



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, December 4, 2022

11 a.m. Holy Communion



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

Mission. St. 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.

Worship Schedule. Our non-holiday Sunday schedule is: 8 a.m. Holy Communion in the church; 9 a.m. Family Worship Service (Family Morning Prayer in the church on the first, second, third, and fifth Sundays of the month and Holy Communion in the chapel on the fourth Sunday); and 11 a.m. Holy Communion in the church on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of the month with Morning Prayer on the second and fourth Sundays. The 11 a.m. is also livestreamed. Morning Prayer is online each weekday at 8:15 a.m. **Please see page 7 of this booklet for our services this week or visit StJohnsSav.org.**

Children's Nursery. The nursery is available in Cranmer Hall from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Sundays.

For Guests and Visitors. We extend a warm welcome to guests and visitors worshipping with us today and look forward to getting to know you!

Interactive Worship. The congregation participates actively in worship, and this booklet is a guide to taking part in it. It is based on 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, who was also the first bishop of Georgia, consecrated the present church on May 7, 1853. In 1943, 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 to our posterity the historic Faith and Order it sets forth, within the fellowship of the Anglican Communion.

HOW WE WORSHIP AND WHY – STRIKING THE BREAST

As we sin in thought, word, and deed, so we must also repent. The mind that conceived the sin must now acknowledge it as its own, with an outward word of honest *confession* – no excuses, no whitewashing, no blame-shifting, nor self-pity, no self-flagellation with the intention of escaping just criticism. The will that chose to consent to this concept in impurity of the thoughts of the heart, must now grieve its sin and turn away from it with inward *contrition*, or it will return to the old habit, “like a dog to its vomit” (Proverbs 26:11; 2 Peter 2:22). The damage done by the work of sin must be made good in deeds of *satisfaction*, like Zacchaeus, who vows “if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold” (Luke 19:8). Works of satisfaction are done outside the liturgy, but in the general confession at Holy Communion, we both “acknowledge and bewail” our sins, in confession and contrition. First, we confess our sins are objectively grievous, “offences against thy divine Majesty”. Then follows contrition: “We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings”. For confession, speech alone is enough, but how is contrition to be expressed? One might look for tears; but given the hardness of our hearts, we may strike the breast three times (that is, emphatically and definitively), as a sign that what we acknowledge to be grievous in itself, and to God, is also “grievous unto us” (cf Luke 23:48). For the same reason, it is also customary to strike the breast in the Agnus Dei, once for each petition (at the word “sin”). “To strike the breast is to beat against the gates of our inner world in order to shatter them” (Romano Guardini).

THE ORDER FOR
THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
OR HOLY COMMUNION

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,
Thou that ledest Joseph like a flock;
Show thyself also, thou that sittest upon the Cherubim.
Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
Stir up thy strength, and come and help us. — Ps. 79:1-2

Please kneel at the sound of the bell.

THE ANTE-COMMUNION

HYMN (*all stand*) #484 *Lift Up Your Heads*..... Truro

THE OPENING PRAYERS

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Answer: **And with the spirit.**

Priest: Let us pray.

The Collect for Purity (*All kneel.*) Prayer Book, p. 67

PREPARING IN PENITENCE.

The Summary of the Law (*All kneel.*)..... Prayer Book, p. 69

KYRIE ELEISON (*All kneel.*) Hymnal #710 (p. 752)..... Healey Willan

Lord have mercy have upon us. / Lord have mercy have upon us. / Lord have mercy have upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us. / Christ have mercy upon us. / Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy have upon us. / Lord have mercy have upon us. / Lord have mercy have upon us.

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Answer: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister: Let us pray.

The Collects of the Day (*All kneel.*) Prayer Book, p. 92, 90

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Lesson (*all sit*) Isaiah 11:1-10.

The prophet foretells the righteousness and peace of Christ's kingdom, and the calling of the Gentiles to it.

His descent from David, anointing with the Spirit, and just judgments.

In those days: there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse,
and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

³And shall make him of quick understanding
in the fear of the LORD:

and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes,
neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

⁴But with righteousness shall he judge the poor,
and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth:
and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

⁵And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins,
and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

The peace of his kingdom.

