

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 46 No. 28

The First Sunday after Trinity

June 7th, 2015

PSALM PSINGERS IN THE SUMMER

Psalm Psingers are invited to vest, process, and sing with Parish Choir for first part of 10:30 service. Children meet Miss Kristin Pair at 10:15 a.m. in Cranmer Hall.

As usual, children in Gr. 1-5 may follow cross at Benedictus/Hymn before the sermon to Cranmer Hall for more music and fun.

BREAKFAST AFTER 8 A.M. SERVICE

Kitchen repairs *may* prevent breakfast from being served this Sunday in Cranmer Hall. Coffee will be available.

BELONGING TO CHRIST (14)

Like the other churches of the Reformation, the Church of England insisted that the grace of the Sacraments operates through the faith of the receiver. Accordingly, the Catechism raises the question, *What is required of persons to be baptized?* and answers thus: *Repentance, whereby they forsake sin; and Faith, whereby they stedfastly believe the promises of God made to them in that Sacrament.* Given the necessity of personal repentance and faith on the part of the receiver, therefore, it becomes a question *Why then are Infants baptized, when by reason of their tender age they cannot perform them?* For radical Protestants, infant baptism was no baptism at all. Protestants of the magisterial Reformation (Lutheran, Reformed, Anglican), however, staunchly maintained the ancient custom of infant baptism, without abandoning the

requirement of personal repentance and faith. Though incapable of them at the time of baptism, infants are baptized *because they promise them both by their Sureties* [i.e. godparents]; *which promise, when they come to age, themselves are bound to perform.*

In defending infant baptism, the reformers appealed to the Old Testament precedent of circumcision, the sign of the blessings promised to Abraham, administered by divine command to male children eight days old (Genesis 17:12 cf. Luke 2:21). Not to circumcise one's son was in effect to break the covenant (17:14). The children of the chosen people of God enjoyed the blessings promised by the covenant, even before they were capable of personal faith. In his first preaching the gospel on the feast of Pentecost, when Peter told the crowd of Jewish pilgrims that "the promise is to you and your children" (Acts 2:39), and called them to Christian baptism, he applied the same principle to the people of the new covenant. Circumcision, the sign of the blessings yet to come, gives way to baptism, the New Testament sign that in Christ those promised blessings *have* come. Paul is reported to have baptized entire households (Acts 16:15, 33; 1 Cor. 1:16), some of which probably included little children. In that context, it is significant that Scripture does *not* prohibit the baptism of infants. If

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OF
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The Rt. Rev. Scott Benhase..... Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Gavin G. DunbarRector
1 West Macon Street 31401(912) 429-3384
The Rev. Craig E. O'Brien..... Priest Associate
423 E. Gaston Street 31401(912) 308-4441
The Rev. Dr. Jeremy W. Bergstrom Priest Assistant
5 Autumn Leaves Court 31410(912) 656-3807
Mr. R. Steven Branyon Organist/Choirmaster
Mrs. Janice W. Woods Business Manager
Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr..... Parish Secretary
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Mrs. Holden T. Hayes..... Christian Education Director
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President, ECWMrs. Christian Arden-Joly
President, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's..... Mr. Randolph H. Kulp II
Church Office(912) 232-1251
Fax.....(912) 232-5559
Parish House(912) 233-3845
Cranmer Hall(912) 232-8887
E-mails(firstinitiallastname)@stjohnssav.org

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

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. J. Matthew Solana, III

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Coke S. and Helen C. Blume, Redmond and Lorraine B. Gill and the Rev. Jeffrey Gill by their family; and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jules Victor, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Neil H. Victor. a gift for the brass on Trinity Sunday by Mr. and Mrs. W. Lee Belford.

The flowers at the Baptismal Font are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Miss Sarah Alexander Patterson Summers by her family.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Ms. Jayne G. Holland, Ms. Anne H. Minglehoff, Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr. Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III Mrs. Roland S. Summers, Mrs. W. Lee Belford Miss Laura Reid, Mrs. H. Emerson Thomas Mrs. J. Pride Sheahan

ACOLYTES

8:00 volunteer requested
10:30 John Osborne, Mikel Kelly
Jamie McClellan, Hawkins Pindar
Finn Repella, Jackson McClellan

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Robert J. Merritt, Jr.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS

Mallory's Mort D'Arthur:-3rd Floor East. Led by David Noble.

St. John's Gospel Reading Room. Led by Fr. Dunbar.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Tuesday 6:45 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Study— (Parish House Dining Room, enter by Kitchen)
Thursday 7 a.m. Bible Study—Reading Room

WOMEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUP

Mondays at Noon: *Hebrews* with Fr. Bergstrom, , *Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.*

GREETERS NEEDED

Please help up us extend a warm welcome to visitors to our parish! If you can be a Greeter at Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings please call Jetti Johnston 598-7488.

