



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, December 19, 2021

11 a.m. A Procession with Lessons & Carols



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH

The Truth of the Bible

In the Beauty of the Anglican Tradition.

Believe. Worship. Love. Serve.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

For Guests and Visitors. We extend a warm welcome to guests and visitors worshipping with us. If this is your first visit to Saint John's, please let us know by filling out the visitor card in the pew and dropping it in the collection plate. All are invited to join us in the Parish House immediately after the service for the abundant and delicious refreshments at Coffee Hour. We look forward to getting to know you!

Children's Nursery for birth - age 3 (1st floor of Cranmer Hall), is available from 8:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. during the season of Advent.

Interactive Worship. The congregation participates actively in worship, and this booklet is a guide to taking part in it. For many parts of the service it will refer you to one of the two books in red bindings in the pew racks – the **1940 Hymnal**, and the smaller **1928 Prayer Book**.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH IN SAVANNAH

Founded in 1841, the first rector, Stephen Elliott, was also the first bishop of Georgia, and he consecrated the present church on May 7, 1853. In 1943, one of Savannah's historic mansions, the Green-Meldrim House, became its Parish House and Rectory. Later, Macon Street in the block between the church and Green-Meldrim House was closed and laid out as the present garden Mall. Cranmer Hall, the Christian Education building, was renovated and enlarged in 2004. St. John's is one of a handful of parishes in the Episcopal Church that continues to worship using the classical Book of Common Prayer (in its 1928 edition). We are committed to transmitting unimpaired to our posterity the historic Faith and Order it sets forth, within the fellowship of the Anglican Communion.

HOW WE WORSHIP AND WHY – LESSONS AND CAROLS

Beginning in the 19th century, services of Lessons and Carols for Christmas and Advent have become part of the season's traditions of worship, and most of them (including our own) are based on the famous Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols sung on Christmas Eve at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, since 1918, and broadcast worldwide since 1928. In the lessons we trace the promise of Christ, "the seed of the woman", first made to Eve, then again to Abraham, and third by the prophet Isaiah. The lessons end with the annunciation to the Virgin Mary, and his conception by the Holy Ghost. Appropriately, each lesson is followed by a carol or hymn celebrating the coming of the Redeemer, in which we experience anew the wonder, joy and hope of his coming in the flesh for our salvation. As we trace the promise of his coming, we prepare ourselves to receive him in Holy Communion on Christmas.

If you have questions or topics for this feature, please send them to the rector gdunbar@stjohnssav.org

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 19, 2021

Nursery Infants to age 3 - 8:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. during Advent.

Please silence all electronic devices. In the time before the service begins, we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Stand for hymns, sit for carols, unless otherwise noted.

11 a.m. A Procession with Lessons & Carols

FROM THE SANCTUARY

Advent Responsory (*Congregation remains standing*)Giovanni da Palestrina

LOOK from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel? High and low, rich and poor, one with another, Go ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, Tell us, art thou he that should come? Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Lit by a Member of the Sunday School: Wallace Glover

THE PROCESSION

Our King and Saviour draweth nigh;
O come let us adore Him.

Let us go forth in Peace;
In the name of Christ, Amen.

HYMN #2 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Sung by all)*Veni Emmanuel

AT THE STATION

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

O LORD, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

Arise, O God, maintain thine own cause.

For all the earth is full of darkness.

HYMN #1 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Sung by all)*Stuttgart

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

Read by a Young Church lady: Miss Anna Pollak

CAROL *This Is The Truth Sent From Above (Congregation is seated)*Ralph Vaughan Williams
arr. James Kirkby

1. This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love:
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all, both rich and poor.
2. The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create,
The next thing which to you I'll tell,
Woman was made with man to dwell.
3. Then, after this, 'twas God's own choice
To place them both in Paradise,
There to remain, from evil free,
Except they ate of such a tree.
4. But they did eat, which was a sin,
And thus their ruin did begin.
Ruined themselves, both you and me,
And all of their posterity.
5. Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose,
And so a promise soon did run,
That he would redeem us by his Son.

SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18

A blessing promised to all nations in the seed of Abraham.

Read by a Singer in the Choir: Mr. Drew Nathaniel Keane

HYMN *Saviour of the Nations, Come (Sung by all)*.....Nun Komm, der heiden heiland



Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland

Words, St. Ambrose 340-397, Martin Luther, 1524, trans. William M. Reynolds, 1860, alt.

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|--|--|
| 1. Saviour of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here thy home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth | 4. From the Father forth he came,
And returneth to the same,
Captive leading sin and hell -
High the song of triumph swell |
| 2. Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh
Woman's Offspring, pure and fresh. | 5. Thou the Father's only Son,
Hast o'er sin the victory won.
Boundless shall thy kingdom be
When shall we its glories see? |
| 3. Wondrous birth, O wondrous Child
Of the Virgin undefiled!
Though by all the world disowned,
Still to be in heaven enthroned. | 6. Praise to God the Father sing,
Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be,
Ever and eternally. Amen. |

THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 7:10-15

The Prophet declares the sign of God's deliverance.

