

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 48 No. 8

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 15, 2017

UPCOMING AT ST. JOHN'S

◆ HOLIDAY CLOSING ◆

The Church Office is closed Monday, January 16th, in observance of the national holiday. There will be no daily services.

◆ WORSHIP ◆

Tuesday to Friday

*Morning and Evening Prayer
With Holy Communion
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.*

In addition, on Wednesday

CONFESSION OF SAINT PETER

*9:45 a.m. Litany 10:00 a.m. Eucharist
5:30 p.m. Holy Communion
with Evening Prayer*

◆ SENIORS' LUNCHEON ◆

Wednesday, January 18 at 11:30 a.m.

All Ladies 70 and older are invited to join the Women of St. John's for a luncheon in their honor in the Parish House. Call the Church Office (232-1251) to make your reservation or if you need transportation.

◆ OYSTER ROAST ◆

Saturday, February 4

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Camp Villa Marie

(Follow LaRoche Avenue to Isle of Hope, turn left onto Hopecrest Avenue, to 6 Dolan Drive.)

Tickets (All Inclusive)

Advance Reservations: \$30 each

Day of Event: \$35 each

Under 21 years of age: NO CHARGE

Reservations available at Coffee Hour each Sunday and in Church Office on weekdays.

For More Information, Call:

Alex Jarman- 404-617-6310

Scott Howard- 912-286-0315

Martin Sullivan- 547-4608

BROAD AND NARROW

In Epiphany, we celebrate the dawning of a new day of salvation for the entire world, the manifestation of Jesus Christ as the Savior not only of the Jews, but also of the Gentiles, who know not God. "All kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall do him service."

History has proved this prophecy no idle boast. For though we speak of other "world religions" – Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism – it is remarkable how geographically and often ethnically circumscribed they are. The vast majority of Muslims are found in a band of territory that runs from North Africa through South Asia, as far as Indonesia. The vast majority of Hindus live in India (overlapping with a large Muslim minority), and the vast majority of the world's Buddhists live in east Asia (overlapping in South East Asia with large Muslim populations). Outside these heartlands there are of course enclaves formed by emigration, but their missionary impact is minimal (although there is well-funded Muslim proselytization in South-Saharan Africa). The Jews have largely existed in the isolated communities of the Diaspora for many centuries - more Jews live outside Israel than in it - yet even in the most favorable Gentile cultures they attract few non-Jewish adherents.

But Christianity is different. Alone of the "world religions" it has a global

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The Vestry: *Esqs.*, M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Joseph R. Ross, Jonathan D. Sprague; *Drs.* J. Davidson Carson, James S. McClellan, Jr., Roland S. Summers; Mrs. Christian M. Arden-Joly, Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr., Mrs. Austin O. Kennedy, Mrs. Gary M. Schubert, Mrs. Mark D. Stevens; *Messrs.* David C. Barrow III, E. Brian Culver, Edwin H. Culver, John C. Helmken II, J. Alex Jarman, Joseph O. Mercer, Peter A. Pollak, Jr., L. Allan Reynolds, Jr., R. Gilbert Wells, Richard L. Wright.

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

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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.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mr. Peter A. Pollak, Jr.

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. E. Brian Culver

ACOLYTES

8:00 a.m. Mikel Kelly
10:30 a.m. Phillip Inglesby Jamie McClellan
Henry Osborne Turner Stevens
William Taylor

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. William J. Deal and Mr. Edward J. Derst, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Derst III and family.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Edward J. Derst III,
Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard,
Mrs. Michael W. Rhinehart, Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan,
Mrs. Michael F. P. Maloney, Miss Louise Mercer,
Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. R. Krannert Riddle

FOR SALE AT COFFEE HOUR:

Oyster Roast Tickets (Men's Club) on
February 4th - \$30 in advance (\$35 at the door)
Orange Marmelade made by Jane's Canners
- \$5 a jar

SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FOR YOUTH:

CRANMER HALL-3RD FLOOR

CONFIRMATION CLASS-GRADE 6- *Catechism*
JR. HIGH -GRADES 7,8,9- *25 Lights of the World*
SR. HIGH -GRADES 10,11,12- *Reasons to Believe*

FOR ADULTS:

READING ROOM: *1 Samuel*- Father Dunbar
CH3: *Joshua: Man of Faith, Man of Courage,*
Man of War- Jack Way

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP FAITH FELLOWSHIP

Cranmer Hall-2nd Floor - at back

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Tuesday- Men's Breakfast with Father O'Brien
6:45 a.m., Parish House
Why Be Moral?

