

The Parish Paper

OF
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 52 No. 23

Fourth Sunday after Easter

May 2, 2021

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THIS SUNDAY FROM ST. JOHN'S

8 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION (In-person by Reservation Only)

9:30 A.M. – ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Will meet via Zoom with Fr. Dunbar.

Email mnelson@stjohnssav.org for connection information.

9:30 A.M. – CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

A short video lesson will be posted to St. John's Children's Facebook group at www.Facebook.com/groups/StJohnsSavChildren.

10:20 A.M. – SERMON (Online Only)

10:40 A.M. – CHOIR (Online Only)

11 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION

(In-person by Reservation Only and Online)

Holy Communion begins on page 67 of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP).

Music for this Sunday:

Prelude, William Hunt

Song, Flor Peeters

Communion, Camil Van Hulse, (Op. 92, No. 7)

Hymn: *Jesus Lives Thy Terrors Now*, St. Albinus

Anthem: *This is the Day the Lord Hath Made*, Eric Thiman
Processional on "Hail Thee, Festival Day", R. Vaughan-Williams,
(*Salve Festa Dies*), Arr. Michael Burkhardt

Sunday Collect: BCP p. 174

The Epistle: James 1:17

The Gospel: St. John 16:5

12:30 P.M. – YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Will meet via Zoom with Fr. Dunbar.

Email mnelson@stjohnssav.org for connection information.

SAINT PHILIP & SAINT JAMES

In the yearly commemoration of the Apostles, the feast of Philip and James falls in Eastertide, and like the Sundays of that season, the gospel lesson is drawn from St. John's account of Jesus' discourse at the last supper (14:1-14) – a passage whose opening verses are familiar to us from the Burial of the Dead. Just hours before his arrest, Jesus tells the disciples of his imminent departure from the world to the Father. They had invested their future in following him; and a future without Jesus has a shattering prospect. Yet paradoxically, it is his departure that will bring them comfort; and the comfort that it brings to them it brings to all Christians facing grief and loss.

The comfort he offers is a promise of home: "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." What we call "home" is a place where we are known, welcomed, accepted, loved, delighted in – a place which belongs to us, which fits us, where we can be truly ourselves. The whole of human life can be understood in terms of this longing for home, a longing which is never quite satisfied in this life. When we first fall in love, get a first job, get the first break in a career, go on a dream vacation, move into a dream house, or buy a dream boat – in each of these moments we think we are finally finding the place we are looking for; but when

we finally obtain the prize, we find that feeling is gone. These experiences may be pleasant, but they do not leave us satisfied – they are pleasant inns along the road, but they are not the destination at its end. The world serves to arouse our desire for home – but it cannot satisfy it. "Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee". We can never be content with finite goods, no matter how many we have, because we are looking for the joy that only an infinite good can give.

The home we yearn for is the house of the Father, and therefore also of the Son. That is what Jesus promises his disciples: "that where I am, there ye may be also". To be at home in the

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Saturday May 1st

SS. Philip & James Apostles

11 a.m. *Holy Communion*,

Text priest to reserve a place

Sunday, May 2nd: Easter IV

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*

In-person by reservation

11 a.m. *Holy Communion*

In-person by reservation and online

Monday – Friday, May 3 -7th

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Livestreamed

In addition, Thursday, May 6th

5 p.m. *Holy Communion*,

Text priest to reserve a place

Sunday, May 9th: Easter V

Details will be shared in the Monday, May 3rd email.

St. John's Church

ONE WEST MACON STREET
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

www.stjohnssav.org

To receive the Parish Paper by email (on Fridays), send name and email address to information@stjohnssav.org

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The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue..... Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Gavin G. Dunbar..... Rector
1 West Macon Street, 31401..... (912) 429-3384
The Rev. J. Patrick Hunt..... Assisting Priest
Mr. R. Steven Branyon..... Organist/Choirmaster
Mr. Wesley Perkins..... Assistant Conductor
Mrs. Angela Fisher..... Assistant Organist
Mrs. Janice W. Woods..... Business Manager
Mrs. John C. Nelson (Margaret)..... Adm. Assistant
Mrs. Jeremy J. Harvey (Heather)..... Comm. Coordinator
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Verger..... Mr. B. Ray Summerell

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. (Skip)

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. Hungerpillar, Roland B. Williams, Esq.