⁶The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together;
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷And the cow and the bear shall feed;
their young ones shall lie down together:
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put his hand
on the cockatrice' den.

⁹They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain:
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD,
as the waters cover the sea.

The calling of all peoples to his kingdom.

¹⁰And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an
ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

The Epistle (*All sit.*) Romans 15:4Prayer Book, p. 92

HYMN (*All stand.*) #8 *O Word, That Goest Forth on High*..... Rex Glorioso

The Holy Gospel (*Remain standing.*) St. Luke 21–25..... Prayer Book, p. 92-93

The Nicene Creed (*Standing, said by all.*).....Prayer Book, p. 71

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. **Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements (*All sit.*)

The Address

THE OFFERTORY

Sentences (*All stand.*)

While we have time, let us do good unto all men; and especially unto them that are of the household of faith. *Gal. vi. 10.*

ANTHEM: *Daughter of Zion*.....Joseph Clokey

Daughter of Zion, behold thy salvation cometh, the Lord shall cause His glorious voice to be heard, and ye shall have gladness of heart.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a flock, Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Daughter of Zion, behold thy salvation cometh, The Lord shall cause His glorious voice to the heard, and ye shall have gladness of heart.

Presentation of Alms (*All stand.*) Doxology #139.....Old Hundredth

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; / Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; / Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

At the offering

Priest: All things come of thee, O Lord,

Answer: and of thine own have we given thee.

The Biddings and Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Minister: Of your charity I bid your prayers for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed:

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord;

Answer: **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Prayer for Christ’s Church (*All kneel*).....Prayer Book, p. 74–75

THE PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

Invitation, Confession (*Said by all, all kneeling until Blessing*).....Prayer Book, p. 75

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Absolution and Comfortable Words.....Prayer Book, p. 76

Sursum Corda #734Hymnal #734, p. 788 or Prayer Book, p. 76

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **It is meet and right so to do ...**

SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS #711 & #797 Healey Willan

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory;

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. **Amen.**

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Prayer of Consecration: Institution, Oblation, and InvocationPrayer Book, p. 80-81

The Lord’s Prayer (*Said with the congregation*).....Prayer Book, p. 82

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.**

Prayer of Humble Access (*Said with the congregation*).....Prayer Book, p. 82

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious

Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI #712 (Hymnal, page 754)..... Healey Willan

- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Receiving the Sacrament.

Those who are baptized, have attained to years of discretion, and who have been admitted to communion (which at St. John's, is normally by confirmation, but for visitors may have taken place by some other means) are welcome to receive the sacrament. All others are welcome to receive a blessing at the altar rail (please kneel and cross arms over your breast to signify your intention).

To receive the host, please place right hand over left, palm up, at the level of your chest, and lift the host to your lips. To receive the chalice, keep your neck and head straight, and lightly grasp the bowl or stem of the chalice to guide it to your lips. For reasons of hygiene, self-intinction (dipping) of the host in the chalice is not permitted. If you do not wish to receive the chalice, you may get up after receiving the host, or cross your arms over your chest.

HYMN #8 *O Word, That Goest Forth on High*..... Verbum Supernum

COMMUNION MOTET (*All sit.*) *O Thou, The Central Orb of Righteous Love*..... Orlando Gibbons

O Thou, the central orb of righteous Love, pure beam of the Most High, eternal Light of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Refrain: Come, quickly come, and let Thy glory shine, gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.
Amen.

Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move as stars about Thy throne set in the height of God's ordaining counsel, as Thy sight gives measured grace to each Thy pow'r to prove.

Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin, our nature all shall feel eternal day, in fellowship with Thee, transforming day to souls ere-while unclean now pure within.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Said with the congregation.*)..... Prayer Book, p. 83

The Blessing (*All kneel.*)..... Prayer Book, p. 84

HYMN #5 *Lo! He Comes, with Clouds Descending*..... Helmsley

FINAL VOLUNTARY: 'Winchester New' C. S. Lang



12:15 P.M. – COFFEE HOUR, Green-Meldrim House
We invite everyone to join us for coffee hour and fellowship after service today.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

New weekday schedule for Advent

Monday–Friday, Dec. 5–9th

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

Monday: 5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*
with Holy Communion, Chapel

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*
with Holy Communion, Chapel
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*
with Holy Communion, Chapel

Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*
10 a.m. *Women of St. John’s*
Holy Communion, Chapel
12 p.m. *Holy Communion*, Church
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*
9 p.m. *Sung Compline*, Church

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*
with Holy Communion, Chapel
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*
with Holy Communion, Chapel

Friday: 5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*
with Holy Communion, Chapel

Saturday:

11 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Chapel

Sunday, Dec. 11th,

Third Sunday in Advent

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church

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

10 a.m. *All Ages Sunday School*,
Cranmer Hall/Chapel/Zoom

11 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Church/Online

No Coffee Hour this Sunday

3:30 p.m. *Pageant Rehearsal*, Church

4 p.m. *Christmas Tree Trimming*,
Green-Meldrim Mall

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed

11 a.m. Mrs. Richard Jennings (Stacy)

USHER CHAIR

Mr. Robert L. Sparks

COFFEE HOUR CHAIR

Mrs. Graham P. Sadler. (Dolly)

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara), Mrs. Timothy E. Coy (Dorothea), Mrs. B. Ray Summerell (Melanie), Mrs. David A. Young (Pam), Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan, Mrs. H. Emerson Thomas, Jr. (Martie), Mrs. David A. Reid, (Richie) and Ms. Lydia Wright

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers in the Church this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in memory of Sally O’Donnell Whittington; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George O’Donnell; and her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Cook by Mr. Floyd G. Whittington, Sr. and sons; Floyd, Jr. and George.

And in honor of Mr. and Mrs. William Lee Belford on the anniversary of their wedding by their loving grandson, William Lee Belford III, and his parents.

And in thanksgiving for and on the occasion of the birthday of Max Cooper Hamilton by Mrs. Patti Cooper.

And in loving memory of Marshall F. Campbell, Jr. and her grandson, Alexander Mueller Archie by Dr. and Mrs. H. Emerson Thomas, Jr.

If you would like to offer flowers for the Altar, please 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.

NEW & NEWSWORTHY

“WOMEN IN PRESERVATION”

PRESENTED BY JAMIE CREDLE

Wednesday, Dec. 7th at 10:35 a.m.,

Green-Meldrim House

Jamie Credle, Director of the Davenport House Museum, will delve into the contributions of women to Savannah's historic preservation. Learn about what these women – several of whom are St. John's Church parishioners – did or are doing. This presentation is sponsored by the Women of St. John's and is being held in conjunction with their December general meeting, which begins at 10 a.m. with Holy Communion in the chapel. All the women of the parish are encouraged to attend and bring a friend!

COFFEE HOUR THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday, Dec. 4th, join us in the Green-Meldrim House after 11 a.m. service for coffee hour.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT & YOUTH GROUP

Our Youth Group is meeting today in Cranmer Hall from 5-7 p.m.. They now meet on the first and third Sundays of the month. There is childcare for younger children too. Let us know if you plan to attend by using the RSVP link at StJohnsSav.org/youth.

New! THE ART OF ADVENT

Thank you to everyone who attended our first session of the new three-week series exploring the theology of Christ through works of art (including an art exhibition in the colonnade by a Ukrainian iconographer). We will meet twice more on **Thursday, Dec. 8th** and **Thursday, Dec. 15th** from 6:15–7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of Cranmer Hall. All are welcome to attend! Plan to stay for light refreshments at the end.

Advent & Christmas at St. John's

SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 10 A.M. – NOON

Breakfast with Santa

Food, fun, and a photo with Santa.

Details at StJohnsPreschool.org

SUNDAY, DEC. 11, 4:30 P.M.

Tree Trimming (*Pageant rehearsal 3:30 p.m.*)*

All ages are welcome to help us trim the Christmas tree in the church mall! Music and refreshments included. *If you would like your child to participate in the Christmas pageant, email our Children's Ministry Director, Sarah Ross, at ssross@stjohnssav.org.

SUNDAY, DEC. 18, 11 A.M.

Lessons & Carols (Eggnog at Coffee Hour)

A service of Christmas carols and Scripture readings with a special coffee hour featuring homemade eggnog.

