

ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

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 Acts 7.55-60 (*Scripture found in 10:30 section*)

Bible 1269

Psalm 31.1-5,15-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

BCP 622

I Peter 2.2-10

Bible 1375

John 14.1-14

Bible 1252

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 188 *Love's Redeeming Work is Done*

Savannah

Dismissal

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
10:30 AM

The Word of God

Voluntary

Adagio (from Fantaisie in C)

César Franck (1822-1890)

At the Procession

Hymnal 525 *The Church's One Foundation*

Aurelia

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

Song of Praise S-280 Gloria

Powell

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Acts 7.55-60

Bible 1269

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died. *The Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God.*

The Gradual: Psalm 31.1-5,15-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

BCP 622

The choir and congregation chant the psalm.

+



1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and
guide me.

4 Take me out of the net that they have
secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.

15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

+ 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.

The Epistle: I Peter 2.2-10

Bible 1375

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

At the Sequence

Hymnal 685 Rock of Ages

Toplady

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

The Gospel: John 14.1-14

Bible 1252

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People, Form II

BCP 358

BCP 385

The Welcome of Baptized Members

At the end of the welcome liturgy, the Celebrant says:

Let us welcome the new members of our church.

People We welcome you as members of the household of God; confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The People are asked to stand and the Peace then follows.

The Peace

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory

Peace I Leave With You

Pelz

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth give I unto you.

Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

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 A

BCP 361

Hymnal S-125 Holy, holy, holy Lord—*Sanctus*

Proulx

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

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

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest!

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

Fraction Anthem: S-154 *Agnus Dei*

Hurd

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

At the Communion

Hymnal 487 Come, My Way

The Call

Hymnal 51 We the Lord's People

Decatur Place

Hymnal 188 Love's Redeeming Work is Due

Savannah

Hymnal 318 Here, O My Lord

Nyack

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 473 Lift High the Cross

Crucifer

Dismissal

Voluntary

Basse et Dessus de Trompette

Louis Nicolas Clerambault (1676-1749)

Our Worship

In our reading from Acts this week, we hear the difficult story of Stephen—remembered as the first martyr of the church. But Luke is careful to show us that Stephen's death mirrors *Christ's* death. Even in his own death, Stephen proclaims forgiveness just like Christ. Not far away from this moment sat Saul—once a persecutor, then turned evangelist.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Those leading worship at St. John's:

8:00 AM EM: Bill Robinson

10:30 EM 1: Angela Daniels EM 2: Lauren McCauley

Greeters: Holly Godwin, Ashley Jaillette

Ushers: Billy Koehler, Bob Reynolds, Matt McCloghry

Altar Guild: Georgianna Wheeler, Cathy Bourne, Lynda

Lovelace, Sallie Reynolds, Elizabeth Powers, Elaine

Strong

Altar Flowers: Maartha Smith, Mary Wallace Coleman

Children's Chapel: Alex Cheek

Children's Chapel:

Every Sunday during the 10:30 AM worship service, children in 3k, 4k, and 5k, or children not quite ready to fully participate in the service are welcome to join us.

Open to members & visitors! If it is your first time sending your child to Children's Chapel, please attend with them so our teachers can meet you.

Newcomer Season

A St. John's Newcomers Gathering:

Today at 5 PM at the Beasleys (4842 Landrum Dr., Columbia, SC) If you feel new, you are invited! Children welcome; heavy appetizers.

The Welcome of Baptized Members

Today during the 10:30 service, we will have an opportunity to join the church by recording your baptism and to be welcomed by the congregation. Please let Fr. Beasley know of your interest; nmb@stjohnscolumbia.org

Inquirers Class: Join us this morning as we conclude our exploration of Christian faith, Episcopal worship, history, and the life of St. John's. Nursery and Sunday School are offered at the same time. Final class today at 9:30 in Room 9



Kids at 3K – 5th grade

June 8 – 11
9 AM – 12 PM



We will learn to be menders in God's world, and learn simple ways to live out faith in daily life.

