

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 45 No. 17

The Fourth Sunday in Lent (Refreshment Sunday)

March 30, 2014

WHY WORSHIP(PART II)

It is evident that man was made to worship God, and that in worshipping him we become fully human. But is this worship individual or corporate, inward or outward? In the Christian religion it must be *both*, for when Jesus was asked which was the great commandment of the Law, he answered with *two* commandments: the first and great commandment, to "love the Lord thy God with all thy heart"; and the second, like unto it, to "love thy neighbour as thyself". In other words, you can't love God with all your heart unless you love your neighbour as yourself - nor can you rightly love your neighbour unless you love God with all your heart. The Christian religion has a double axis - vertical to God, horizontal to man - and these two axes come together in the crucified Christ and his cruciform Church. Both axes, the vertical and horizontal, and their intersection in the cross, shape the worship of God also.

So worship means the inward offering of the heart to God: "my duty towards God is To believe in him, to fear him, and to love him with all my heart, and with all my mind, with all my soul, and with all my strength". Such inward and spiritual worship could be considered as something that exists purely in the individual, in his privacy, and among moderns it is often taken for granted that religion is what a man does with his solitude. This is, however, not a Biblical

view; faith without works is dead. It cannot remain purely inward and spiritual; it must become outward and visible, a shared act. The first work of faith is to confess Jesus as Lord and to call upon him in prayer - thus making audible to our neighbour what moves in our hearts. But faith does not stop there; the greatest confession of faith in the love of God we have received is to show the same to our neighbour. It is in the love we offer our neighbour that our love for God finds its expression - and what is the highest act of love? It is to bring the neighbour to the knowledge and love of God also.

So along with the "vertical" axis of an individual's faith, hope, and love of God, there is the "horizontal" axis, which is the believing community's shared, corporate worship of God. If the inward faith and love of the individual is the "soul" of worship, without which the outer forms are dead formalism, so the outward corporate forms are the "body" of worship, without which the soul is incomplete. As the Lord's Prayer teaches us, it is impossible to approach the Father of Jesus Christ alone; whether you mean to or not, you always approach him in the company of all other disciples, all other believers, all the faithful in Christ. He is *our* Father, and we pray him to give *us*, and forgive *us*,

THE PARISH PAPER

OF

St. John's Church

1 WEST MACON STREET

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

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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.

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

Please call the Church Office to inform the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital, as hospitals are reluctant to give out any information.

ST. JOHN'S WEB SITE

Parish Paper essays may be read on our web site: www.stjohnssav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mrs. Morgan W. Murray (Anne)

USHER CHAIRMEN

Mr. David C. Barrow III & Mr. George H. Barrow

The flowers at the altar on Sunday are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the marriage of Bibiana Robles and Benjamin Berger in Colombia, South America on January 25, 2014, by Dr. and Mrs. Clifford J. Berger and Elizabeth Berger.

And a permanent memorial to the glory of God in memory of Mrs. Eugenia Burroughs and Miss Cecil Burroughs by the Chancel Society.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr., Ms. Anne H. Mingleddorf
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy, Mrs. Jonathan D. Spague
Ms. Cameron Spencer, Mrs. John R. Reiter
Mrs. Holly S. Montford, Mrs. R. Bartley Turner

Daily Lenten Services

Mrs. David A. Young, Mrs. Neil H. Victor
Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague, Mrs. W. Howard Helmken
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy, Ms. Anne H. Mingleddorf

ACOLYTES

8:00 Lawson Turner
10:30 John Osborne
Mikel Kelly
Hunt Wasden, Henry Osborne
Jamie McClellan, Phillip Inglesby

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Brian D. Harlander

SUNDAY YOUTH & ADULT EDUCATION

- Fr. O'Brien: Upper School, Fellowship Hall
Dr. Bergstrom: Adult Catechism Reading Room
Mr. Jack Wray: The Seven Penitential Psalms. 3rd floor, back left classroom Cranmer Hall.

WEEKDAY STUDY GROUPS

- Monday Noon: Women's Study - Athanasius on the Incarnation, with Fr. Bergstrom
Tuesdays 7 a.m.: Breakfast, Offices of Instruction with Fr. O'Brien
Thursdays 7 a.m.: Men's Bible Study, on Samuel, Reading Room (Fr. Dunbar)
Thursdays 9:15 a.m.: Women's Study, on The Imitation of Christ, with Fr. O'Brien

MEN'S FORUM - Thursday at Noon

Good Food for Body and Soul

Topic To Be Announced

Guests welcome. Donation requested.
Food served 11:50, Talk runs 12:10-12:50.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

and lead *us*, and deliver *us*. Our access to the Father is as very members incorporate of Christ.

