

The Parish Paper

OF
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 51 No. 37

Trinity 9

August 9, 2020

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THIS SUNDAY FROM ST. JOHN'S

8 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION (IN-PERSON WORSHIP)

By reservation only. Visit StJohnsSav.org or call 912-232-1251.

9:30 A.M. – ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: ST LUKE'S GOSPEL

Will meet via Zoom with Fr. Dunbar.

Email mnelson@stjohnssav.org for connection information.

9:30 A.M. – YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Will meet via Zoom with David Svihel.

Email dsvihel@stjohnssav.org for connection information.

9:30 A.M. – CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

A short video lesson will be posted to St. John's Children's Facebook group at www.Facebook.com/groups/StJohnsSavChildren.

10:30 A.M. SERMON (LIVE-STREAM ON FACEBOOK)

11 A.M. – MORNING PRAYER

(IN-PERSON WORSHIP & LIVE-STREAM)

In-person worship by reservation only. Visit StJohnsSav.org or call 912-232-1251.

Available on St. John's Facebook page at

www.Facebook.com/StJohnsSav and YouTube.com channel.

Have your Prayer Book ready.

Additional resources will be in Friday's email.

Morning Prayer begins on page 6 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP).

Organ Voluntary: *Dedicace* (Op. 7, No.1).....Joseph Bonnet
Hymn #385 *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*.....Austria
The Lessons: Numbers 21:4-7, 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 and St. Luke 16:1 -9
The Collect.....BCP, p. 200
Offertory Voluntary: Prelude on "Straf mich nicht in deinem Zorn" E. F. Richter (Psalm 6)
Hymn *Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah*Cwm Rhondda
Closing Voluntary: *Fanfare* (Sinfonia)Dietrich Buxtehude

If you need help getting on Facebook, please call the Church office at (912) 232-1251.

THE SPIRIT IN THE PRAYER BOOK

There is a grain of truth in the criticism commonly levelled by the Eastern Orthodox at Western Christians that they neglect the person and work of the Holy Spirit. There is a tendency, of which the Prayer Book and the Articles of Religion are both examples, to give more attention to the Father and the Son than to the Spirit – and this despite (or perhaps because of) the Spirit's critical mission, as the means of our participation in the finished work of Christ for our redemption.

If this is a deficiency of the Prayer Book and Articles, it is a deficiency that has roots in the early Church. To give an example, the *Gloria in Excelsis* and *Te Deum Laudamus*, two ancient canticles retained in the Prayer Book, give almost all their attention to the Father and the Son, and make only brief mention of the Spirit, albeit as one who is co-equal with the Father and the Son. This pattern of reticence about the Spirit is also found in Scripture itself, in which there can be significant passages concerning the Father, the Son, and the Church, in which there is no mention of the Spirit's indispensable role (e.g. Matthew 11:25-30; John 17); and there are significant passages concerning the work and gifts of the Spirit, in which the Spirit is not mentioned (e.g. Romans 12:6-21). Paul always begins his letters with a greeting to his readers, wishing them "grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:2) - with no

mention of the Spirit. That's not to say that there are is in the spotlight (e.g. Acts 2, Romans 8, John 14, 16); but like the breath or wind (*spiritus*, gust) from which he takes his name, he is always present and indispensable, yet can often pass with little notice – a slight stirring of the air rather than a hurricane. The Spirit's self-effacing tendency is the result of his mission in the world. As Jesus tells his disciples at the last Supper, when the Spirit comes to them, "he shall glorify me:

WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S This Sunday, August 9th Trinity 9

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*
(In-person worship by reservation only.)

9:30 a.m. *All Ages Sunday School*
(Please note new time.)

10:30 a.m. *Sermon*
Live-stream on St. John's Facebook

11 a.m. *Morning Prayer*
In-person worship by reservation only
and on St. John's Facebook and YouTube

Mid-week Live-stream Services Wednesday, August 12th

9:50 a.m. *Litany* (p.54)
10:00 a.m. *Ante-Communion* (p. 67)

Saturday, August 15th
The Assumption of St. Mary
11:00 a.m. *Morning Prayer & Ante-Communion*

Next Sunday, August 16th
Tenth Sunday after Trinity
Service schedule to be announced Monday, August 10th by email.