Register:
<https://tinyurl.com/VBS2026sje>

Family Ministries

Join us for **EYC** this Sunday, May 3.
Middle school 5-6 PM | Dinner 6-6:30 | High School 6:30-7:30

No EYC on Sunday, May 10. We will have our end of year **EYC Party** on Sunday, May 17 from 5-6:30 - location TBD.

Join us for our last **Pre-YC** this Sunday, May 3. Meet Alex and Sophie on the playground!

Middle and high school youth are invited to join us on Wednesday, July 1 for a day trip to **Carowinds!** Sign up in the Epistle.



Looking to do some summer mission work?
The **Homeworks Mission** week in Edisto is back! High school youth are invited to be part of this mission week from July 19-24. Registration is now open, link in the Epistle and on Facebook!

News & Events



Lunch & Learn: May 11 at 12 Noon

Guest: Jerry Allen

"Artificial Intelligence: What it is and isn't"

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is all over the news, taking entry level jobs, creating uncertainty about digital security, and becoming part of conversations about war and technological arms control. It will also plan a great trip for you, suggest excellent recipes, and give you advice for your relationships. Jerry worked at the University of South Carolina for 40 years as a Mainframe Systems Programmer. He is currently retired and teaches technology and AI courses to seniors at Shepherd's Center of Columbia and at The Lourie Center. RSVP to sje@stjohnscolumbia.org

ShelbyNext: St. John's Membership App

Before summer hits, make sure you have the app downloaded to your mobile device so you can stay connected! This is the place to find our church calendar and online directory. From the app you can update your personal profile (clergy & staff need this to contact you) and review your giving history. Contact Megan Griffin in the parish office at msg@stjohncolumbia.org with questions or to get your log-in credentials.

Weekly at St. John's

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. We are studying Galatians.

Wednesday: Holy Eucharist in the Chapel, 12 Noon.

Wednesday: Women's Bible Study of Ephesians, 6:30-8 PM, in the Parlor.

Friday: Men's Bible Study Fridays at 7:00 AM in the Parlor. No prep required - just come as you are and join our discussion of Ephesians!

Prayer List

Recently Died: David Richardson, cousin of Barbara Jones, died on April 30

Those to be Baptized: Lillian-Grace Thomas, daughter of Rachel & Joseph Thomas; Benton Peterson, son of Sara & Stuart Peterson

Those to Be Married: Kate Thomas and Michael O'Keefe, Allison Nagy and Porter Burkett

For Military Service Personnel: Matthew Simmons, Byron Davison, Salters Kneece, Rivers Chadwick, Ryan Sheard, Jay Drake

St. John's Church Members: Mackie All, Pat Arnold, Bill Barksdale, Jr., Jerryana Birch-Biblioni, Jackie Boylston, Abby Bray, Catherine Collins, Janice Fort, Burton Fowles, Jr., Steve Hardin, Miriam Hedgepath, Leigh Jones, Alice King, Jim Knight, Shirley Knight, Larry Long, Joyce Mann, Bruce Marshall, Linda Mittenzwei, John Montgomery, George Reid, Tommy Shealy, Annette Shuler, Sid Smith, Jack Sterne, Mollie Sullivan, Kelli Turnipseed, Tyler Turnipseed

Friends and Family of Church Members: Jose Arnaldo Bibiloni, Joanna Beresford, Patsy Blocker, Ann Bowman, Georgia Brenneke, Jim Camp, Kay Canipe, Carol Clarkson, Amy Crook, Ginnie Daguise, Brantley Daniel, Judy Dent, Brian Dressler, Maxine Floyd, Melinda "Rosa" Franks, Douglas Frels, Lettie Fuller, Tawney Gavin, Mark Grey, Mia Guinn, Sonya Hancock, Kristi Helmlly, Oliver Higinbotham, Noah Higinbotham, Al Hipp, Miller Ingram, Frances Jaillette, Sharon James-Hilyer, Christi Jolley, Pat Keane, Kevin Keeney, Kate Lichty, Lori Lesieur, Jennifer Martin, John McKie, Katherine Mundy, Charlie Pate, Carol Preslar, Colleen Pruitt, Earl Ridout & family, Beaumont Riley, Mark Riley, Jackie Schell, Pearl Sims, Courtney Smith, Linda Sparks, Jason Sutton, Eleanor Taylor, Jerry Trotter, Vera W. Tucker, Barbara Turner, Brooks Wheeler

Sunday Formation

9:30 AM

Equipping the Saints: Easter in Emmaus

Multipurpose Room, lower level of Heyward Hall.

