

**ST. JOHN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

BCP-Book of Common Prayer

WLP -Wonder, Love and Praise

**The Holy Eucharist, Rite One**

**8:00 AM**

**The Word of God**

**Entrance Rite**

**BCP 323**

**The Collect of the Day**

**The Lessons** Exodus 32.7-14 (*Scripture found in 10:30 section*)

**Bible 77**

Psalm 51.1-11 *Miserere mei, Deus*

**BCP 656**

I Timothy 1.12-17

**Bible 1350**

Luke 15.1-10

**Bible 1222**

**The Sermon**

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 327**

**Prayers of the People, Form II**

**BCP 385**

**Confession of Sin**

**BCP 330**

**The Peace**

**The Holy Communion**

**Offertory**

**The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer II**

**BCP 340**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**BCP 337**

**The Communion**

**Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing**

**BCP 339**

**Hymn at the Procession**

Hymnal 439 What Wondrous Love

*Wondrous Love*

**Dismissal**

**Holy Eucharist, Rite Two**

**10:30 AM**

**The Word of God**

**Voluntary**

O Mensch, Bewein Dein Sünde Gross BWV 622

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

**At the Procession**

Hymnal 408 Sing Praise to God

*Mit Freuden zart*

**Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 299**

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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.

Celebrant     The Lord be with you.  
 People        And also with you.  
 Celebrant     Let us pray.

### The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson: Exodus 32.7-14

**Bible 77**

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The Word of the Lord / *Thanks be to God.*

### The Gradual: Psalm 51.1-11 *Miserere mei, Deus*

**BCP 656**

*The choir and congregation sing the psalm in unison.*

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- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your  
     loving-kindness; \*  
     in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
     and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
     and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
     and done what is evil in your sight.

- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
     and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
     a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
     and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
     wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

+|| Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.

10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.

## **The Epistle: I Timothy 1.12-17**

**Bible 1350**

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord / *Thanks be to God.*

## **At the Sequence**

Hymnal 423 Immortal, Invisible Thee (vs. 1-3 before the Gospel; vs. 4 after)

*St. Denio*

*Procession to Children's Chapel for 3K, 4K, and 5K. Children will return at the Peace.*

## **The Gospel: Luke 15.1-10**

**Bible 1222**

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.  
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **The Sermon**

## **Presentation and Examination of the Candidates**

**BCP 301**

*Celebrant* The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and Godparents* I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*Celebrant* 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.

*Celebrant* 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.

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

*Parents and Godparents* I renounce them.

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

*Parents and Godparents* I renounce them.

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

*Parents and Godparents* I renounce them.

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

*Parents and Godparents* I do.

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

*Parents and Godparents* I do.

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

*Parents and Godparents* I do.

*Celebrant* Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their 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**

*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 the 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.

### **The Prayers for the Candidates**

People Lord, hear our prayer.

### **Thanksgiving over the Water**

#### **The Baptism**

**Sloane Wallace Whitaker**

#### ***Jesus Loves Me***

### **The Welcome of 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**

### **The Holy Communion**

#### **At the Offertory**

Lord for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant

*Lord, for Thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives, to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk with a perfect heart before Thee now and evermore.*

#### **At the Presentation**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Lasst uns erfreuen*

### **The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B**

**BCP 367**

Hymnal S-128 Holy, holy, holy Lord—*Sanctus*

Mathias

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

**BCP 364**

Fraction Anthem: S-161 Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

Hurd

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

### **At the Communion**

Hymnal 684 O For a Closer Walk

*Caithness*

Hymnal 393 Praise Our Great and Gracious Lord  
Hymnal 439 What Wondrous Love  
Hymnal 671 Amazing Grace

*Maoz Zur  
Wondrous Love  
New Britain*

### **People's response to the sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors**

May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

### **Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing**

**BCP 365**

### **Hymn at the Procession**

Hymnal 448 O Love, How Deep

*Deus tuorum militum*

### **Dismissal**

### **Voluntary**

"Promenade" (Pictures at an Exhibition)

Modest Mussorgsky  
(1839-1881)

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### **Our Worship**

This Sunday's lessons present the good news that God loves sinners and seeks them out, an obvious Biblical truth that much of human behavior seems to deny. We much prefer systems of merit, respectability, and self-improvement to the recognition of our sin and need for God's grace and forgiveness. At the heart of the Gospel is the free gift of grace to those who need it, a gift given in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the baptism of Sloane Wallace Whitaker, daughter of Justin & Paige Whitaker.

