



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday after
Pentecost**

**NOVEMBER 19, 2023
11:00 AM**

WELCOME!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today, either in person or virtually. You bless us with your presence whether you are a part of our congregation, a frequent visitor, or visiting St. John's for the first time. We hope you will join us again.

The mission of St. John's Episcopal Church is to be a community of God's people who heal brokenness, build bridges, and exemplify borderless kindness.

Masks are optional on the St. John's campus.

This service is broadcast online and recorded on YouTube, and congregants may occasionally appear in some camera angles. If you wish to avoid being on-camera, please ask an usher to be seated away from the cameras.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, Rite II

PRELUDE

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The congregation of St. John's Episcopal Church recognizes that we occupy the territorial home of the indigenous nations of Jumanos and Comanche, as well as their neighboring Coahuiltecan and Lipan Apache peoples who also inhabited this area of Texas. We acknowledge that their descendants continue to call this land their home. We repent for the legacy of colonization and harm caused by the forced removal and destruction of Indigenous people in which the Episcopal Church was complicit.

We are thankful for their example of being in sacred communion with the land and all its resources. We affirm that we have much to learn from them about being good stewards of God's creation, not only the natural resources of our land, but also our human family. We appeal to their wisdom to help us be the community of God that heals brokenness, builds bridges and exemplifies borderless kindness.

HYMN 616: "HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED"

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth;
Before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing;
To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest;
From age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blest:
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
His Name shall stand forever, his changeless Name of Love.

OPENING PRAYER:

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**
 Amen.

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.

HYMN S-280: "GLORIA IN EXCELSIS"

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

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

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The First Reading: Judges 4:1-7

A reading from Judges:

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 123

Chanted by the choir and the congregation

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes, ***
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, ***
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, ***
until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, ***
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, ***
and of the derision of the proud.

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A reading from Thessalonians:

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 433: "WE GATHER TOGETHER TO ASK THE LORD'S BLESSING"

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing:
Sing praises to his Name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning:
Thou, Lord,, wast on our side: all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender will be.
Let the congregation escape tribulation:
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON SEMINARIAN CRUZ TORRES RAZO

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

**Lord of the Church, empower by your spirit all your people and the work of your church in every land; give us grace to proclaim the gospel joyfully in word and deed. Lord in your mercy,
*Hear our prayer.***

Shepherd and Guardian of our souls, guide and enable all who lead and serve this community and those on whom we depend for our daily needs; grant that we may seek the peace and welfare of the people of this land. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Savior of the World, be present in all places of suffering, violence and pain and bring hope, even in the darkest night. Inspire us to continue your work of reconciliation, in our homes, our community, and in the world. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

God of Peace, you desire us to beat swords into plowshares so that we may live in peace; we pray for our President and all world leaders to recognize the value of all human life, regardless of race, ethnicity, religious affiliation, or the land upon which they dwell. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Holy Creator, we give thanks for the wisdom of the Indigenous peoples who came before us on this land, help us to follow their example of being good stewards of your creation. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

God of Justice, you created us to love and care for one another; open our eyes to recognize the systemic structures that cause injustice, racism, and pain. Give us strength to lift our voices to support and do what is necessary to become a Beloved Community. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Great Physician, stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness, and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of your healing love. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Conqueror of Death, remember, for good, those whom we love but see no longer. help us to live this day in the sure and certain hope of your eternal victory. Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Let us commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of God.

The clergy offers special intercessions for those listed on the prayer list.

A brief period of silence is provided for the congregation to offer their own petitions.

The following prayers may be said at this time:

Prayer for Growing the Congregation

Lord God, Help us to be a welcoming place for visitors and prospective members. Help us to grow and serve your people here and in our broader community. Grant us grace to be the church you mean for us to be. In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen.

For Strength and Confidence (BCP page 459)

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen***

For an Anniversary (BCP page 431)

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

For a Birthday (Prayer 50, BCP page 830)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Concluding Collect

Oh God, it is with your grace that we are able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may direct and rule our hearts in all things; through Jesus Christ, your son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Deacon or Priest says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM:
"THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD"**

--Traditional Spiritual

HYMN 380, VERSE 3: "THE DOXOLOGY"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

****Words of consecration...*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels
and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who
for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your
Name:

WLP 858: "SANCTUS"

-Buchanan

**Holy, holy, holy Lord.
Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

****Words of consecration...*

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

****Words of consecration...*

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

WLP 863: "GREAT AMEN" *(sung and repeated)*

—Maultsby

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

**FRACTION ANTHEM:
“BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE”**

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
As thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for thee, O living word!

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,
As thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall,
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died
for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

You are invited to come to the altar rail to receive the Holy Eucharist. You may receive the wine by intinction, or by sipping, or not receive wine at all. Receiving the Eucharist in one kind is full reception. If you need a gluten free wafer, please tell the minister. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

**DURING COMMUNION, HYMN 508:
“BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD”**

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly thine,
Till all this earthly part of me
Glow with the fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die;
But live with thee the perfect life
Of thine eternity.

**DURING COMMUNION, WLP 830:
“LAUDATE OMNES GENTES”**

Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum.
Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum!
(Repeat)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Priest may bless the people.

DISMISSAL

The Clergy dismisses the people

People **Thanks be to God.**

FINAL HYMN 708: "SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US"

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
Much we need thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us;
For our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

Early let us seek thy favor,
Early let us learn thy will;
Do thou, Lord, our only Savior,
With thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us: love us still.

