



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

Serving This Week

Jim Rand and Jimmy Weldon,
Ushers/Stewards
Lavonne Hart, *Altar Guild*
Esther Hart, *Pianist and Violinist*
Mike Harber, *Lay Reader and Lay Eucharistic Minister*
Elizabeth Harber, *Refreshments*

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 Dezsel; for Jere, Doris, Allison, Jeffrey, Macy, Julie, Martha, Robert, Troy, Peggy, Elizabeth, Letha, Marsha, and Carly.

Hurricane Relief for the US Virgin Islands

St. Dunstan's in Auburn has joined Epiphany Church in a partnership with St. Ursula's Episcopal Church on St. John's Island in the US Virgin Islands. Their church was badly damaged by Irma, and Marie all but finished the job.

Please write a check to Epiphany Church with HURRICANE RELIEF in the memo line. Betty will forward your contributions to Episcopal Relief & Development.

Many thanks to Hugh Thompson, our Parish Coordinator for Hurricane Relief.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY EST. 1994



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

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST *A Celebration of Holy Eucharist*

Ten-thirty on Sunday morning
The Twelfth Day of November
In the Year of Our Lord 2017

Joshua said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey."

TWENTY-THIRD 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>Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers</i>	Hymn 68
Acclamation	Page 355, BCP
Collect for Purity	
Glory to God <i>Gloria</i>	St. James
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>Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25</i>	Scripture Sheet
Psalm 78:1-7 <i>Attendite, popule</i>	Scripture Sheet
Epistle <i>1 Thessalonians 4:13-18</i>	Scripture Sheet
Sequence <i>Sleepers, Awake!</i> 61	Hymn
Gospel <i>Matthew 25:1-13</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>	Hymn 26

Holy Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Eucharistic Prayer A	Page 361,
BCP	
Holy, Holy, Holy <i>Sanctus</i>	St. James
Consecration of the Elements	
Lord's Prayer	Page 364,
BCP	
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction <i>Jesus, Lamb of God</i>	St. James
Communion	
Post-Communion Prayer	Page 366,
BCP	
Blessing	
Recessional <i>Lift Up Your Heads!</i> 436	Hymn
Dismissal	
Postlude	



Vestry Meeting Today

Do You Want to Serve?

The Episcopal Church USA is guided by Bishops and governed by Dioceses in Convention and Vestries in Session. So on a month-to-month basis, it is the Vestry that makes good decisions and takes right actions on behalf of the entire parish church. The priest is the leader in worship, but the priest also convenes and leads the meetings of the Vestry. Each member of the Vestry is elected by the baptized members of the parish, typically for a three-year term. Each Vestry member has a voice and a vote in all actions of the Vestry, and votes decide the course of action.

Each parish church elects a Senior Warden and a Junior Warden. These persons are "first among equals," meaning that they are called to special leadership.

Every new year, on Epiphany Sunday, our church holds an Annual Parish Meeting. We elect new Vestry members and hear reports from the wardens and the priest, the parish treasurer and the priest.

Do you want to serve on Epiphany's Vestry beginning in 2018? Ask a current member to nominate you. You must be (a) faithful in attendance; (b) baptized; and (c) a regular contributor.

Gospel *Matthew 25:1-13*

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Cameras for a Cause, Take Number Three!



Picture a fund raiser hosted by St. Dunstan's that (1) provides families and friends professional holiday photographs; (2) brings awareness to Hurricane Relief in the US Virgin Islands, and (3) raises \$1,700 to buy holiday care packages for the hungry and needy in

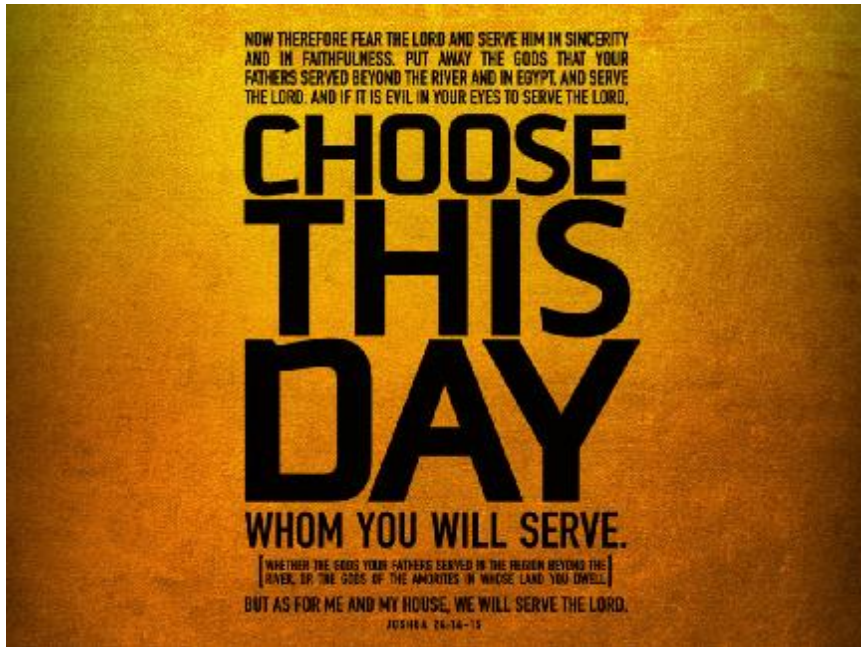
Elmore and Macon counties. Thanks to Leslie Parsons and Leigh Warren, to all the photographers and volunteers, and the families and friends who took part in a wonderful day that truly reflected the Spirit of Christmas! St. Dunstan's in Auburn is proud to be a part of Beans & Rice, an outreach program of The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany!

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 12, 2017

The Collect

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



Old Testament *Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. “Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did

those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.” But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the LORD!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Psalm 78:1-7 *Attendite, popule*

Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers
have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and
the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;

That the generations to come might know, and the children yet
unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments;

Epistle 1 *Thessalonians 4:13-18*

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.



Let's Support Beans & Rice
With Our Hands, Our Hearts, and Our Checks