THE PARISH PAPER
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ONE WEST MACON STREET
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

www.stjohnssav.org

To receive the Parish Paper by email (on Fridays), send name and email address to information@stjohnssav.org

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The Rev. Gavin G. Dunbar Rector
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President, Women of St. John's ... Mrs. Mary Soule (Stuart)
President, Chancel Society Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's Mr. Sean F. Finnegan

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STANDING NOTICES

The occasional Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony, Penance, Communion and Unction of the Sick, and the Office of Burial of the Dead are always available by appointment, at announced times, or as necessary. Please call the Church Office to notify the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital or hospice.

Services may be limited for now, but your Church ministry is not on hold. Please continue to support St. John's financially.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR
8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed
11 a.m. Mrs. James S. McClellan, Jr.

USHER CHAIR
Mr. Robert L. Sparks

CHANCEL SOCIETY
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr.
Mrs. Jayne G. Holland
Mrs. John R. Reiter
Mrs. H. Emerson Thomas, Jr.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ralph and Betsy Bowden by Mr. and Mrs. John C. Wyly, Jr.

And in loving memory of Dr. Albert J. Kelley, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Compton by the Compton family.

And in loving memory of Martha "Denny" Somoskey who died August 4, 2020 by Frank Somoskey.

The flowers at the baptismal font are given to the glory of God and on the occasion of the baptism of Davis Clayton Crouch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Moore Crouch on August 8, 2020.

SAVE THE DATE!

This year's Holly Days Bazaar will be Nov. 11 – 12th. More information will follow. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact co-chairs Catherine Cooper at cmcoop1954@yahoo.com or Betty Saylor Youles at betty_sayler@hotmail.com.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE MASKS

If you or anyone you know needs a face mask, please don't hesitate to contact Martha Sullivan at 912-663-6221 or msullivan73@comcast.net.

for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you" (John 16:14). If he is to enable our participation in the finished work of Christ for our redemption, it will be by awakening us to faith in Christ, not by drawing attention to himself. That's why, much of the witness of the Prayer Book and Articles to the Spirit lies below the surface. When they speak of the Scriptures, grace, the virtues, the church, the sacraments, they are always speaking of the work of the Spirit, even if he is not explicitly named. Yet the tip of the iceberg is not negligible. In the creeds and doxologies frequently repeated in the Prayer Book the person of the Holy Spirit is "worshipped and glorified" as God, equal with the Father and the Son. A heightened awareness of the Spirit's work is perhaps indicated in that fact that of the two dozen collects freshly composed by Cranmer, five of them advert explicitly to the Spirit (Christmas, Quinquagesima, Lent 1, Ascension 1, St. Barnabas). In the ancient Epistles and Gospels there is rich teaching on the Spirit (in gospels of John read around Pentecost, and in epistles of Paul read on several Sundays after Trinity).

Outside these elements, there is a pattern of the Spirit's being explicitly named in relation to the beginning of spiritual life, of which he is the Giver. The Prayer Book presents Baptism as the sacrament of regeneration by the Spirit, and as the beginning of life and growth of all things belonging to the Spirit. In Confirmation, it is the Spirit's strengthening of the regenerate that is sought, and their increase in him and in his manifold gifts of grace, until they come to the everlasting kingdom. The Christian life begun in Baptism is life begun, continued, and completed by the Spirit. That's an idea that finds an echo in the introductory Absolution at Morning and Evening

Prayer, which exhorts prayer for "true repentance and thy Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy". The Spirit is necessary for acceptable worship, a holy life, and future happiness. In the Order of Holy Communion the Spirit's role is highlighted at the outset in the Collect of Purity's petition for the cleansing of the thoughts of the heart by the Spirit, that we may perfectly love and worthily magnify God's Holy Name in accord with Christ's teaching in the Lord's Prayer – a kind of epiclesis on the entire service that is consummated in the closing *Gloria in Excelsis*. Though there are few other references to the person and work of the Spirit in the Lord's Supper, in accord with Spirit's special ministry to make us partakers in the benefits of Christ's finished work, in the Prayer of Consecration (1549 and 1928), there is an invocation of Word and Spirit upon the elements, that by them the faithful may be partakers of Christ's Body and Blood. (To be continued)

— GGD

CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to the family of Martha "Denny" Somoskey, member of St. John's who died August 4, 2020. Her funeral at St. John's will be held at a later date.

BAROQUE HARP CONCERT

If you are interested in attending or financially supporting Bach's Goldberg Variations on the Baroque Harp concert on **Thursday, Sept. 17th** in the church, please contact Steven Branyon at sbranyon@stjohnssav.org or by calling him at (912)232-1251.

For changes and updates, sign up for our weekly emails at StJohnsSav.org.