

# The Parish Paper

OF  
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 46 No.4

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 21, 2014

## PSALM PSINGERS

*The Psalm Psingers (Grades 2 to 5) will be singing at the 10:30 a.m. service, both in the procession and the final hymn. For the rest of the service they will be seated in the two pews below the lectern.*

## CHRISTMAS COMMUNION

The three principal feasts of the Church's year are Christmas, Easter, and Whitsunday; and for their souls' health, all baptized and communicant members are encouraged to receive - with repentance, faith, and charity - the Sacrament of Holy Communion on these days or as soon as possible afterwards. For Christmas these days are: Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, the feasts of St. Stephen, St. John, and Holy Innocents (the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday after Christmas), If unable to attend public worship by reason of health, please consult the clergy to make other arrangements.

### THE CULTIVATION OF CHRISTMAS TREES

There are several attitudes towards Christmas,  
Some of which we may disregard:

The social, the torpid, the patently  
commercial,

The rowdy (the pubs being open till  
midnight),

And the childish — which is not that of the  
child

For whom the candle is a star, and the  
gilded angel

Spreading its wings at the summit of the tree  
Is not only a decoration, but an angel.

The child wonders at the Christmas Tree:  
Let him continue in the spirit of wonder  
At the Feast as an event not accepted as a  
pretext;

So that the glittering rapture, the amazement  
Of the first-remembered Christmas Tree,  
So that the surprises, delight in new  
possessions

(Each one with its peculiar and exciting  
smell),

The expectation of the goose or turkey  
And the expected awe on its appearance,  
So that the reverence and the gaiety  
May not be forgotten in later experience,

In the bored habituation, the fatigue, the  
tedium,

The awareness of death, the  
consciousness of failure,  
Or in the piety of the convert

Which may be tainted with a self-conceit  
Displeasing to God and disrespectful to  
children

(And here I remember also with  
gratitude

St. Lucy, her carol, and her crown of fire):

So that before the end, the eightieth  
Christmas

(By "eightieth" meaning whichever is  
last)

The accumulated memories of annual  
emotion

May be concentrated into a great joy  
Which shall be also a great fear, as on  
the occasion

When fear came upon every soul:  
Because the beginning shall remind us  
of the end

And the first coming of the second  
coming.

-T. S. Eliot

*THE PARISH PAPER OF*  
**St. John's Church**

1 WEST MACON STREET  
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 Clerk of Vestry ..... *Mr. R. Scott Howard*  
 Treasurer ..... *Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford*  
 Chancellor ..... *M. Tyus Butler, Jr. Esq.*

The Vestry: *Esqs.*, M. Tyus Butler, Jr., John M. Hewson III, Joseph R. Ross, Jonathan D. Sprague, Drs. J. Davidson Carson, James S. McClellan, Jr., Roland S. Summers, Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr., Mrs. Richard C.E. Jennings, Mrs. Morgan W. Murray, Mrs. R. Bartley Turner, *Messrs.* Charles B. Compton, Jr., E. Brian Culver, John C. Helmken II, Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr., R. Scott Howard, William C. Rodgers, Paul D. Troxler, Floyd G. Whittington, Jr., Richard L. Wright.

*Vestry Emeriti:* Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr., Mr. James E. Hungerpillier, Roland B. Williams, Esq.

*President, Women of St. John's.* ..... *Mrs. Christian Arden-Joly*  
*President, Chancel Society.* ..... *Mrs. Roland S. Summers*  
*President, Men of St. John's.* ..... *Mr. Randolph H. Kulp II*

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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](http://www.stjohnssav.org)

**VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN**

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed  
 10:30 Dr. Roland S. Summers

**USHER CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Robert J. Merritt and  
 Mr. Robert J. Merritt, Jr.

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Sr., Mr. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr. and Mr. Roy E. Cook by Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Nadeau.

And in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Edwin C. Shepherd by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin C. Shepherd, Jr. and Edwin III.  
 and in celebration of William Reese Cooper on his birthday by Ms. Patti Cooper.

**CHANCEL SOCIETY**

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Ms. Jayne G. Holland  
 Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff, Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr.  
 Mts. Timothy E. Coy, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry, III  
 Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr.

