



**THE  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**  
WELCOMES YOU

### The Clergy

The Rt. Hon. & Most Rev. Justin Welby  
*105th Archbishop of Canterbury*  
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry  
*27th Presiding Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan  
*11th Bishop of Alabama*  
The Rev. Dr. John Wells Warren, *Priest*

### The Vestry

Michael Harber, *Senior Warden*  
Jimmy Weldon, *Junior Warden and Vestry Member at Large*  
Mike Rallo, *Vestry Member*  
Jean Kerr, *Vestry Member*  
Maurice McCord, *Vestry Member*  
Kay Dickey, *Vestry Member*  
Michael Williams, *Vestry Member*  
Betty Weldon, *Treasurer*  
Elizabeth Harber, *Clerk of the Vestry*

**SINCE 1994**, the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany has lived out its mission and ministry to the Tallassee area as a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, the Episcopal Church USA, and the worldwide Anglican Communion. If you need a priest, call or text Father Wells at (334) 332-3222, or email him at [wellswarren@msn.com](mailto:wellswarren@msn.com)

### Serving This Week

Laura Williams and Barbara Trogdon, *Ushers/Stewards*  
Pam Van Eetten, *Altar Guild*  
Maurice McCord, *Lay Reader*  
Mike Harber, *Lay Eucharistic Minister*  
Esther Hart, *Pianist and Violinist*  
Lavonne Hart, *Refreshments*  
Mike Rallo and Jimmy Weldon, *Groundskeeping*  
Mike and Kay Dickey, *Bean & Rice Shoppers*

### In Our Prayers

We pray for our companion dioceses of Alaska and the Virgin Islands and their bishops Mark and Ambrose. We pray for those who are sick and recovering from illness or surgery, including Dolores, Michael, and Gary. We also pray for Braxton, Vincent, and Dezsely; for Jere, Doris, Allison, Jeffrey, Macy, Julie, Martha, Mary Southern, Troy, Peggy, Elizabeth, Letha, Marsha, Carly, and Norma.



### Vestry Meeting Today!

The next monthly meeting of Epiphany Church's Vestry is today, **September 17**, at 12:00 noon following worship and refreshments. Thanks for your service to our church!

## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY EST. 1994



2602 Gilmer Ave. Tallassee, Alabama 36078 (334) 252-8618

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*A Celebration of Holy Eucharist*

Ten-thirty on Sunday Morning  
The Seventeenth Day of September  
In the Year of Our Lord 2017

*We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.*

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## *A Celebration of Holy Eucharist*

*The People are invited to observe a time of quiet prayer. We are using the St. James service music which can be found on the Narthex table as you enter.*

### Gathering of the People

Prelude	
Words of Peace	
Processional <i>O Bless the Lord, My Soul</i>	<i>Hymn 411</i>
Acclamation	Page 355, BCP
Collect for Purity	
Glory to God <i>Gloria</i>	<i>St. James</i>
Salutation	Page 357, BCP
Collect of the Day	Scripture Sheet

### The Word of God

*We sit for the Lessons and the Psalm, and we stand for the Gospel.*

Old Testament <i>Exodus 14:19-31</i>	Scripture Sheet
Psalm 114 <i>In exitu Israel</i>	Scripture Sheet
Epistle <i>Romans 14:1-12</i>	Scripture Sheet
Sequence <i>Come Down, O Love Divine</i>	<i>Hymn 516</i>
Gospel <i>Matthew 18:21-35</i>	Scripture Sheet
The Sermon	Father Wells
Nicene Creed	Page 358, BCP
Prayers of the People, Form VI	Page 392, BCP
Confession of Sin	
Absolution	
The Peace	
Announcements	
Offertory	
Presentation <i>Phos hilaron</i>	<i>Hymn 26</i>

### Holy Communion

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

Eucharistic Prayer A	Page 361, BCP
Holy, Holy, Holy <i>Sanctus</i>	<i>St. James</i>
Consecration of the Elements	
Lord's Prayer	Page 364, BCP
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction <i>Jesus, Lamb of God</i>	<i>St. James</i>
Communion	
Post-Communion Prayer	Page 366, BCP
Blessing	
Recessional <i>Go Forth for God</i>	<i>Hymn 347</i>
Dismissal	
Postlude	



### *Counting Our Blessings.*

“My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed I have a goodly heritage,” said the Psalmist. He could have been describing the five acres of land belonging to the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in Tallassee. A beautiful church building of classic design (fully paid for), the columbarium on the hill, a small pond, Japanese Maple trees, a huge Sycamore towering over all: we are blessed by the foresight and wisdom of our founders who envisioned this good and pleasant land, and who worked tirelessly to purchase the property and build the church. Since 1994, the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany has been a place for the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, the breaking of the bread, and the prayers. The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they

went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

## DISCOVERING DISCIPLESHIP

*9:00 am in the Nave of the Church!*



Please join us each Sunday morning for the next few weeks for the series called, "Discovering Discipleship," a conversation about our true calling to follow Jesus.

Last Sunday morning was a wonderful beginning! We welcomed 25 people to the Nave. We had breakfast! (This week is coffee only.) Leigh Warren gave the introduction to Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, and we came to know what discipleship really means. Now we focus on the "Call to Discipleship." Don't miss it!

## LESSONS FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*September 17, 2017*

### 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.*

### Old Testament *Exodus 14:19-31*



The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into

dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand

over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

**Psalm 114** *In exitu Israel*

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
*the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,*

Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
*and Israel his dominion.*

The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
*Jordan turned and went back.*

The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
*and the little hills like young sheep.*

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
*O Jordan, that you turned back?*

You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
*you little hills like young sheep?*

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
*at the presence of the God of Jacob,*

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
*and flint-stone into a flowing spring.*

**Epistle** *Romans 14:1-12*

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

**Gospel** *Matthew 18:21-35*

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow