



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday, December 11, 2022

11 a.m. Morning Prayer



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

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SAVANNAH

*The Truth of the Bible*  
*In the Beauty of the Anglican Tradition.*  
*Believe. Worship. Love. Serve.*

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

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**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 Sundays); 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. **Please see page 8 for our services this week or visit [StJohnsSav.org](http://StJohnsSav.org).**

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

**For Guests and Visitors.** We extend a warm welcome to guests and visitors worshipping with us.

**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

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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 – ADVENT WREATH

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In the eastern sky before dawn, as the sun begins to rise, the deep blue-black of the night sky gives way to violet, rose, and white; and this sequence corresponds to the advent hope for the coming of Christ, the "sun of righteousness arisen with healing in his wings [i.e. rays]" (Malachi 4:2); "the dayspring" or dawning "from on high [that] hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Luke 1:78,.79). That same sequence of colours is employed in the Advent Wreath, a ring of evergreens bearing four candles, one for each week of Advent, three violet (for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays) and one rose (for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday). Beginning with just one violet candle in the first week, and then one more each additional week, they symbolize our growing hope in Christ's coming, and our increasing joy. At Christmas they are replaced by one or more white candles. Indeed, the transition from violet through rose to white tracks the transition from repentance to rejoicing that culminates in St. Paul's summons on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice", "The Lord is at hand".

# THE ORDER FOR MORNING PRAYER.

*(At the sound of the bell all kneel.)*

HYMN (*All stand.*) #10 *On Jordan's Bank*..... Winchester New

## PREPARING IN PENITENCE

**R**epent ye, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand. (*St. Matt. iii. 2.*) Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (*Isaiah xl. 3.*)

*¶ Then the Minister shall say,*

**Sentences and Exhortation** ..... Prayer Book, Page 3-6

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us . . .

**A General Confession** (*Said by all, kneeling.*)

**A**LMIGHTY and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. *Amen.*

*(Continue kneeling as priest stands to pronounce the Absolution.)*

**The Declaration of Absolution, or Remission of Sins** ..... Prayer Book, page 7

**Lord's Prayer** (*said by all, kneeling*) ..... Prayer Book, page 7

**O**UR 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.*

**Opening Versicles & Responses** ..... Prayer Book, page 7

*Minister:* O Lord, open thou our lips.

*Answer:* **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise. (*All stand.*)**

*Minister:* O God, make speed to save us.

*Answer:* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*Minister:* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*Answer:* **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.***

*Minister:* Praise ye the Lord.

*Answer:* **The Lord's Name be praised.**

## PRAISE OF GOD'S GLORY

*Antiphon:* Our King and Savior draweth nigh: O Come, let us adore him.

Psalm 95. *Venite, exultemus.* (*all stand*).....Hymnal #606 (Macfarren)

*Antiphon:* Our King and Savior draweth nigh: O Come, let us adore him.

Psalm 85. *Benedixisti, Domine.*.....Prayer Book, page 446

The First Lesson (*All sit.*) Isaiah 35 *Christ's kingdom foreshown.*

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them;  
and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

<sup>2</sup>It shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice even with joy and singing:  
the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it,  
the excellency of Carmel and Sharon,  
they shall see the glory of the LORD,  
and the excellency of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen ye the weak hands,  
and confirm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup>Say to them that are of a fearful heart,  
Be strong, fear not:  
behold, your God will come with vengeance,  
even God with a recompence;  
he will come and save you.

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

<sup>6</sup>Then shall the lame man leap as an hart,  
and the tongue of the dumb sing:  
for in the wilderness shall waters break out,  
and streams in the desert.

<sup>7</sup>And the parched ground shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty land springs of water:  
in the habitation of dragons, where each lay,  
shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>And an highway shall be there, and a way, \  
and it shall be called The way of holiness;  
the unclean shall not pass over it;  
but it shall be for those:  
the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon,  
it shall not be found there;  
but the redeemed shall walk there:

<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,  
and come to Zion with songs  
and everlasting joy upon their heads:  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**CANTICLE** *The Advent Prose. (Sung by the choir; congregation may be seated.)*

*Refrain:* **Drop down, ye heavens, from above, \* and let the skies pour down righteousness**  
[Isaiah 45:8].

*Cantor:* Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever: thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. [Isaiah 64:10, 11]

*Refrain:* **Drop down, ye heavens, from above, \* and let the skies pour down righteousness**  
[Isaiah 45:8].

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away; thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. [Isaiah 64:6, 7]

*Refrain:* **Drop down, ye heavens, from above, \* and let the skies pour down righteousness**  
[Isaiah 45:8].

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. [Isaiah 43:10, 11, 13]

*Refrain:* **Drop down, ye heavens, from above, \* and let the skies pour down righteousness**  
[Isaiah 45:8].

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry. I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee: for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. [Isaiah 40:1; 44:22; 43:3; Jeremiah 30:10]

*Refrain:* **Drop down, ye heavens, from above, \* and let the skies pour down righteousness**  
[Isaiah 45:8].

**The Second Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 & St. Matthew 11:2-10 (*all sit*) .....Prayer Book, pages 94

**CANTICLE** Benedictus (*All stand.*) St. Luke 1:68. ....Hymnal #638 (Marsh)

## PRAYERS FOR GOD'S GRACE

The Apostles' Creed (*Said by all, standing*) ..... Prayer Book, page 15

**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.*

Versicles and Responses ..... Prayer Book, page 16

*Minister:* The Lord be with you. *Answer:* **And with thy spirit.**

*Minister:* Let us pray. (*All kneeling.*)

*Minister:* Lord, have mercy upon us. *Answer:* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Minister:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

## The Lord's Prayer (*Sung by the choir*)

**O**UR 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. *Amen.*

¶ *The priest alone standing up shall say, and the choir sings the responses*

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

*Answer:* **And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the state.

*Answer:* **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

*Answer:* **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

*Answer:* **And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord,

*Answer:* **For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*Answer:* **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

The Collects of the Day ..... Prayer Book, page 93, 90

The Collects for Peace and for Grace, Other Prayers ..... Prayer Book, pages 17-20

## For the Faithful Departed

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

*Minister:* Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord;

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

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

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom & the Grace.....Prayer Book, page 20

Notices (*All sit.*)

HYMN (*All stand.*) #6 *Creator of the Stars of Night*..... Conditor Alme

The Address (*All sit.*)

### THE OFFERING

Sentences (*All stand.*)

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (*All sit.*) *This is the Record of John*..... Orlando Gibbons

(Chip Lamb, countertenor)

(Text found in the Prayer Book, page 95)

At the Presentation of Alms and Oblations (*All stand.*)

#139 The Doxology..... Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; / Praise him all creatures here below; /

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts; / Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*At the offering:* All things come of thee, O Lord

*Answer:* and of thine own have we given thee.

*Minister:* The Lord be with you.

*Answer:* And with thy spirit.

*Minister:* Let us pray. (*All kneel.*)

A General Thanksgiving (*May be said by all.*).....Prayer Book, page 19

**A**LMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The Aaronic Blessing (*Remain kneeling.*)

HYMN (*All stand.*) #329 *How Bright Appears the Morning Star*..... Frankfort

FINAL VOLUNTARY *Fanfare on Wachet Auf*.....Philipp Nicolai, Arr. M. Burkhardt



## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

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### VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed

11 a.m. Mrs. Benjamin W. Baxter (Cathy)

### USHER CHAIR

Mr. Benjamin W. Baxter

### CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara), Mrs. Timothy E. Coy (Dorothea), Mrs. B. Ray Summerell (Melanie), Mrs. John G. Bradshaw (Sally), Mrs. David A. Young (Pam), Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr. (Penny), and Mrs. Benjamin W. Baxter (Cathy)

### MUSICIAN

Chip Lamb, Countertenor

## ALTAR FLOWERS

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The flowers in the Church this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Mrs. William E. Hutchinson, Jr.

And in joyful celebration of the birthday of Rencie Schmidt by her loving husband, Peter Schmidt.

And in loving memory of Francis and Priscilla LeFurgy by their children, Linda and Richard.

*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.*

## VOLUNTEER

### TUTORING OPPORTUNITY

Our long time outreach partner, Urban Hope, is in need of tutors during their afterschool (3-5 p.m.). Please contact the Church office at 912-232-1251 if you are interested.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

### *Weekday schedule for Advent*

**Monday–Friday, Dec. 12–16<sup>th</sup>**

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*  
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. 18<sup>th</sup>,**

### **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church  
9 a.m. *Family Holy Communion*, Church  
10 a.m. *All Ages Sunday School*, Cranmer Hall/Chapel/Zoom  
11 a.m. *Lessons & Carols*, Church/Online  
12:15 p.m. *Coffee Hour with Eggnog*  
5-7 p.m. *Parents' Night Out & Youth Group*, Cranmer Hall (Sign up is required.)  
Visit [StJohnsSav.org/youth](http://StJohnsSav.org/youth)



## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

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### ST. JOHN'S DAY TROLLEY & CAROLING

*Look for the Sign-Up Table after Today's Service*

Help us celebrate the third day of Christmas on **Tuesday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>** from 5:30- 7 p.m. We will gather in the Green-Meldrim House Mall for light refreshments then board trolleys for Christmas caroling through Savannah. If you are interested, visit the sign-up table after the 10 & 11 a.m. services today. If you have any questions, please email Fr. Jameson at [jjameson@stjohnssav.org](mailto:jjameson@stjohnssav.org).

### HELP TRIM OUR CHRISTMAS TREE TODAY

Today at 4:30 p.m. — after the 3:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal in the Church — Parishioners of all ages are invited to trim the tree in the Green-Meldrim Mall. Children will create an ornament while the older children/youth/adults assist in hanging/wiring the ornaments to the tree. The ornament supplies and refreshments will be provided. Plan to stay and sing carols.