### **Those leading worship at St. John's:**

8 AM EM: Rob Wilcox

10:30 AM EM 1: Bill Todd EM 2: Lauren McCauley

Acolytes: Claytor Lockhart, Tyler Turnipseed, Henry Koehler, Cannon Lovelace

Ushers: John Fralick, Mary Sherrer, Nick Sherrer, Michael Mancini

Greeters: Paul McCullough, Brink Hinson

Altar Guild: Margaret Axson, Betty Jones, Barbara Jones, Julian Horst, Margaret Woodrum

Altar Flowers: Mackie O'Keefe

### **Music Ministry**

*Love to sing? Come be a part of our Chancel Choir!*

No experience is necessary - just a willing heart and a love for music. We have fun, make beautiful music, and grow together in fellowship and musicianship. We rehearse Wednesdays 6 - 730 PM and sing for the 1030 AM Sunday service. Contact Amanda at [ahw@stjohnscolumbia.org](mailto:ahw@stjohnscolumbia.org) for more info. All are welcome!

St. John's Singers & Tilted Halos have rehearsals after the 10:30 service. Each week, we'll provide snacks prior to rehearsal, so students can refuel and recharge before we sing!

## News & Events

### Men of St. John's Social and Supper Sunday, September 21

Fellowship time begins at 6 PM; supper from *Home Team Barbecue* follows: pork bbq, gouda mac and cheese, and cucumber and tomato salad.

Bob Graham will speak after dinner. Bob has been a leader in ministry at St. John's and across Columbia. Please RSVP if you can to [sje@stjohnscolumbia.org](mailto:sje@stjohnscolumbia.org)  
Home of Sara and Charlie Sterne  
1410 Shady Lane, Columbia, SC 29206

### St. Teresa's Guild and Tweenagers Gathering

It's getting cooler and the leaves are turning, so it must be time for us to get together! Join us **Sunday, October 5** at 5 PM at 6371 Eastshore Rd, 29206, home of Mackie and Pat O'Keefe. Please bring an appetizer to share and your own beverage. Weather permitting, we will be in the backyard. If you know a new church member or someone who may be interested in our church, please invite her. St. Teresa's is a guild at St. John's for women who are in their 60s and 70s. We provide service to the church (hospitality, gardening, hosting receptions, flower guild, altar guild, etc.) We are an active group. Tweenagers is a complimentary group with a wider age range and we meet for fellowship and, occasionally, instruction.

## Weekly Formation

**Tuesday:** Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study at 7 AM. Good breakfast and fellowship accompany the study of the Scriptures in the Dining Room of the Barr Center.

**Tuesday and Thursday:** Yoga in the Multipurpose Room at 9:30 AM

**Wednesday:** Rector's Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 10:30 in the Parlor, studying the gospel according to John.

**Wednesday:** Holy Eucharist in the Chapel, located in Heyward Hall at 12 PM.

**Friday:** Men's Bible Study Fridays at 7:00 AM in the Parlor. For more info call Brandon 803-240-1760 or email [bctempleton1@aol.com](mailto:bctempleton1@aol.com)

[www.stjohnscolumbia.org](http://www.stjohnscolumbia.org)

## Sunday School & Adult Formation

### Sunday Adult Formation

#### At 9:00 Monthly

**Early Sunday School Class:** A delicious breakfast is included. Dining Room. **Next meeting Oct 12.**

#### At 9:30 Every Week

**Equipping the Saints** - Multipurpose Room, *Grace and Love in the Old Testament*. Led by the clergy and the Adult Formation committee, we are studying grace and love in the Old Testament. Our senior warden, Jason Lockhart, leads our discussion today.