Read by Parishioner: Mrs. Benjamin Baxter

HYMN *Lo How A Rose E'er Blooming (Sung by all)*Praetorius

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming,
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
It came a floweret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

2. Isaiah 'twas fore-told it,
The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to men a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

3. O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length we pray
To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day. Amen.

FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 40:9-11

The Prophet calls the Church to proclaim the Advent of the Saviour.

Read by a Man of St. John's: Dr. Cliff Berger

HYMN *Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth (Sung by all)*Praetorius

Veni, Redemptor gentium

1. Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
Come, testify thy Virgin-birth:
All lands admire, all times applaud:
Such is the birth that fits a God.

2. Forth from his chamber goeth he,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
Rejoicing now his course to run.

3. From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds;
Runs out his course to death and hell,
Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

4. O Equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshy mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

5. Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
And twilight never intervene.

6. All laud, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Ghost, for evermore. Amen.

FIFTH LESSON: Saint Luke 1:26-35

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Read by a Woman of St. John's: Mrs. Justin Watson

CAROL *The Angel Gabriel (Congregation is seated)*.....Arr. Franklin Kinsman

The Angel Gabriel from God was sent to Galilee unto a Virgin fair and free, whose name was called Mary; and when the Angel thither came, He fell upon His knee, and looking up in the Virgin's face, He said, "All hail, Mary."

Refrain: Then sing we all both great and small, Nowell. We may rejoice to hear the voice of the Angel Gabriel.

"Mary", He said, "Be not afraid, but do believe in me. The power of the Holy Ghost shall overshadow Thee. Thou shalt conceive without any grief, as the Lord told unto me: God's own dear Son from heaven shall come and shall be born of Thee."

This came to pass as God's will was, even as the Angel told: about midnight an Angel bright came to the shepherd's fold, and told them then both where and when born was the Child, our Lord. And all along this was their song, "All glory be given to God.

Good people all both great and small, the which do hear my voice, with one accord let's praise the Lord and in our hearts rejoice.

SIXTH LESSON: Saint Matthew 1: 18-25

The Angel tells of the coming birth of Jesus.

Read by a Vestryman: Mr. Jonathan Sprague

CAROL I Sing of a Maiden (*Sung by all*)..... James H. Bolin

I sing of a maiden that is makeless. King of all Kings to her Son she ches. He came all so still where His Mother was as dew in April that falleth on the Grass. Mother and Maiden was never none but she. Well may such a lady, God's Mother be.

THE PRAYERS

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The Resurrection of the body: And the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

GRANT, O Almighty God, that as thy Son Jesus Christ at His first Advent did come to seek and to save that which was lost; so at His second and glorious appearing He may find in us the fruits of the Redemption which he wrought; who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. **Amen.**

Welcome and AnnouncementsFather Dunbar

OFFERING & BLESSING

Sentences

CAROL #775 *Joy to the World (Congregation is seated)*Antioch

PRESENTATION OF ALMS Doxology #139

RESPONSORY

(Sung by Cantor and Choir)

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord; He will be with you.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

(Sung by Priest and People)

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray:
We wait for thy loving-kindness, O Lord;
In the midst of thy temple.

O GOD, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thine only Son Jesus Christ; Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Open wide, O Lord, the gate of heaven
and visit thy people in peace;
**Send forth thy Spirit from on high
that their hearts may be uplifted unto Thee.**

O Lord, who for our sake wast of a Virgin born;
Make holy thy people and bless thine heritage.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and abide with you forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #236 *Once in Royal David's City*.....Irby
(Congregation is seated for the first two stanzas, which are sung by the Choir.)

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| 1. Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed,
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child. | 2. He came down to earth from Heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy. |
|---|--|

(Congregation stands and joins in the hymn.)

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| 3. And, through all his wondrous childhood,
He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he. | 4. For he is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day, like us he grew;
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness. |
| 5. And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in Heav'n above,
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone. | 6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in Heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around. |

VOLUNTARY *Sleeper's Wake* (BWV 645).....J. S. Bach

*There will be a special Coffee Hour today with eggnog.
If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRS

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed
11 a.m. Mrs. Sean Finnegan

USHER CHAIR

Mr. Sean Finnegan

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Timothy E. Coy
Mrs. Jayne G. Holland
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr.
Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr.
Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan

ALTAR FLOWERS

The pink poinsettias in the church are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr., our parents, and dear friends in my church family by Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr.

And in loving memory of Dr. Edwin Collier Shepherd and Betty McCuen Shepherd by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Shepherd, Jr. and family.

