

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 48 No. 26

The Fifth Sunday after Easter (Rogation Sunday)

May 21, 2017

UPCOMING AT ST. JOHN'S

◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP ◆

Monday to Wednesday

ROGATION DAYS

Morning and Evening Prayer

With Holy Communion

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

In addition, on Rogation Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist*

In addition, on Thursday

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer*

with Holy Communion

5:30 p.m. *Sung Eucharist (Church)*

Friday in the Octave of the Ascension

Morning and Evening Prayer

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

◆ COCKTAIL RECEPTION BENEFITING GREEN RESTORATION PROJECT ◆

Sponsored by Men of St. John's

OPEN TO ALL!

Thursday, May 25 at 6:15 p.m.

(after Evening Ascension Day Service)

Green-Meldrim House - Cocktail Attire

Purchase tickets (\$75) - Coffee Hour Today!

BELIEVING IN THE RESURRECTION (SECOND OF TWO PARTS)

In 1 Corinthians 15:13-19, Paul must deal with the idea, common still today, that you can be a Christian without believing in the resurrection. Not so, says St. Paul: when you stop believing in the resurrection, the entire gospel falls apart. If the dead do not rise, as these Greek Christians denied, then Christ is not risen; and if Christ is not risen, then the apostles who proclaimed his resurrection are liars, and those who believed their preaching have believed in vain. *If Christ*

be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.

Paul's point is that without resurrection of Jesus, there is no remission of sins, and no hope for life after death. It is an argument that needs some unpacking. For the Bible, and especially St. Paul, resurrection is the sign of God's vindication of Jesus, his acceptance of the truth of Jesus' claims and promises. Earthly courts ruled against him, and put him to death, but God ruled in his favor, and raised him to life, thus endorsing without qualification the truth of Jesus' claim, to be the Son of God, and his promise, to deliver those who believe in him from sin and death unto eternal life.

But if Christ is not raised, then God did not vindicate him, did not endorse his claims or promises, his death does not atone for our sins, and those who trust in him are not saved. You can put this another way: when a condemned criminal gets out of prison, it is because he has done his time, and paid his debt to society, his debt to justice - his freedom is a sign that justice has been satisfied. In the Biblical perspective, resurrection works in a similar way. As Jesus took it upon himself to pay our debt to justice by his death on the cross, so his resurrection is the sign that this debt has been paid, and we are free. But if Jesus is not raised, then his death did not pay the debt to justice, and we are

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President, Women of St. John's..... *Mrs. R. Scott Howard*
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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.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mrs. Christian M. Arden-Joly

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Sean F. Finnegan

ACOLYTES

8:00 a.m. Turner Stevens
10:30 a.m. Phillip Inglesby Jamie McClellan
Jack McClellan Daniel Sills
William Sills William Taylor

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Samuel P. Inglesby and Edith Inglesby Walker by their children;

And in loving memory of Peter Loran Spurbeck, Professor of Cello, Master Artist and Pedagogue by Lane Newton Summers;

And in thanksgiving for Walter C. Carson, Jr. because he loved us by Beverly S. Carson, Paige Carson Cook, Walter C. Carson III, and children;

And in loving memory of George Anderson Mercer III and George Anderson Mercer IV by Elizabeth Mercer Gilbert, Wayne Mercer Willis, Bessie Mercer Halsey and their families;

And on the occasion of Father Craig O'Brien's birthday on May 24.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Ms. Anne H. Mingleddorf, Mrs. Michael W. Rhinehart, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III, Mrs. W. Lee Belford, Mrs. Roland S. Summers, Mrs. H. Emerson

Thomas, Jr.;

Mrs. John R. Reiter,
Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings

**SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

FOR YOUTH:

CRANMER HALL-3RD FLOOR

GRADE 6 – *No class today – resumes in fall.*
JR. HIGH – GRADES 7,8,9- *25 Lights of the World*
SR. HIGH – GRADES 10,11,12- *Reasons to Believe*

FOR ADULTS:

READING ROOM: *II Samuel*- Father Dunbar
No Class today - resumes May 28.
CH2: Women's Small Group Faith Fellowship

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Tuesday- Men's Breakfast with Fr. O'Brien
6:45 a.m., Parish House
Thursday- **NEXT MEETING May 25**
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
Will not meet this week.
Wednesday- C. S. Lewis Group meets May 24.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

still liable to punishment for sin – and as sin is separation from God, its just punishment is eternal separation from God, eternal death.