JANE'S CANNERS will be cooking in the Cranmer Hall kitchen through the summer on Wednesdays beginning at 10:15 a.m. Donations of sugar, figs, pears, apples, onions, 8 oz. jars, green peppers, etc. gratefully received. Please call Jane Pressly for more information 233-6551.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

believing Jews needed to be told that the promised blessings did not apply to their children, surely this would have been made explicit.

The Biblical touchstone for infant baptism is St. Mark 10:13-16 – the account of the children brought to Jesus. Here is how it was explained in the older prayer books: “Beloved, ye hear in this Gospel the words of our Saviour Christ, that he commanded the children to be brought unto him; how he blamed those that would have kept them from him.... Ye perceive how that by his outward gesture and deed he declared his good will toward them; for he embraced them in his arms, he laid his hands upon them, and blessed them. Doubt ye not therefore, but earnestly believe, that he will likewise favourably receive this present Infant; that he will embrace him with the arms of his mercy: that he will give unto him the blessing of eternal life, and make him partaker of his everlasting kingdom.”

If Christ receives infants brought to him, and blesses them, then we can hardly deny them the outward and visible sign of his good will, which is baptism. Anglicans practice infant baptism, “as most agreeable with the institution of Christ” (Article 27): “For the infants of Christians belong to God and to the Church no less than did formerly the offspring of the Hebrews to whom circumcision was administered in infancy. And so, baptism should be administered to our infants because they are sharers of the same promise and divine covenant and were received by Christ with the greatest kindness” (*Reformatio legum ecclesiasticorum*, 1552). GGD

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday to Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer

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

In addition, on Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *Litany* 10 a.m. *Eucharist*

THURSDAY JUNE 11TH

ST. BARNABAS APOSTLE & MARTYR

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

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

(RISING KG TO GR 5):

July 27th - July 31st 9:30am until noon

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CAMP

(12 MOS – 5 YEARS OLD)

July 27th - July 31st

9:00am until 1:00pm

Offered by The Children's School

For more information: contact Caroline

Hayes: chayes@stjohnssav.org

SUMMER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nursery: 10:15 to end of 10:30 Service

At 9:30 a.m. No Sunday School classes for children or youth. Adult classes continue.

At 10:30 a.m. Preschool/Kindergarten

SUMMER VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Parents or Grandparents are asked to give ONE Sunday in the summer to lead the 10:30 a.m. Pre-School/Kindergarten. Sign up in Cranmer Hall or call Caroline Hayes 233-8887 or 429-2195

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Monthly Study & Meeting

Wednesday, June 10 immediately following Evening Prayer in Cranmer Hall Fellowship Hall. Study: *Prayer* by Timothy Keller (Chapter 2). All women welcome to join us just for study (1st part) or the whole meeting!

8:00 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel 188
Coffee is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

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

10:15 a.m. — 12 Noon NURSERY (*Cranmer Hall*)
 10:30 a.m. –Pre-school/Three-year-olds through Kindergarten (*Cranmer Hall*)

10:30 A.M.—SUNG EUCHARIST & SERMON

HYMN #370 *Spirit Divine, Attend our Prayers* Graefenberg
ANTE-COMMUNION

Collect for Purity..... Prayer Book, page 67
 Summary of the Law68
 KYRIE ELEISON: #710 Healey Willan
 Collect and Epistle..... 188, 189
 HYMN #344 *O Love, how deep* Deus Tuorum Militum
 The Holy Gospel..... 190
 The Nicene Creed71
 HYMN #379 *Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost* Capetown
Children may exit following the cross for PSALM PSINGERS (Gr 1-5)
 SERMON.....Fr. Bergstrom

OFFERTORY

Sentences
 Anthem: *Grieve Not The Holy Spirit of God* T. Tertius Noble
 Presentation of Alms #139
 Prayer for the State of the Church.....74

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation, Confession and Absolution75
 Sursum Corda #73476
 SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS #711 Healey Willan
 Prayer of Consecration: Institution, Oblation, Invocation80
 The Lord's Prayer & Prayer of Humble Access (*said with the congregation*)82
 AGNUS DEI # 712 Healey Willan
 HYMN #193 & 194 *Sion, Praise Thy Saviour*Lauda Sion/Bone Pastor
 MOTET: *Draw Nigh and Take the Body of The Lord*.....Eric H. Thiman
 Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*).....83
 GLORIA IN EXCELSIS #739 Old Scottish Chant
 The Blessing (*Kneeling*).....84
 HYMN #479 *Love divine, all loves excelling*Hyfrydol
 ORGAN: *Toccata In Seven*.....John Rutter

Everyone is invited to attend Coffee Hour in the Green Meldrim 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) same as 8 a.m.