If you would like to offer flowers for the Altar, call the Church Office at 912-232-1251. After Sunday, the flowers are delivered to the sick, sorrowing, and shut-in: if you would like to volunteer for this ministry, call Margaret Wylly at 912-656-6235.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S

CHRISTMAS MUSIC & DECORATIONS

You can still donate towards the decoration of the church or the sound of strings and brass during Christmas. Forms are available at StJohnsSav.org/Christmas, the back of the church, and the Church office. Submit completed forms with a check to the Church office. (Poinsettias, wreaths, and garlands payable to "St. John's Chancel Society"; Music donations payable to "St. John's Church" with Christmas music in the memo). Please call the church office at 912-232-1251 with any questions.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT & FAMILY EUCHARIST

Friday, Dec 24th at 5 p.m., Church & Online

The pageant will conclude with Holy Communion for those who wish to stay. The nursery will be available in Cranmer Hall. No reservations are required; masking is optional. Seating is reserved at the front for pageant families.

CHRISTMAS EVE SOLEMN EUCHARIST

Friday, Dec. 24th at 11 p.m., Church & Online

Prelude Music begins at 10:30 p.m. This Solemn Eucharist will feature familiar Christmas music played by organ and instruments.

CHRISTMAS DAY SUNG EUCHARIST

Sat., Dec. 25th at 11 a.m., Church & Online

Will feature St. John's choir and familiar Christmas music played by organ and brass.

All communicant members of St. John's Church should receive the Sacrament on the Feast of Christmas (or during its Octave, ending January 1) unless prevented for reasonable cause.

DECEMBER 26TH, FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS & FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church

(No breakfast, only coffee;

no 9 a.m. Family Service or Nursery this week.)

10 a.m. *Fr. Dunbar's class only* (Faith & Fellowship, Children's & Youth will not meet.)

11 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church & Online

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27TH, ST. JOHN'S DAY

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer* (online)

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer with*

Holy Communion, Chapel

Church Office closed

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, HOLY INNOCENTS

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer* (online)

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer with*

Holy Communion, Chapel

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer* (online)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30TH

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer* (online)

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer with*

Holy Communion, Chapel

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1ST,

THE CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST & NEW YEAR'S DAY

11 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Chapel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2ND,

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

8:00 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church

9:00 a.m. *Family Morning Prayer*, Church

11:00 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Church & Online

MONDAY, JANUARY 3RD

No services. Church office is closed.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - SAVANNAH

Worship in the Anglican Tradition

Parish Chartered in 1841 Church Consecrated in 1853

325 Bull Street On Madison Square OFFICE: One West Macon Street 31401

Our Mission: Saint John's Church is building a community in Christ

That is grounded in historic faith and reverent worship

And is committed to sharing the life-transforming truth of the Gospel.

www.stjohnssav.org Office: 912.232.1251 Fax: 912.232.5559 Parish House: 912.233.3845

Bishop of Georgia..... The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue
Rector - The Rev. Gavin G. Dunbar (912) 429-3384 gdunbar@stjohnssav.org
Assisting Priest - The Rev. J. Patrick Hunt (912) 777-9968
Organist/Choirmaster - Mr. R. Steven Branyon sbranyon@stjohnssav.org
Assistant Conductor Mr. Wesley Perkins (912) 232-1251
Assistant Organist - Mrs. Angela Fisher (912) 232-1251
Business Manager - Mrs. Janice W. Woods (912) 232-1251 jwoods@stjohnssav.org
Administrative Assistant - Mrs. John C. Nelson (Margaret) (912) 232-1251 mnelson@stjohnssav.org
Communications Coordinator - Mrs. Jeremy J. Harvey (Heather) (912) 232-1251 hharvey@stjohnssav.org
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Children's Ministry Director - Mrs. Joseph R. Ross, Jr. (Sarah) (912) 232-1251 sross@stjohnssav.org
Minister with Youth/Pastoral Intern - Mr. Steven D. Vanderlip (912) 232-1251 svanderlip@stjohnssav.org
Buildings Manager - Mr. Sinisa Domazet sdomazet@stjohnssav.org
Acolyte Director and Master of Ceremonies - Mr. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr chubb44850@aol.com
Verger - Mr. B. Ray Summerell (912) 777-9532 rsummerell@stjohnssav.org

Wardens and Vestry

Senior Warden: Mr. R. Leslie Johnson

Junior Warden - Captain John K. Ross

Clerk of Vestry: Mrs. Gary M. Schubert (Elizabeth); Treasurer: Mr. Holden T. Hayes;

Assistant Treasurer: Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan)

Chancellor: M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq.; Vice Chancellor: Richard C.E. Jennings, Esq.

The Vestry: Mrs. Benjamin W. Baxter (Cathy),

Mr. Charles B. Compton, Jr. (Chip), Mrs. Sean F. Finnegan (Melanie), Mrs. R. Scott Howard (Betsy),

Mr. R. Leslie Johnson, Mrs. James S. McClellan, Jr. (Holly), Mrs. Paul M. Pressly (Jane), Captain John K. Ross,

Mr. Joseph Ross (Rusty), Mr. Robert L. Sparks, Jonathan D. Sprague, Esq., and Mr. Mark D. Stevens

Vestry Emeriti: Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr., Mr. James E. Hungerpiller

President, Women of St. John's Mrs. Mary Soule

President, Chancel Society Mrs. Roland S. Summers

President, Men of St. John's Mr. Sean F. Finnegan