There is a strong sense of this already in the Old Testament's teaching of the covenant people of God. The individual Israelite has his access and communion with God not as an isolated individual but only in and through his participation in God's covenant with Israel, with all its obligations to his neighbour; and so worship is properly transacted by the assembly of Israel in the Temple. This idea is only deepened in the New Testament. It is as a member of Christ and of his body the Church that an individual has access to God. Our very individuality is not in isolation, but as members of the body.

In a variant of this image, St. Peter says, "as lively stones", Christians "are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ ... Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light". There is no true worship that does not seek outward and visible, shared and corporate expression. That is why the Eucharist - the Sacrament of the Body of Christ - is the central act of Christian worship. By receiving Christ in his body sacrificed for us we become his body and learn to offer ourselves in sacrifice through him. But it is not just the Eucharist: the same corporate sense is present in all the common prayers of the church, as when the ancient doxology *Te Deum* brings to our consciousness the company of church and saints and angels with

whom we worship - and brings them to our consciousness precisely so that we can see our destiny lies not in isolated selfish individualism but precisely in and through the body of Christ.

to be continued...

EASTER LILIES AND EASTER BRASS

To give a lily for the Church at Easter, send a check for \$35 payable to St. John's Chancel Society marked "Easter Lily".

To contribute to the cost of the Brass players on Easter, please send a check payable to St. John's Church marked "Easter brass".

Please indicate the intention of the gift (memorial, thanksgiving, etc.). *The list will be published the Sunday after Easter.*

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday to Friday

8:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Holy Communion with Morning or Evening Prayer

In addition, on Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*

Saturday

9:00 a.m. *Holy Communion.*

NEXT SUNDAY

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong

THE WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S

The Board will meet Monday, March 31st, General meeting on Wednesday, April 2nd after 10 a.m. service. Speaker: Dr. Robin Williams, chairman of the department of architectural history at SCAD, "A History of Savannah on the Cutting Edge."

THE SJMC GOLF TOURNAMENT

will be on Friday, May 16th at the Harbor Course at the Westin. Contact is Jules Victor, IV (912) 247.7282. Mark your calendars, and keep the date open!

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION—(*The Gloria in excelsis is omitted until Easter*)

COLLECTS, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL(.....130, 124
A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:00—12 Noon NURSERY (*Cranmer Hall*)

9:30 A.M. —ALL AGES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (*Cranmer Hall*)

10:30a.m. —Pre-school Worship—3 year olds and 4 year olds (*Cranmer Hall*)

10:30 A.M. —LITANY, SUNG EUCHARIST & ADDRESS

Litany *insert* or p 54
 HYMN #385 *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken* Austria

ANTE-COMMUNION

Collect for Purity Prayer Book, page 67
 The Summary of the Law 69
 KYRIE ELEISON #702 John Merbecke
 Collects 130, 124
 Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 3:1-22 *Moses called to deliver Israel from Egypt*
 Epistle: Galatians 4:21-5:1 *Jerusalem which is above is free* 130
 HYMN: #597 *Jerusalem the Golden* Ewing
 The Holy Gospel: John 6:1-14 *This is that prophet that should come into the world* 131
 The Nicene Creed..... 71
 HYMN #59 *Lord, Who Throughout these Forty Days* St. Flavian
 1st through 4th grade children enrolled in Jr. Choir will exit following the Cross.
 ADDRESS..... Fr. Bergstrom

OFFERTORY

Sentences & Anthem: *Sicut Cervus* Giovanni Palestrina
 Presentation of Alms #732 *All Things are Thine*
 Prayer for the State of the Church 74

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation, Confession and Absolution, *Sursum Corda* 75, 76
 SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS #704 John Merbecke
 Prayer of Consecration: Institution, Oblation, Invocation 80
 The Lord's Prayer and Prayer of Humble Access (*said with the congregation*) 82
 AGNUS DEI #706 John Merbecke
 HYMN: #195 *Father We Thank Thee* Rendez A Dieu
 MOTET: *Thou Knowest Lord* Henry Purcell
 Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*) 83
 The Blessing (*Kneeling*) 84
 HYMN #589 *O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be* O Quanta Qualia
 ORGAN: *St. Anne* Healey Willan

*Everyone is invited to attend the Coffee Hour in the Parish House immediately after the 10:30 service.
 If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.*

12 NOON—HOLY COMMUNION (CHURCH - AS 8 A.M.)