**The Wired Word** - Parlor, The gospel and current events.

**Faith at Home** - Library, *Sacred Practices in Everyday Life*. Today will be led by Fletcher & Michelle Spigner.

### Children's Sunday School:

#### At 9:30 Every Week

Little Lambs (age 3-4): Room 129

K-2: Room 226

3-5: Room 215

Middle School: Room 221

High School: Room 222

Download the Fall Programming Booklet at:

<https://tinyurl.com/Fall2025SJE>

## Lunch & Learn: September

### Thursday, September 25 12 PM | Dining Room

Dr. Lawrence J. Eberlin, Jr. (Joe) is in his third year as principal at Dreher High School. This is his thirtieth year overall in education having served as an English teacher, a coach, and an administrator across three school districts in the Midlands. Dr. Eberlin is passionate about students having opportunities to learn through their interests. Dr. Eberlin holds three degrees from the University of South Carolina and his doctorate from Arkansas State University



Send your **RSVP** for lunch to [sje@stjohnscolumbia.org](mailto:sje@stjohnscolumbia.org) so we can make sure to save you a plate.



## Let us keep the Feast!

*a St. John's Story-Telling Potluck Lunch*

St. John's gathers for **Let Us Keep the Feast**, inspired by I Corinthians 5:8, *"Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."* We will celebrate the church's living tradition of Gospel ministry through a shared meal that reflects the diversity and generosity of the congregation.

The heart of the feast will feature recipes from St. John's cookbooks, representing the church's history and stories of God's faithfulness. Members are invited to prepare these dishes, share their stories, and bring additional offerings from their own family tradition. Whether hearty or dainty, spicy or plain, each contribution will help nourish the church for its mission in the world.

### Here are several ways that you can help us keep the Feast!

**-If you aren't a cook:** come and feast! There will be plenty. All are invited. No need to RSVP.

**-If you are a cook:** bring any kind of dish to share, especially one with a story behind it. Sign up below so we know what you are bringing.

**-We also need some people to bring some of the special dishes found at the link below.** These are from our church cookbooks, which connect us to the faithful, living tradition of Christian ministry at St. John's.

Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/keepthefeast2025>

Connect



Give



## Family Ministries

Join us TONIGHT for **EYC!**

Middle schoolers 5-6 PM | Dinner 6-6:30 PM

High schoolers 6:30-7:30 PM

We still need people to provide meals for us throughout the semester, so sign up in the Epistle!

No **Pre-YC** this Sunday, Sep 14. We'll be back on Sep 21.

**Happening #93** staff applications are now available!

10-12th graders who have attended a Happening weekend before are eligible to apply. Contact Alex with any questions. *\*Sign up in the Epistle\**

Middle schoolers are invited to attend the **Middle School Converge** retreat Oct 18-19 at St. Alban's in Lexington. You can register here to attend. This event is free for St. John's youth through the Jack Fleischer Memorial Fund! High schoolers are invited to serve on the Design Team for Middle School Converge.

*\*Sign ups in the Epistle!\**

Interested in teaching **Children's Chapel**? A training will be held in September for all adults interested in being a trained teacher for Children's Chapel. Sign up in the Epistle to be a CC teacher and receive more information for the upcoming training. In addition to leaders, we also need adult volunteers to serve as a "Peace Keeper" to help manage the children during the lesson as well as with the transition to and from the service. Sign up to be a Peace Keeper this semester: <https://tinyurl.com/SJEpeacekeeper>

### Communion Instruction for Children

The clergy and Alex Cheek will share the gift and practices of the Sacrament of Christ's presence with children and parents. Join us **Saturday, October 11** at 10 AM.

Contact Alex Cheek at: [adc@stjohnscolumbia.org](mailto:adc@stjohnscolumbia.org)

Christ's own forever!

*Those baptized today*



Sloane Wallace Whitaker

Daughter of Justin & Paige Whitaker