SATURDAY, DEC. 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

5 p.m. Christmas Pageant & Eucharist

11 p.m. Solemn Sung Eucharist

SUNDAY, DEC. 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist

TUESDAY, DEC. 27, 5:30 – 7 P.M.

St John's Day Trolley & Caroling

Celebrate the third day of Christmas with for light refreshments and Christmas caroling on trolleys through Savannah!

To find out more about our regular services and programs for our children and families, visit our website:

StJohnsSav.org



NEW & NEWSWORTHY

A SEASONAL CONCERT OF SACRED AND SECULAR CAROLS PRESENTED BY RALSTON COLLEGE

Dec. 9th at 5 P.m. (Free Admission)

Held at St. John's Church, Ralston College invites the community to their inaugural Ralston College seasonal concert of sacred and secular carols. This evening of contemplative and festive music will feature a vocal sextet and a string quartet under the direction of Sharon Mays. An assembly of vocalists and musicians, drawn from the ranks of the Savannah Philharmonic and the lofts of our own neighborhood choirs, will showcase the rich culture of our community. The program's musical selections, from the 14th century to the 20th, aim to draw out the tensions that belong to the season, when darkness grows and life recedes; when the human spirit cries out for that thing which it needs most: a gift. It is a season that prepares for giving, and one of reflection on what it means to receive. This concert will be livestreamed as well. Visit www.Ralston.ac for more details.

DECEMBER'S FAITH + FICTION

Please join us on **Wednesday, Dec. 21st** at 5:30 pm in the Green-Meldrim House for a Christmas-themed Faith + Fiction event! We will discuss *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (Simon Armitage translation), a 14th century chivalric romance in verse. Our discussion will include festive drinks, snacks, and late-Advent merriment.

WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S

Their next board meeting will be **Monday, Dec. 5th** at 10 a.m. in the Green-Meldrim House. For the General Meeting on **Wednesday, Dec. 7th** they will meet in the chapel at 10 a.m. for Holy Communion followed by a program at 10:35 a.m. by Jamie Credle about "Women in Preservation".

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL RECOMMENDATION

In conjunction with our Thursday evening Advent programming, the Rector and Associate Rector would like to recommend a daily devotional for this important time in the Church Year. The book, *The Art of Advent* by Jane Williams (theology professor and wife of Rowan Williams), offers daily theological reflections on beloved works of art from Advent through Epiphany. This is a wonderful way to begin each morning with our Lord as we prepare our hearts for his advent (coming), meditating on his nativity and anticipating his coming again. To view online visit, IVPress.com/the-art-of-advent

CANNED GOODS FOR SALE

The Women of St. John's will be selling pear, apple, peach, and tomato chutney, squash relish, and fig preserves after the services today. Jars are \$7.00 each. Look for the table in front of the church.

DOCENTS NEEDED

We are in need of docents to give tours of our beautiful, historic church, which draws many visitors during the week. Guiding tours through the church is part of our broader volunteer outreach ministry.

If you have a few hours to volunteer each month, prayerfully consider being a docent. We open our doors Tuesday and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are called to serve in this important outreach ministry, please contact Frank Somoskey at 830-608-4939 or frank-denny@sbcglobal.net.

CHURCH DOCTRINE & COFFEE

Join St. John's clergy to explore the week's topic every Tuesday at 9:15 a.m. (after 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer and Holy Communion in the chapel) in Cranmer Hall in the Reading Room (3rd floor) Christians who want to be part of this discussion are welcome. Parishioners in leadership or in other ministries in the congregation are welcome.

PARISH PAPER ESSAY

THE THIRD ADVENT

Advent, as the name indicates, is a season that looks to Christ's coming to the world, but the question is, which coming? For many, the emphasis of the season is historical, on the first coming: the innocence and vulnerability of the child born in Bethlehem, "away in a manger". In reaction perhaps to the sentimentality of the 'baby Jesus', others emphasize Christ's return in judgment, a time for preaching about death, judgment, heaven, and hell. It's worth noting that such competing emphases appear late in the Church's tradition; and that there is something rather one-sided about them, which should better be read as complementary aspects rather than competing emphases. As Oliver O'Donovan says, "expectancy is predicated on experience. Without the experience you would not know what to expect or why to expect it.... So it is with the coming of Christ. ... The past event of Christmas forms the horizon of our future. Which is why the Advent season has a double aspect, looking back to Christ's coming to look forward to his coming again". Memory, of Christ's first coming, is thus the matrix of hope, for his coming again.