President, Women of St. John's..... Mrs. Mary Soule (Stuart)
President, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's..... Mr. Sean F. Finnegan

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. Please call the Church Office to notify the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital or hospice.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed

11 a.m. Mrs. James S. McClellan, Jr.

USHER CHAIR

Mr. Mark T. Stevens

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr.

Mrs. Jayne G. Holland

Mrs. Timothy E. Coy

Mrs. Roland S. Summers

Mrs. William L. Belford, Jr.

Ms. Laura A. Wimbish

Mrs. Gary M. Schubert

SINGERS

Sheila Berg

Gabrielle Walker

Kamron Glover

Peter Louglas

Doug Foran

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers in the Church this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Captain and Mrs. Harry E. Jennings by Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings, Nolan Balkcom and Alex Jennings.

And in loving memory of Jolana Swift Bradshaw by Mr. and Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr. and family.

WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S

The May board meeting will be Monday, May 3rd at 10 a.m. in the Ralston Room of Cranmer Hall.

The Women of St. John's will host a spring gathering in the mall on Thursday, May 13th, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Make your reservations by visiting StJohnsSav.org/WSJ.

ARDF COLLECTION

Our special collection for The Anglican Relief and Development Fund will be next Sunday, May 9th. Please give generously to help strengthen our faith communities in the developing world.

Father's house, is to be where Jesus is. It is to be known, welcomed, loved, accepted, delighted in, as the Son is known and delighted in by the Father.

But how can that happen? how can the finite have access to the infinite? Given what he knows of us, how can the Father love and delight in us as he does in his Son? This the essence of tragedy: that we see what we are made for, a life with God, like a green hill in the distance; but we don't see the way there. Kafka put it this way: *there is a goal, but no way; what we call the way is only wavering.* Thomas protests, "Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?" Jesus tells him: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

We can have a home with the Son in the Father's house, because in the Son we have the way there. In the Old Testament the way is defined religiously and ethically as a path of obedience to the commandments – something for humans to do, and in which they are doomed to fail. In walking this way in perfect obedience unto death, Jesus himself becomes the way for us to follow in faith – something for us to receive. In taking on himself the fulfillment of the law for us, both by active obedience to its requirements and passive suffering of its penalties, Jesus himself becomes "new and living way" (Hebrews 10:20), "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him" (Ephesians 3:12). So his departure from the world to the Father blazes a way for us to follow to the Father and the warmest welcome at the end of the way – a welcome that we know even now by grace, and hereafter in the fullness of glory. In Christ – our filthy rags replaced by his perfect righteousness – we have become lovely and delightful

to the Father. And because Christ is the way for us to travel from the world to the Father, out of wrath into favor, it is also the way for the Father to come to us and together with the Son abide with us, by the gift of the Spirit (John 14:15-23), to remake us his own Son's likeness, and makes us partakers of life eternal.

Show me thy ways, O Lord,
and teach me thy paths.
Lead me forth in thy truth,
and learn me:
for thou art the God
of my salvation;
in thee hath been my hope
all the day long. (Ps 25:3,4)

— GGD

RECOGNIZING OUR 2021 GRADUATES

Our church would like to recognize all of our 2021 graduates with a video. If you'd like to be included, email hharvey@stjohnssav.org with a current photo and include your full name, school, program, diploma or degrees, and a memory or your future plans. Please submit this information by Monday, May 17th.

STRINGS FOR PENTECOST

If you'd like to hear strings during our special 11 a.m. service on Sunday, May 23rd, please consider contributing to our strings fund.

1662 BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER "INTERNATIONAL EDITION"

Receive a discount when you pre-order a copy of the classic 1662 Prayer Book "International Edition". Mail or drop off a check to the church office for \$16/each. Make checks out to Prayer Book Society USA with 1662 in the memo.

For changes and updates, sign up for our weekly emails at StJohnsSav.org.

Please remember St. John's Church in your will.