

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

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The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

July 27, 2014

THE ARTICLES OF RELIGION VII

The Spirit of Christ.

Cranmer's 1553 draft for the Articles of Religion passed directly from the resurrection, ascension, session, and second coming of Christ to the doctrine of the Scriptures, of grace, and of the church, without any intervening reference to the Spirit who was poured out on the Church at Pentecost. Cranmer's omission underlines the completeness of Christ's triumph: whatever the Spirit's coming at Pentecost does, it does not add to or supplement that triumph (which would be to undermine its all-sufficiency); whatever comes after Christ's Ascension is not an addition to Christ's finished work.

Still, there is something that must be said about the Spirit's person and work, and the Elizabethan revisers of 1571 filled the gap with Article V:

The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance, majesty, and glory, with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

This Article reaffirms what the first Article has already said of the Spirit's deity, and in the scriptural and credal language of "procession" (about which more later) it adds an account of that which distinguishes him from the other two persons of the Trinity. What is missing, however, is an account of the Spirit's mission in the world. We may infer it from the Article's position (between those about Christ and those about revelation, grace, and the church),

as the bridge between the victory accomplished in Christ's finished work, and its proclamation and application in the world. "When the Comforter is come" says Jesus to his disciples at the Last Supper, "whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me" (John 15:26). "He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you (John 16:14). "By these words" Calvin says, "he means that we receive the Spirit so that we may enjoy Christ's benefits... The Spirit bestows on us no other riches than those of Christ, that he may bring out his glory in all things". Calvin elaborates in the *Institutes*:

...as long as Christ remains outside of us, and we are separated from him, all that he has suffered and done for the salvation of the human race remains useless and of no value for us. Therefore, to share with us what he has received from the Father, he had to become ours and to dwell within us. ...all that he possesses is nothing to us until we grow into one body with him. It is true that we obtain this by faith, yet since we see that not all indiscriminately embrace that communion with Christ which is offered through the gospel, reason itself teaches us to climb higher and to examine into the secret energy of the Spirit, by which we come to enjoy Christ and all his benefits (III.1.1).

The benefits of Christ are shared with those who are made one body with him

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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.

ST. JOHN'S WEB SITE

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

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30a .m. Mr. John C. Helmken II

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. John D. Riley

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Francis E. Williams, Jr. and Mr. Mike Lowrance and Mr. Dean Lowrance by Mr. and Mrs. Roland B. Williams.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

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ACOLYTES

8:00
10:30 Chris Dixon
Charles Perrie, Hunt Wasden
Turner Stevens, Patrick Perrie
Philip Inglesby, Edwin Shepherd

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Graham P. Sadler

ADULT EDUCATION SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

St. John's Gospel Fr. Dunbar, Reading Room

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Thursday 7 a.m., Samuel, Fr. Dunbar, Reading Rm

HOLLY DAYS BAZAAR (11/12 & 13)

Volunteers Needed to join the Silent Auction Solicitation Team. This role will connect with parish members and the community to recruit items such as parties, art, wines, vacations, et. for the Silent Auction. It's a team effort! Not just for ladies, men are encouraged to join! For more details, call Holly Montford 912 897-6202.

Crafts: When it's hot outside, get crafty in the cold AC!! Needlepoint, crocheting, ornament creation, woodworking, wreath making, holiday centerpieces, smocking, jewelry repurposing, it's all a craft to us! Please create items for donations to the Holly Days Bazaar Crafts. Contact Mary Dawson with commitments 912 657-9099.

BAZAAR/RUMMAGE SALE STORAGE

Storage is available for donations to the Bazaar and Rummage Sale. For information on access to the storage unit, please call the church office.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

in the Church; this communion, offered through the gospel (in the ministry of Word and Sacrament), is embraced by means of faith; and faith is no autonomous human work, but a gift of the Holy Spirit: "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost" (1 Corinthians 12:1-3 cf. Ephesians 3:16). Without the interior witness of the Holy Spirit, man cannot respond adequately to the revelation of God in Christ. In Austin Farrer's image, the Spirit is the fifth column within the occupied city of the soul, drawing the bars of the gate to admit the liberating forces of Christ. Calvin sums it up thus: "the Holy Spirit is the bond by which Christ effectually unites us to himself". The Spirit does not add to the finished finality of Christ's triumph, precisely because his mission is to make us partakers of it.

It is in light of the Spirit's mission in time that we may consider the Spirit's procession in eternity. According to Scripture, the Son is *begotten* but the Spirit *proceeds* (John 15:26); but in line with the western church since Augustine, the Article affirms a *double* procession, not only from the Father but also from the Son (a doctrine referred to in the Latin credal phrase *filioque*, "and from the Son"). Hotly contested by eastern churches, the *filioque* involves difficult questions, yet cannot be dismissed. Scripture speaks of the Spirit as the Spirit of Christ as well as the Spirit of God. It testifies to the Spirit not only as the promise of the Father but also as the gift sent by the Son, and poured out upon by him upon the Church at Pentecost. If the Spirit receives his mission in time from the Father and the Son, is this not a sign that he has his divine being in eternal procession from the Father and the Son?

In our own time, there has been a

revival of interest in the Spirit which has sometimes come at the expense of the Spirit's witness to Christ, as if the Spirit were now guiding us into a new and superior revelation of God. New truth (it appears) is being made known to the church, which was not known to Jesus and the apostles, new truth which is imposed on the reluctant with an intolerant certainty worthy of the illuminati. The remodeling of liturgy, ministry and marriage is just the most obvious manifestation of this spirit, which is, one fears, a spirit of worldly conformity rather than the spirit that transforms us into the likeness of Christ. We do well to pray God to: "cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name...." GGD

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday to Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

In addition, on Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *Litany*
10 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*

Summer office hours through Labor Day
Monday Through Thursday; 9:00 to 4:30
Friday 9:00 to 12 noon

JANE'S CANNERS

meet Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the kitchen of Cranmer Hall to make jams, jellies, preserves and chutneys to be sold at the Bazaar. Donations of pears, apples, peaches, figs, squash, zucchini, onions, sugar, cinnamon, etc. are most welcome!

8:00 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECT, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL..... Prayer Book, p. 197

A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:30-12:00 (Noon)—Nursery (*Cranmer Hall*)

9:30-10:15 A.M.—ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (*Cranmer Hall*)

9:30 a.m. – Noon— Preschool-Kindergarten Summer Program

(*Cranmer Hall –activities for children during the 9:30 education and/or 10:30 service times*)

10:30 A.M. – SUNG EUCHARIST & ADDRESS

HYMN *And Can It Be (insert)*Sagina

ANTE-COMMUNION

Collect for Purity Prayer Book, page 67

The Summary of the Law 69

KYRIE ELEISON: #710 Healey Willan

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HYMN #344 *O Love, How Deep*..... Deus Tuorum Militum

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Address Fr. Dunbar

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AGNUS DEI # 712..... Healey Willan

HYMN #190 *Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured* Luise

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Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*) 83

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS #713..... Healey Willan

The Blessing (*Kneeling*)..... 84

HYMN #347 *Alleluia! sing to Jesus* [omit stanza 2]..... Hyfrydol

ORGAN: *Voluntary in C Major*..... S. S. Wesley

Everyone is invited to attend Coffee Hour in the Green Meldrim 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.