*After the service, you are invited to enjoy
coffee and fellowship in the Narthex.*

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS

St. John's is interested in meeting the pastoral needs of our community. If you have prayer requests, please contact Sheri Rasmussen at sheri@austinstjohns.org. If you would like the Daughters of the King to include you in their prayer list, please contact Sandra Ward at 1redsand2@gmail.com.

If you find that your situation is causing financial, spiritual, or emotional difficulties, or if you are in need of food, do not hesitate to contact Mother Minerva 512-593-1778 or revminerva@austinstjohns.org or Deacon Victoria 512-297-5953 or deaconvic@austinstjohns.org

HEALING AND GUIDANCE:

David, China, Karen, Frank, Monty, and McCoy's family.

We also remember and pray for all our loved ones for whom the Daughters of the King are praying.

DECEASED: Kathy

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

POSADAS AND VIRGIN MARY PLANNING MEETING: Today after the 1:00 PM service. If you are interested in participating in these events please join us.

HARVEST SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE- On November 26, as part of our celebration of Harvest Sunday we are having a food drive. We invite you to share from your abundance with people who are experiencing food insecurity. Food and cash donations will go to El Buen Samaritano. Visit *The Bridge* for a list of goods you can donate.

ASK THE VESTRY SESSION- On Sunday, November 26 after each Sunday service we will be having a “Ask the Vestry” question and answer session. Some Vestry members will be available to take questions that folks may have and just haven’t had the opportunity to ask. This will be a very informal gathering, and this will also assist the Vestry members learn what folks in the congregation are thinking and/or wondering about.

VESTRY NOMINATION-

Want to serve St. John’s as a Vestry Member?

It is that time of year to invite members of our congregation to serve on the St. John’s Vestry Class 2024. The Nomination Committee invites members who are baptized, 16 years or older, have received holy communion at least three times during the preceding year and are communicant in good standing according to the Episcopal Church Canons. A communicant in good standing is someone who for the previous year has been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and has been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God.

There will be an orientation led by the Nominating Committee on Sunday, November 26 at 2:30 PM in person and on Monday, November 27 at noon via Zoom. You are highly encouraged to attend this orientation if you are interested in becoming part of St. John’s Vestry. Nominations will close on December 10. Please submit a picture, a short bio, and why you would like to serve on the vestry.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WORK DAY– There will be a work day on December 2 from 8:30 AM until Noon in preparation of the Christmas season. If you are interested in volunteering please join us. We will need strong people to help.

NEWCOMERS AND FIRST BAPTISM CLASS- On Sunday, December 3 at 2:30 PM new members and visitors are welcome to learn about St. John's and the Episcopal Church. This class is bilingual. We will talk about the history of St. John's, give a tour of the campus, and share what it is to be an Episcopalian. If you are interested in the Sacrament of Baptism please contact Maria Angie at parishadmin@austinstjohns.org

CHRISTIAN FORMATION- In Honor of Thanksgiving, our Christian Formation Team will be taking a break the week of Nov. 19. We will return the week of November 26.

EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Sunday, November 19

Twenty– Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:45 AM	Adult Christian Formation
11:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:00 AM	Farmshare Market
1:00 PM	Santa Eucaristía Rito II
2:15 PM	Posada+ Virgin Mary Planning Meeting

Monday, November 20

6:30 PM	Yoga in the Narthex
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Tuesday, November 21

1:00 PM	Adult Christian Formation Planning Meeting
7:00 PM	St. John’s Finance Committee– Narthex

Wednesday, November 22

Office Closed

Thursday, November 23

Office Closed

Friday, November 24

Office Closed

Sunday, November 26

Twenty– Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I
<i>Fellowship</i>	<i>Ask the Vestry Session</i>
9:45 AM	Adult Christian Formation
11:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II
<i>Fellowship</i>	<i>Ask the Vestry Session</i>
11:00 AM	Farmshare Market
1:00 PM	Santa Eucaristía Rito II
<i>Fellowship</i>	<i>Ask the Vestry Session</i>

Online worship services are conducted using the Zoom online meeting system and are recorded for replay on Facebook, on our web site, and on our YouTube channel.

St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Reverend Minerva Camarena Skeith, *Rector*
The Reverend Victoria Mason, *Deacon*
Mr. Cruz Torres, *Seminarian*
Ms. Maria Angie Hernandez, *Parish Administrator*
Mr. Philip Riley, *Choirmaster and Organist*
Mr. Alfonso Hernandez, *Spanish Music Leader*
Ms. Noreen McMahon, *Treasurer*

VESTRY

Ms. Maria Caballero, *Senior Warden*
Mr. Kevin Flegal, *Junior Warden*
Mr. Ian Jones, *Clerk*

<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>
Maria Caballero	Kevin Flegal	Carlos Lugo
Mary Anne O'Brien	Patricia Mata	Henry Welles
Sandra Ward		

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:30 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:45 AM	Adult Christian Formation—Church
11:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Rite II (in person and Zoom)
1:00 PM	Santa Eucaristía Rito Dos

**THE PARISH OFFICE HAS MOVED
to the Church Narthex.
Hours: Tue- Fri from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**



Donate to St. John's Episcopal Church
<http://www.austinstjohns.org/online-giving.html> or scan this image with your smart phone.

CONNECTING
COMMUNITIES

