

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 48 No. 37

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

July 30, 2017

COMING EVENTS

◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP ◆

Monday - Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer

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

In addition, on Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist*

◆ VOICE FESTIVAL ◆

*Soprano Meechot Marrero in Recital
at St. John's Church*

Saturday August 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets \$45 savannahvoicefestival.org

THE TRUE IMAGE (II)

Reformers both catholic and protestant have been severe about the medieval legends of the saints, and the element of pious imagination in them must indeed be acknowledged. Yet that does not make them worthless as Christian teaching. The legend of the 'true image' of Christ imprinted on a veil testifies to matters of scriptural and evangelical truth - the historical reality of the Incarnation; the Lord's choice of those who were despised by the world to be his witnesses; and the blessing promised on those who compassionately serve those in misery: "inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least my brethren...". Above all, it reflects the scriptural theme of the face of God, that shines in favor and blessing upon his righteous people or is averted from them in wrath and displeasure at their sin; that shines in Jesus Christ, to remake us sinners – in

whom the image of God has been defaced - in his image, who is the true image of God. This renewal in the image of Christ, shows forth in the charity we show others. *When thou givest alms, let not thine eye be envious, neither turn thy face from any poor, and the face of God shall not be turned away from thee* (Tobit 4:5)

Yet we must also consider how this is accomplished, that God should look with favor upon a people from whose sin he turns away his face in wrath. Here the legend of Veronica again points us in the right direction; for it says that the image of Christ's face was imprinted on her veil, as he went to Golgotha, bearing his cross.

Jesus comes proclaiming the kingdom of God, the good news of redemption and release from the bondage of sin and death. Yet he knew that he must be rejected, and condemned: *when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem* (Luke 9:51). His face is set toward the cross, even as he is condemned as a false Messiah, a false prophet, a blasphemer worthy of death: *then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands, Saying, Prophesy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee?* (Matthew 16:67, 68). All this the prophets had foretold: *I hid not my*

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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 Mr. David C. Barrow III

USHER CHAIRMAN Mr. John E. Riley

ACOLYTES

10:30 a.m. Finn Repella Turner Stevens
Edwin Shepherd

MUSICIANS

Abbey Terry, *Mezzo Soprano*
Sarah Eliasoph, *Timpani*

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

And in celebration of Summerell Rae Judge, born July 7, 2017 in Peterborough, England, by Mr. and Mrs. B. Ray Summerell and Ms. Elizabeth A. Summerell;

The flowers at the Baptismal Font are given to the glory of God on the occasion of the Baptism of Edwin Wiley Doerre and in loving memory of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley A. Wasden, Jr. and Mrs. Deborah Head Doerre by Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Edwin Doerre

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III, Ms. Anne H Mingledorf; Mrs. Michael W. Rhinehart; Mrs. Joseph R. Ross; Miss Katherine E. Wasden, Mrs. Jeanne W. McMillan; Mrs. Richard R. Schulze

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Mark D. Stevens

SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

READING ROOM: *II Samuel*- Father Dunbar

CHILDCARE (Nursery through Kindergarten)

is available for the 10:30 a.m. service. First grade and up may remain in church.

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Thursday- *St. Luke* with Father Dunbar
7:00 a.m., Reading Room, CH3
Thursday- *Men's Small Group* with lunch
Noon- Fellowship Hall, CH1

JANE'S CANNERS

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Cranmer Hall
Fellowship Room and Kitchen.
Workers and Donations welcome

FROM THE RECTOR:

The parish's observance of the 25th anniversary of my priesting this past Sunday was an unlooked-for honor. A number of very kind things were said, about which I can only say that I hope that I live up to them! My thanks to you all, for giving thanks with me, for this calling to the ministry and office of a priest.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

face from shame and spitting. For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed (Isaiah 50:6, 7). More stunning still, in his crucifixion God himself averts his face from his sinless Son, as from a sinner. In the great darkness that covers the land at midday, Jesus cries out *My God, my God why hast thou forsaken me?* In this cry of dereliction is summed up all the laments of the psalmist: *How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord, forever? How long wilt thou hide thy face from me? (Ps. 13:1); O hide not thou thy face from me; nor put thy servant away in displeasure: thou hast been my succour; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation (Ps 27:10, 11; cf. 69:18; 88:14; 102:2; Ps. 143:7).*

Here is the great mystery at the heart of the gospel – what the holy and righteous God is doing, when he turns his face away from his holy and righteous son, as from sin itself. St. Paul answers: *God hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. (2 Cor 5:21).* Witnesses could be multiplied, but the point is this: Christ was sent by God, *in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin* (Romans 8:3), that in him, sin might be condemned, that God might receive sinners into his unconditional favor, as those who debt to justice has been fully paid. By a wonderful exchange, Christ receives the punishment we deserved, so that we should receive the reward we did not deserve. Because God has turned his face away from Jesus the righteous, he

now may turn his face toward us, the unrighteous, in grace and blessing. There is a further twist: for precisely because he perfected his obedience to the Father by bearing our sin and condemnation in our place, he is vindicated for us also, raised for our justification. *There is now therefore no condemnation for them that are in Christ Jesus* (Rom. 8:1). So the Christian's plea before God is that of the psalmist: *Behold, O God our defender, and look upon the face of thine anointed* (Ps. 84:9). It is the inspiration of one of our finest Eucharistic hymns (#189), by the 19th century high-churchman, William Bright, wherein reformed and catholic truth converge in a pleading, both penitent and confident, of Christ's finished work upon the cross:

And now, O Father,
 mindful of the love
 That bought us once for all
 on Calvary's tree,
 And having with us
 him that pleads above,
 we here present,
 we here spread forth to thee,
 That only off ring
 perfect in thine eyes,
 the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

Look, Father, look
 on his anointed face,
 And only look on us
 as found in him;
 Look not on our
 misusing of thy grace,
 Our prayer so languid
 and our faith so dim;
 For lo! Between our sins
 and their reward,
 We set the passion of thy Son our Lord.

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECT, EPISTLE & GOSPEL.....Prayer Book, page 198
A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:30 A.M. – ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Cranmer Hall)

10:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Noon) - **Nursery (Cranmer Hall)**

10:30 A.M. – MORNING PRAYER & SERMON

HYMN: #378 <i>Come, Gracious Spirit, Heav'nly Dove</i>	Mendon
Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord's Prayer	Prayer Book, pages 3-7
Versicles and Responses.....	7-8
VENITE: #609.....	9
Psalms #46, 47.....	396, 397
First Lesson: Joshua 24 <i>Israel commits to serving the Lord alone</i>	<i>insert</i>
TE DEUM LAUDAMUS #615	10
Second Lesson: Romans 6:19 & Mark 8:1	198, 199
BENEDICTUS #634.....	14
Apostles' Creed.....	15
Responses	16
Collects of the Day	198
Collects for Peace and for Grace, other prayers	17-20
Welcome and Announcements	The Rector
HYMN#416 <i>O for a Closer Walk with God</i>	Caithness
Sermon.....	Father Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences	
Anthem: <i>I Sought The Lord</i>	Frederick Stevenson
Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139, and Hymn #141 (verse 4)	
General Thanksgiving (<i>said by all</i>) and Aaronic Blessing	19
HYMN: #302 <i>O That I Had a Thousand Voices</i>	Mentzer
VOLUNTARY: <i>Trumpet Voluntary I in Bb</i>	William Rowan

*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.)