

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 42 No. 43

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 25th, 2011

*After a long wait, we are very pleased to have among us once more
Fr Craig O' Brien. Please welcome him home at Coffee Hour.*

THE JUDGEMENT OF GOD

(PART 2 OF 4)

The judgement of God, and his wrath against all that resist his loving purpose to the end, is intrinsic to the very idea of God, and, as a number of parables indicate, also to the Gospel. It is intrinsic to the good news of God's kingdom, that those who corrupt and destroy his creation should themselves be deprived of all power to do harm. This puts the entire human race in a desperate predicament. Since "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 2:3), we may expect to find ourselves among those who are condemned at the judgement seat of God. By our (apparently) most trivial transgressions, we have in fact claimed for ourselves the prerogatives that belong unto God, and made ourselves the authors of good and evil. Repentance and good works, how can they avail against the claims of the divine Majesty we have offended by our misdeeds? How can a God of justice show mercy?

The New Testament's answer to this question was first discerned in outline by the great fourth-century North African theologian, Augustine of Hippo: the divine justice of which the gospel speaks, he wrote, is "not that whereby he himself is just, but that with which he endows man when he justifies the ungodly" (*De Spir. et Litt.* 9, 15). It is the work of

divine justice to 'justify the ungodly' (Romans 4:5), by enduing (clothing) man with a justice not his own. ("Endue thy ministers with righteousness; and make thy chosen people joyful" prays the psalmist and the church in her common prayers.)

Over a thousand years after Augustine, Martin Luther, a former Augustinian monk, himself deeply read in Augustine's theology of grace, took Augustine's insight one step further, through his own reading of Paul's epistles to the Romans and Galatians. Martin Luther perceived that when Paul proclaims the gospel that God justifies the ungodly, he means that God reckons or declares sinners righteous, not on account of their works, for they are sinners, but on account of the perfect work of Christ, who in his "death upon the cross for our redemption" offered himself "a full, perfect, and sufficient, sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world". By God's free gift of grace and mercy, this perfect righteousness of Christ is imputed (or accounted) to sinners, who receive it through faith alone. In the formulation of the 16th century Reformers, the justification of sinners is accomplished *solum propter Christum, sola gratia, sola*

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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 and Services may be heard on our web site: www.stjohnssav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mr. David C. Barrow III

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Henry D. Stevens, Jr.

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John F. Fitzpatrick and loved ones by their family.

And in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney T. Nutting, Sr. and Mr. Sidney T. Nutting, Jr. by their families.

And in celebration of Mrs. Nancy Loraine Windler's **105th Birthday**, by Mr. and Mrs. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.

The flowers at the baptismal font are given to the glory of God on the occasion of the Baptism of Ward Patch Carson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Charlton Carson III, and in celebration that Beverly's brother, Frank Streiff III and family have returned to Savannah, by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Charlton Carson, Jr.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Philip F. Kirk, Mrs. Richard C.E. Jennings
Mrs. Thomas Johnson, Ms. Anne H. Mingleddorf,
Mrs. Sanford G. Simmons, Mrs. Marshall F. Campbell
Mrs. Nicholas Farley, Mrs. Rhett N. Willis
Mrs. Sanford G. Simmons

ACOLYTES

8:00 Cord Helmken
10:30 Clayton Compton
Chris Dixon, John Osborne
Peter Stein, Mikel Kelly
Charles Perrie, Patrick Perrie

COFFEE HOUR

Mrs. C. David Dixon

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING

Men's Bible Study & Discussion Groups
Tuesday 6:45 a.m. Breakfast & Study (Mike Chastain), Parish House).

Thursday Rector's Bible Study 7:00 a.m. *Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.*

Thursday No Men's Forum this week.

BAZAAR NOTICE

As you are cleaning your closets this summer, please remember the Holly Days Bazaar—White Elephant, Treasure Room, Books, etc. Storage is available. Instructions for use of the storage facility are available in the church office.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

We join with her friends and family in extending our best wishes and congratulations to Mrs. Nancy Loraine Windler on the occasion of her **105th Birthday**. Though Mrs. Windler now lives with near her family in Ohio, her heart is here at St. John's – and our hearts are with her.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

fide – one account of Christ alone, by grace alone, through faith alone.