If you stop believing in the resurrection of Jesus, then the entire Christian faith falls apart and Christian believing becomes pointless. But if you do believe in him, then there are three life-changing, positive consequences implicit in Paul’s argument.

First, his resurrection changes our past - delivering us from the burden of guilt for sins which we can never undo, and which we can never adequately atone for, setting us free from the ever-growing chain of guilt that already weighs us down, and keeps us forever seeking the remission of our sins, our approval and acceptance as righteous, that forever eludes our grasp.

Second, his resurrection changes our present - because it means we are assured of his full and free “favor and goodness towards us” (as the Prayer Book says); and in this assurance of being loved and accepted of God, we are set free from concern for ourselves, from guilt and fear, from sin and selfishness, set free to serve him, to please him, in gratitude and in love.

Third, the resurrection changes our future - delivering us from fear of punishment and judgment, and giving us sure and certain hope in a future when our entire humanity body and soul and indeed the whole creation is not only rescued from misery but restored to a glory which we can hardly imagine now.

For the restoration of body and soul in the resurrection is not a turning back the clock to what you once were – but restoration to what you were always meant to be but *never* were. When we are born, something of the bloom of

Eden’s lost innocence remains with us, there is a promise of all that human life could be - a promise of health, strength, beauty - not only of body but of soul. Yet it is a promise that is not fulfilled in this life. Already in infants and little children we can see sin and death at work, corrupting body and soul - anger and selfishness, disease and disability. And as we grow up there is no one who escapes the blighting influence of sin and death, no one in whom the promise of our birth is fulfilled. The failed promise of our birth is only fulfilled in the true promise of resurrection, when we (and the whole world) become what God always meant for us to be. If you want to live without guilt, fear, or sinful self-concern, but in righteousness, gratitude, hope, and self-giving love, then you cannot afford to refuse faith in Christ’s resurrection. GGD

EYCS SCHOLARSHIPS
APPLICATION DEADLINE- MAY 31
College scholarships are available through Episcopal Youth and Children’s Services. Awards are based on financial need and are for undergraduate education only. Please include Rector’s letter of recommendation. Apply at eycs.georgiaepiscopal.org.

JANE’S CANNERS – Date Change!
All are welcome to join the Canners on May 31 at 9:30 a.m. in Cranmer Hall and each Wednesday afterward, unless announced. Please donate: Squash, Peppers, Onions, Mangoes, Sugar, etc. Call Jane at 667-1584.

Greeters, Sign Up TODAY!
Please see Jettie Johnston at Coffee Hour today to sign up to serve as a greeter before the 10:30 a.m. service. Call Jettie at 598-7488, if unable to sign up at Coffee Hour.

Children’s Summer Schedule
Beginning May 28, Childcare will only be available for the 10:30 a.m. service for Nursery thru Kindergarten. First grade and older will remain in church with parents (do not follow the cross out of the church).

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECTS, EPISTLE & GOSPEL Prayer Book, page 175
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.

10:30 A.M. - MORNING PRAYER, SERMON & SUNDAY SCHOOL

HYMN: #88 <i>Jesus Lives! Thy Terrors Now</i>	St. Albinus
Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord's Prayer	Prayer Book, pages 3-7
Versicles and Responses.....	7-8
EASTER ANTHEMS: #682	733
Psalm #66	417
First Lesson: Joel 2:21-27	<i>Insert</i>
TE DEUM LAUDAMUS #613, 617	10
Second Lesson: St. James 1:22, St. John 16:23	176

SUNDAY SCHOOL AWARDS

Prayers for Religious Education and For Children	42, 43
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 of the Day.....	175
Other Collects, Prayers and the Grace	17-20
HYMN #89 <i>At the Lamb's High Feast</i>	Salzburg
Sermon	Father O' Brien

OFFERING

Sentences	
Anthem: <i>Praise</i>	Alec Rowley
Stephanie Selai and Doug Foran, soloists	
Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139, and Hymn #141 (verse 4)	
General Thanksgiving (<i>said by all</i>) and Aaronic Blessing	19
HYMN #95 <i>Christ the Lord is Risen Today</i>	Nassau
VOLUNTARY: <i>Fanfare in C</i>	Henry Purcell, arr. E. P. Biggs
<i>(Sarah Eliasoph, timpani)</i>	

*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.)