Thursday- *St. Luke* with Father Dunbar
7:00 a.m., Reading Room, CH3

Thursday- Men's Small Group with lunch
Noon- Fellowship Hall, CH1

WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Thursday- Book Study with Father O'Brien
9:15 a.m., Reading Room, CH3
Shusaku Endo's Silence

2nd & 4th Wednesday- Next meeting January 25
C. S. Lewis Reading Group
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Noon)
The Four Loves
Call Anne Murray 655-5684

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

presence in every continent, a presence that does not consist simply of emigrant enclaves. To be sure, there are regions where Christianity is very thin on the ground, such as the Maghreb, and Central Asia. The churches in India and Japan are tiny (respectively, 3% and 1% of the population). In Europe, North America, South America, and Australasia, where Christianity remains dominant, many “old-line” protestant and catholic churches are in decline. Christian churches hold on and sometimes prosper in Muslim-majority countries like Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and Indonesia. Even allowing for adversity and weakness, Christianity has a big footprint on every continent.

Perhaps most remarkable is the spread of Christianity in sub-Saharan Africa and in East Asia, where it has taken root and grown rapidly in the last half century or so. This cannot be ascribed to the Christianizing influence of the former colonial powers, since the churches grew in Africa after decolonization, in Korea under and after liberation from Japanese rule, and in China under and after more than 50 years of state-imposed atheism and persecution. Yet 40% of South Korea’s 50 million population is now Christian, and in China estimates of the numbers of Christians run from 67 to 100 million, with some predictions of 250 million Christians by 2030.

More than any other world-religion, Christianity has acculturated itself to a huge diversity of ethnicities, cultures, and languages - *a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindred, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb* as St. John puts it in Revelation 7:9. It’s not that other religions do not have a sense of global

mission. Islam certainly does, and if the books of the Old Testament are to be believed, so does Judaism (even though there is little practical application of it). “Tell it out among the nations that the LORD is King!” In ancient times, at least, Buddhist missionaries carried its doctrines far beyond its origin in India.

Nor is it that other religions do not make exclusive claims to possess the truth. Even avowed atheists make that claim for their unbelief – and proclaim it with the zeal of true believers! Though eastern religions have a reputation for tolerance, Buddhist monks persecute the Muslim Rohingyas in Burma, and Hindu chauvinists have led massacres of Muslims. I think we may conclude that they also have exclusive claims to possess the truth.

Yet it is Christianity’s own claim to possess the whole truth, which now so embarrasses many mainline Christians in North America and Europe. I have been told that “we” don’t think that way anymore – “we” being the “enlightened”, I guess. What’s clear is that “we” have taken over the relativistic and skeptical assumptions of secular culture, without noticing how problematic they are, not only for Christianity, but even in themselves. Paradoxically, it is the “narrow and exclusive” claims of Christianity that are the ground of its “broad and inclusive” appeal to all nations of the world. We will return to this question in the next Parish Paper essay. GGD

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECT & EPISTLE.....Prayer Book, page 111 (GOSPEL on p. 113)

*A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.*9:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Noon) - **Nursery** (*Cranmer Hall*)**9:30 A.M. – ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** (*Cranmer Hall*)*Supervised Fellowship and Fun is available for children from Preschool to Grade Five whose parents are attending class.***10:30 A.M. - MORNING PRAYER, SERMON & SUNDAY SCHOOL**

HYMN #46 <i>Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning</i>	Morning Star
Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord's Prayer	Prayer Book, pages 3-7
Versicles and Responses.....	7-8
VENITE (<i>with Epiphany antiphon Hymnal #606</i>).....	9
Psalm #66, 67 <i>All the world shall worship thee</i>	417-419
First Lesson: Isaiah 61:10,11; 62.1-5 <i>The Joy of Salvation</i>	Insert
JUBILATE DEO (Hymnal #645)	15
Second Lesson: Romans 12:6 & St. John 2:1	111, 113
BENEDICTUS #638.....	14
<i>Children may exit following the cross for SUNDAY SCHOOL (Kindergarten – Grade 5).</i>	
Apostles' Creed.....	15
Versicles and Responses.....	16
Collect for the Day	111
Other Collects, Prayers and the Grace	17-20
HYMN #775 <i>Joy to the World</i>	Antioch
Sermon	Father Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences	
Anthem: <i>Jesus Christ the Apple Tree</i>	Colin Mawby
Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139 and National Hymn #141, Stanza 4	
General Thanksgiving (<i>said by all</i>) and Aaronic Blessing	19
HYMN #52 <i>As with Gladness Men of Old</i>	Dix
VOLUNTARY: <i>Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern</i>	Andreas Arasdorff

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

12:00 P.M. (Noon)—HOLY COMMUNION (*Chapel - as at 8:00 a.m.*)