**DAILY ADVENT SERVICES**

Mrs. David A. Young, Mir. Timothy E. Coy  
 Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague, Mrs. Wm. Howard Helmken III  
 Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff, Mrs. Neil H. Victor

**COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN**

The Women of St. John's  
*Special Coffee Hour*  
*with Myrtice Lewis' Eggnog*  
**ACOLYTES**

**8:00** volunteer  
**10:30** Mikel Kelly, Hunt Wasden  
 Hawkins Pindar, Edwin Shepherd  
 Philip Inglesby, Henry Osborne

**WREATHS, GARLANDS AND POINSETTIAS**

to give a Poinsettia, Wreath or Garland for the decoration of the Church, please send a check to the Church Office, made out to **St. John's Chancel Society**. Please include a note of how the memorial should read and by whom it is given.  
**Poinsettia--\$30, Wreath or Garland \$80.**

**YEAR'S END DONATIONS**

The office will close at 12 Noon on December 31st (New Year's Eve). Any gifts received after this time will appear on a 2015 Statement of Contributions.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

**CHRISTMAS AT  
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH**

**Wednesday, December 24:**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

8:15 A.M. Morning Prayer and  
Holy Communion

NEW TIME!

**5:00P.M.** Pageant Service  
11:00 P.M. Solemn Eucharist

**Thursday, December 25:**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

10:30 A.M. Sung Eucharist

**Friday, December 26:**

**ST. STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR**

8:15 A.M and 5:30 P.M. Morning or  
Evening Prayer and Holy Communion  
*Church Office Closed*

**Saturday, December 27:**

**ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST**

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion

**Sunday, December 28th**

**FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

8:00 A.M. Holy Communion

9:30 A.M. NO CLASSES

10:30 A.M. Sung Eucharist

12:00 (noon) Holy Communion

**Monday through Wednesday**

**No services**

**Thursday, January 1**

**THE CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST**

10:30 A.M. Holy Communion

*The Church Office is closed.*

**Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*Daily Prayers resume:*

Morning Prayer 8:15 A. M.

Evening Prayer 5:30 P. M.

**Sunday, January 4th:**

**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

8:00 a.m. & Noon: Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

5:30 P. M. Lessons and Carols

for Christmastide

Reception in the Green Meldrim House

**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST**

Where is this stupendous stranger?

Swains of Solyma, advise;

Lead me to my Master's manger,

Show me where my Saviour lies.

O Most Mighty! O Most Holy!  
Far beyond the seraph's thought,  
Art thou then so mean and lowly  
As unheeded prophets taught?

O the magnitude of meekness!  
Worth from worth immortal sprung;  
O the strength of infant weakness,  
If eternal is so young!

If so young and thus eternal,  
Michael tune the shepherd's reed,  
Where the scenes are ever vernal,  
And the loves be love indeed!

See the God blasphem'd and doubted  
In the schools of Greece and Rome;  
See the pow'rs of darkness routed,  
Taken at their utmost gloom.

Nature's decorations glisten  
Far above their usual trim;  
Birds on box and laurels listen,  
As so near the cherubs hymn.

Boreas now no longer winters  
On the desolated coast;  
Oaks no more are riv'n in splinters  
By the whirlwind and his host.

Spinks and ouzles sing sublimely,  
"We too have a Saviour born";  
Whiter blossoms burst untimely  
On the blest Mosaic thorn.

God all-bounteous, all-creative,  
Whom no ills from good dissuade,  
Is incarnate, and a native  
Of the very world he made.

CHRISTOPHER 'KIT' SMART  
(1722-1771)

**8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION**

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel..... Prayer Book, page 95 (90)  
*The Order of Service begins on page 67 of the Prayer Book*  
*A continental breakfast is available in the Cranmer Hall following service.*

**9:30 A.M. — 12 NOON NURSERY**(Cranmer Hall)

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

**10:30 A.M.—Pre-School—3 year olds through Pre-Kindergarten—Only**  
(Cranmer Hall)

**10:30 A.M.— A PROCESSION WITH  
ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS**

*Details of the service are found on a separate leaflet.*

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

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**12 NOON—HOLY COMMUNION (Chapel)**

Collects, Epistle, Gospel p. 95, 90.  
*The Order of Service begins on page 67 of the Prayer Book.*

**THIS SUNDAY AT 5:00 P.M. - *Trim the Tree***

All Youth of St. John's are invited to meet at 5:00 p.m. at the Green-Meldrim House for supper and tree trimming, with carol-singing around the piano. Pick up will be 7:00 p.m. from the Green Meldrim House. Please RSVP to Mrs. Holden Hayes. [chayes@stjohnssav.org](mailto:chayes@stjohnssav.org) or the Church Office 232-1251.

**WHITE GOODS CHRISTMAS COLLECTION**

Join us in making it a WHITE Christmas at the Old Savannah City Mission. From Christmas Eve through Epiphany Sunday, January 11th, the Women and Sunday Schools of St. John's will be collecting white twin sheets, white towels, and bleach. There will be a basket in the back on the Church on Christmas Eve and then in Cranmer Hall Foyer until Epiphany. "Ye who now shall bless the poor/shall yourselves find blessing".