Nor is this faith itself a human work, deserving of this grace and mercy, but simply the gift of God enabling us to receive and appropriate the gracious promises of Christ in the Gospel. In Luther's potent image – it is found throughout the Christian tradition and derives ultimately from the Old and New Testaments – faith is the wedding ring uniting the soul to Christ in mystical union, a union wherein Christ takes upon himself our sin and death, and in exchange bestows upon the soul his righteousness and eternal life.

Man finds a stability for his soul outside himself. His standing before God depends not on his own moral achievement, but on a righteousness not his own (an “extrinsic” or “alien” righteousness). Paradoxically, however, this liberation from the futile attempt to attain justification by works sets men free for good works. Man set free from the pride, despair, and anxiety about his own status, is set free to serve the Lord in holiness and righteousness, free to love and serve without reserve or self-concern. Indeed if man is not thus set free for the service of love, then his faith is dead and he is not justified. But more of this next week. GGD

BRASS FOR MICHAELMAS

The Brass Ensemble next Sunday October 2nd will cost about \$2000. If you would like to help defray those costs, please send a cheque made out to St. John's Church with “Michaelmas brass” in the memo line.

ONE MORE CHANCE!

If there is sufficient interest, Dr. David Carson is prepared to arrange one more photography session for the Pictorial Directory, on *Wednesday, OCTOBER 5th*. If interested, speak to Dr. Carson. Email: Jdcarson47@hotmail.com or 484-4374.

PARISH KALENDAR

Monday- Friday (Chapel)

8:15am & 5:30pm

Morning or Evening Prayer

Wednesday (Chapel)

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*

Wednesday (Church)

EVENSONG, SUPPER, & CLASS

5:30 p.m. *Evensong* (Girls' Choir)

6 p.m. *Supper* (in Cranmer Hall)

6:35-7:20 *Adult Class* (a reprise of the Rector's Sunday class

on Paul's epistle to the Galatians)

Cost of Supper: \$9/person; \$15/family...

If planning to attend, please notify the Church office. Nursery available.

Thursday

NONOON MEN'S FORUM this week.

MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL SUPPER

6:00 p.m. for cocktails

Dinner served at 6:45 p.m.

Tickets (\$30) on sale this Sunday.

ST. JOHN'S AT A GLANCE

You can find out what opportunities there are for worship, education, and service at St. John's in our trifold pamphlet available in the Church office, the Church door, Cranmer Hall and the Parish House.

The Living Church – Free Sample Issue

A limited number of sample copies of “The Living Church” are available free at the back of the Church for those interested. This weekly Episcopalian magazine of moderate views has for many years been an independent voice. This issue contains an article about King James I and his Bible, and an interesting letter about the late Bishop Carpenter, a former rector of St. John's, by his son. Subscriptions are \$45 per annum.

The Living Church, P. O. Box 514036, Milwaukee, WI 53203-3436.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland B. Williams
30 Houston Street
Savannah, GA 31401-2833

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity September 25, 2011

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel..... Prayer Book, page 209
A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

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

9:30-10:15—CLASSES FOR ADULTS & CONFIRMED YOUTH (Chapel & Cranmer hall)

9:30-10:15—Pre-School program continues (Cranmer Hall)

10:30—Pre-School & Kindergarten (Cranmer Hall)

Jr. Choir—grades 1—4

10:30 A.M.—MORNING PRAYER, BAPTISM, & SERMON

CARILLON

HYMN #477 *God Himself Is With Us* Tysk

Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord’s Prayer..... Prayer Book pages 3-7

Versicles and Responses 7-8

VENITE (Hymnal #609) 9

Psalm #84.....445

First Lesson: Galatians 5:16.....209

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS (Hymnal #615, 619).....10

Second Lesson: St. Luke 17:11209

HYMN #450 *As Pants the Hart*..... Martyrdom

THE MINISTRATION OF HOLY BAPTISM—BCP P. 273

WARD PATCH CARSON

BENEDICTUS (Hymnal #634)14

Apostles' Creed15

Versicles and Responses16

Collect for the Day206

Other Collects and Prayers, the Grace..... 17-20

HYMN #379 *Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost* Capetown

Jr. Choir children will exit following the crucifer.

THE SERMON..... Fr. Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *O Lord, Give Thy Holy Spirit*..... Thomas Tallis

Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139, and Hymn #141 (verse 4)

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #276 *Now Thank We All Our God* Nun Dunket

ORGAN: *Marche Triomphale* Sigfried Karg-Elert

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

12 Noon—HOLY COMMUNION (Chapel) Collect, Epistle, Gospel p. 209