserves the souls of his saints; he shall deliver them from the hand of
the un-**godly**.

11 A light has sprung up for the **righteous**, *
and joyful gladness for those who are true-**hearted**.

12 Rejoice in the LORD, you **righteous**, *
and give thanks at the remembrance of his **holiness**.

Glory be to the Father, and to the **Son**, and to the Holy **Spirit**:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever **shall be**, world without end. **A-men**.

New Testament – Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Reading of the Holy Gospel

All standing, the Priest reads the Gospel,

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to St. Luke.**

(2:15-20)

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon Please be seated.

The Nicene Creed

Please stand. The Celebrant introduces the Nicene Creed, saying

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

Celebrant and People

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
And his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. *Amen.***

The Prayers of the People

Please kneel. The person appointed says

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Silence

Almighty and everliving God, who by thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word and live in unity and godly love.

Reader: Lord, in thy mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

We beseech thee also so to lead the nations of the world into the way of righteousness; and so to direct and dispose the hearts of all their leaders, that thy people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, upholding integrity and truth, to the punishment of wickedness and vice and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

Reader: Lord, in thy mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Gracious Father, we thank Thee for those Thou have given to serve and protect us, especially those in public service, the police, fire fighters and first responders, and those in active service for our Country, that they may be prudent in all their actions and that Thou would bless and protect them in their work.

Reader: Lord, in thy mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and especially to thy servants *Foley*, our Archbishop, *Ryan*, our Bishop, and *Keith*, our Assisting Bishop, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present, that with meek heart and due reverence, we may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Reader: Lord, in thy mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Prosper, we pray thee, all those who proclaim the Gospel of thy kingdom among the nations, and strengthen us to fulfill thy great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that thou hast commanded.

Reader: Lord, in thy mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in thy mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

We remember before thee, O Lord, all thy servants who have departed this life in thy faith and fear, that thy will for them may be fulfilled, and we beseech thee to give us grace to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Apostle, and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Reader: Lord, in thy mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

The Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says the following.

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:**

**We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed
by thought, word, and deed against thy divine majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.**

**We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.**

**Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee
in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebrant stands and says the Absolution.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Announcements. Following the preparation of the Altar.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Liturgy of the Altar

The People standing. The Celebrant faces them and says.

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

The Celebrant continues

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Here the Celebrant prays the Proper Preface of the season. Then continues...

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name, evermore praising thee, and saying:

Celebrant and People

The Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Prayer of Consecration

The People kneel. The Celebrant continues.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his Holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and of thine almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify with thy Word and Holy Spirit these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, **“Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, **“Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”**

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant then says

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

Celebrant and People together pray

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then the Celebrant says

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant and People together may say

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord,

trusting in our own righteousness,

but in thy manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up

the crumbs under thy Table.

but thou art the same Lord

whose property is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,

so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,

and to drink his blood,

that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,

and our souls washed through his most precious blood,

and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

The Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
grant us thy peace.

Facing the People, the Celebrant says.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in this sacrament with faith and thanksgiving. Amen

The clergy and lay servers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately administer the Blessed Sacrament to the People.

The Post Communion Prayer and Blessing

After Communion and the Altar is cleared, the Celebrant says.

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People together pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us,
in these holy mysteries,
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and dost assure us, thereby, of thy favor
and goodness towards us;
and that we are very members incorporate in
the mystical body of thy Son,
the blessed company of all faithful people;
and are also heirs, through hope,
of thy everlasting kingdom.
And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father,
so to assist us with thy grace,
that we may continue in that holy fellowship,**

**and do all such good works that thou hast prepared
for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

The Blessing

The Celebrant gives the blessing of God

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

The Dismissal of the People of God to service and prayer

After the Altar Candles have been extinguished the Priest dismisses the People.

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

The clergy and staff of Saint John's wish you and
your family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



**WHO'S SERVING THIS WEEK
(DECEMBER 24-25)**

Saturday 4:00 PM – Christmas Eve

ACOLYTES: Lucas Smith, Ben Leaseburg

CRUCIFER: David Leaseburg

ALTAR SERVERS: Chris Stevens, OPEN

PRAYERS: Kendall Smith

READER: Brianna Wilcox

USHERS: Marty Smith, Erik Leaseburg

Saturday 11:00 PM - Christmas Eve

ACOLYTES: Annaliese Merritt, Mallorie Merritt

CRUCIFER: OPEN

ALTAR SERVERS: OPEN, Jason Merritt

PRAYERS: Monty Muennink

READER: Mike Carmena

USHERS: Bob Hampton, Steve Sparks

VESTRY: Rebekah Craig, Rusty Wood

Sunday 10:00 AM - Christmas Day

ALTAR SERVER AND CHALICE: Clifford Bronson

READER: Andrew Martin

**WHO'S SERVING NEXT WEEK
(DECEMBER 31)**

Sunday 8:00 AM—St. John's Sunday

ALTAR SERVER & CHALICE: Clifford Bronson

Sunday 10:00 AM—St. John's Sunday

ACOLYTES: Kinsie Ditto, Gibson Wells

ALTAR SERVERS: Tiffany Gildner, Chris Stevens

PRAYERS: Tom Ward

READER: Dorian Johnson

USHERS: Mark Davis, Tom Leaverton

VESTRY: Patrick Wells, Jason Merritt

Sunday 10:15 AM

COFFEE HOUR: Donut Sunday

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH!

If you would like to see the schedule for future weeks, copies of the ROTA are available in the parish office.