That is the approach of St. Bernard of Clairvaux in the 12th century. In Advent, says Bernard, "we think not only of the coming whereby he came to seek and save the lost, but also and no less of that other coming, whereby he will come and take us to himself". Yet, St. Bernard says, "there is another, a third coming between those two... In the first Advent he was seen on earth and walked with men. In the second, 'all flesh shall see the salvation of our God,' and 'they shall look on him whom they pierced'. But the intermediate advent is a hidden one, in which only his chosen see him, in themselves, and so their souls are saved. In the first, he came in flesh and weakness; in the middle one he comes in Spirit and in power; in the final coming he will come in majesty and glory. ... So this intermediate advent is a sort of road, by which we travel from the first to the last." The double aspect of Christ's past and future comings

visible in the flesh, thus frames a third aspect, of his coming invisibly by his Spirit in the present.

That is precisely the structure of Cranmer's collect for Advent:

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...

Advent's double aspect, of first and second comings, is worked out in multiple antitheses: (1) "in the time of this mortal life" balanced with "in the last day"; (2) "thy Son Jesus Christ came" with "when he shall come again"; (3) "to visit us" (*viz.* 'in saving mercy') with "to judge both the quick and the dead"; (4) "in great humility" with "in his glorious majesty". Moreover, these four antitheses are arranged in a chiasmus (a sandwich pattern), with one antithesis ("humility" and "majesty") set within another ("visit" and "judge"). A quotation from the first Sunday's epistle lesson (Romans 13:11-14) introduces these carefully balanced clauses, with a further pair of antitheses: (5) "that we may cast away" with "put upon us"; and (6) "the works of darkness" with "this armour of light". At the heart of these artful arrangement is the word "now": "now in the time of this mortal life." The effect of these antitheses is to define "now" as a time of decisive importance. In present decisions – in the use of our present time, this very moment, *now*, not some indefinite time in the future – do we forge an eternal destiny. Now, in Christ's coming, is invisible by his Spirit in the present.

At the beginning of the Church's year – another rotation of the annual cycle – we are put in mind of the vital importance of grasping hold of the grace that is available to us in this time, in this third advent. There is no mistaking the practicality and urgency of that invitation.

– GGD

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
Associate Rector – The Rev. Jonathan Jameson.....(858) 583-2309 jjameson@stjohnssav.org
The Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert (Retired).....(931) 327-5489
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
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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, Jr.(912) 232-1251 svanderlip@stjohnssav.org
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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: Mrs. James S. McClellan, Jr. (Holly)
Junior Warden: Mr. Mark D. Stevens
Clerk of Vestry: Mrs. Gary M. Schubert (Elizabeth); Treasurer: Mr. Robert L. Sparks;
Assistant Treasurer: Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan)
Chancellor: Dolly Chisholm

The Vestry: Mrs. Benjamin W. Baxter (Cathy), Mr. John G. Bradshaw, Jr.,
Mr. Charles B. Compton, Jr. (Chip), Mrs. R. Scott Howard (Betsy), Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings (Stacy),
Mrs. Thomas C. McCay (Connie), Mrs. James S. McClellan, Jr. (Holly), Mrs. Paul M. Pressly (Jane),
Mr. Joseph Ross (Rusty), Mrs. Gary M. Schubert (Elizabeth), Mr. Robert L. Sparks, & Mr. Mark D. Stevens

Vestry Emeriti: Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr., Mr. James E. Hungerpiller, Mr. Edwin H. Culver
Chancellor Emeritus & Vestryman Emeritus: Mr. M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq.

President, Women of St. John's..... Mrs. Paula W. Walker
Co-President, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Jeanne H. MacMillan & Mrs. Linda H. Pounds
President Emeritus, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's Mr. Sean F. Finnegan