Luke is really at his storytelling best with Emmaus. Because of that, Emmaus has lent itself to plenty of interpretations, beautiful sermons, and terrific works of art. The goal is to explore the story of Emmaus from a number of different perspectives and media, working toward some thought about the Eucharist and Easter together. This week's discussion will be led by Fr. Ayers.

The Wired Word - *Parlor, First Floor.* Discussion-oriented, this class works off lessons emailed to participants in advance, that provoke reflection on Scripture, current events, and our common life.

Faith at Home - *Library, First Floor.* Children in Holy Scripture We'll consider the Bible's wisdom related to children and childhood in this series that runs from January until May. This week will be led by Sarah Meacham.

9:00 AM

Early Sunday School Class: Davis Bourne leads "*The Exodus Story*". Exodus is a central narrative of the Bible. It recounts the moment that God reclaims Israel as His people, rescues them from slavery in Egypt, and establishes the Ten Commandments to guide their moral and religious freedom as an independent society. God displays His mercy to the Israelites as He continues to provide for all of their needs despite their disobedience and grumbings. Join us in learning about the nature of God's mercy, human freedom, and the relationship between the divine and man. A delicious breakfast is included. Meeting the first Sunday of each month in the Barr Center Dining Room. **Meeting this morning!**

Give



Connect



Subscribe



St. John's Clergy & Staff

Daniel P. Richards, Bishop of Upper South Carolina

Nicholas M. Beasley, Rector

Garrett Ayers, Associate Rector

Alex Barron, Priest Associate

Amanda Hines Wrona, Director of Music

English Morris, Organist

Alex Cheek, Director of Family Ministries

Laura Fowles, Parish Administrator

Rhonda Gardner, Financial Administrator

Megan Griffin, Administrative Assistant

Vestry 2026

Lauren McCauley, Senior Warden

laurensccauley@gmail.com

Ann Ruderman, Junior Warden

aruderman@sc.rr.com

Thomas Coleman

thomaskcoleman81@gmail.com

Paul McCullough

pmcculloughhomes@gmail.com

Lockey Plyler

lockey.plyler@gmail.com

Lynae Beresford

lynae.beresford@gmail.com

Holly Godwin

holly.harring@gmail.com

Brink Hinson

brinkhinson@gmail.com

Ashley Jaillette

ashleywjaillette@gmail.com

Smith Richardson

Riddick.smith@gmail.com

Fletcher Spigner

fletcher.spigner@gmail.com

George Gallagher

ggallagher@speed-seta.com

Sandy Leach

alexandrasandyleach@gmail.com

Courtenay Mims

Courtenay_mims@hotmail.com

Gordon Schell

gordoncschell@gmail.com

St. Cuthbert Youth Pilgrimage

Car Wash

Saturday Morning, May 9

Church Parking Lot

10AM - 12 PM

Save your dirty cars for
our youth pilgrims to wash!

Donations of cash, by check,
or giving in ShelbyNext greatly accepted.



Youth Sunday and Senior Sermons

Sunday, May 10

Seniors Claytor Lockhart, Adlyn Mustian, and Charlie Petroff will bring the Word in both services!

All our high school graduates will be honored.

Other youth will take roles in the 10:30 service and Selah will lead our music.

A reception follows on the patio

Come join us for

GRAVATT DAY

Camp Gravatt, near Aiken, SC

10:30 AM Outdoor Eucharist

11:15 AM Lunch

12 PM Activities

1:30 PM Ice Cream Sundae Bar

**Sunday
May 17**

Join us for worship, swimming, canoeing, paddle boarding, and fishing!
Don't forget your sunscreen and bug spray. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish for the meal. The church will provide chicken, mac & cheese, and tea.
Forms in the narthex, atrium, and weekly Epistle

Worship will also be offered at the usual times at St. John's

Pentecost Picnic

Sunday, May 24

Wear your red!