### THE ART OF ADVENT, FINAL SESSION

Next **Thursday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**, is the final session of our three-week series exploring the theology of Christ through works of art. Plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall of Cranmer Hall from 6:15-7 p.m. All are welcome to attend! Plan to stay for light refreshments at the end of the sessions.

### LESSONS & CAROLS (*Eggnog at Coffee Hour*)

Next **Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>** is our beloved, traditional service of Christmas carols and Scripture readings in preparation for the arrival of Jesus Christ. After the service, we will hold a special coffee hour featuring homemade eggnog in the Green-Meldrim House.

Beginning in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, services of Lessons and Carols for Christmas and Advent have become part of the season's traditions of worship, and most (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.



### A FESTIVE DECEMBER FAITH + FICTION

Please join us on **Wednesday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>** at 5:30 p.m. 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 14<sup>th</sup>-century chivalric romance in verse, while enjoying festive drinks, snacks, and late-Advent merriment. E. Shaver Books will have copies available for purchase.

### A GREAT GIFT IDEA

*Give a Piece of Savannah and St. John's History*

Thank you for the wonderful response during coffee hour last week. All of our 1-10 planks were sold out! Approximately 75 of the \$100 planks remain. They make great gifts so they too will sell out quickly! Thinking about getting one? Email [crmccay50@comcast.net](mailto:crmccay50@comcast.net) with your details and we can ship to you.

### STRINGS & BRASS AT CHRISTMAS

Would you like to contribute to the sound of strings or brass during this year's Christmas services? Forms are available on page 15, at the back of the church, at [StJohnsSav.org/Christmas](http://StJohnsSav.org/Christmas), and the Church office. Donations received by **Friday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>** will be published in the Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> Parish Paper.

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY



### ART INSTALLATION FOR ADVENT

#### *Dawn on our Darkness: The Hidden Life of Jesus from the Annunciation to the Epiphany*

In conjunction with The Art of Advent, we are showcasing six artworks by Ukrainian artist, Ivanka Demchuk. These modern iconographic works play on the starkness of the world as we encounter it — broken by sin and death — while also allowing the eternal to break through, even in the ordinary, with beauty and with “healing in his wings.” She writes of her work: “In my art, God comes to man again in human form.” Her artworks will be featured in the arches (or colonnade) at St. John’s through Epiphany, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>.

### ADVENT DEVOTIONAL RECOMMENDATION

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](http://IVPress.com/the-art-of-advent).

## Christmas at St. John’s

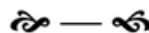
SATURDAY, DEC. 24, CHRISTMAS EVE  
5 p.m. Christmas Pageant  
& Holy Eucharist

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 by joining us for light refreshments and Christmas caroling on trolleys through Savannah!



### *Coming in the New Year*

THURSDAYS, 12:15-1:15 P.M.  
The Word At Work

*Tools to read the Bible with confidence  
and understanding*

Eight-part lunch series on how different parts of the Bible fit together on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays starting Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> in Cranmer Hall

\$25 buys food for the soul – food for the body – and help for neighbours in need. Catering by The Dive Savannah, a business with a ministry with the homeless and with struggling veterans. (\$25 session/\$200 for complete series)

Optional companion reading: *God’s Big Picture: Tracing the Storyline of the Bible* by Vaughan Roberts.

To learn more or sign up,  
visit [StJohnsSav.org](http://StJohnsSav.org)

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

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### P.A.C.K. UPDATE

We are proud to report that St. John's volunteers packed 500 bags of food during their two nights in November (Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>). **Please note that we will not meet Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at P.A.C.K.** Volunteers from St. John's will resume packing bags on **Wednesday, Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>** from 4:30-6 p.m. Volunteers pack bags from 4:30-5:30 p.m. with time to restock from 5:30-6 p.m. Please remember that all children must be accompanied by at least one parent. To learn more about this outreach opportunity, email Cathy Baxter at [cathybaxter@gmail.com](mailto:cathybaxter@gmail.com).

If you are unable to pack bags, you may choose to sponsor a year's worth of food for one child by donating \$200, or \$1,000 to sponsor an emergency cabinet. You may make donations to St. John's Church with "PACK" written in the memo.

### UPDATE ON CHURCH TOUR DOCENTS

Thank you to those who responded to our urgent call for docents. While we've averted immediate concerns for limiting our tours due to a lack of volunteers, we're always in need of volunteer docents. Looking to become more involved in the church in the New Year? Prayerfully consider being a docent. We open our doors Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are called to serve this important outreach ministry, contact Frank Somoskey at 830-608-4939 or [frank-denny@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor) Christians who want to be part of this discussion are welcome. Parishioners in leadership or in other ministries in the congregation are welcome.

### CLERGY DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

At St. John's, the offerings made in the envelopes marked "Communion alms" are designated for the Rector's (or Clergy) Discretionary Funds. Monies set aside for use at the discretion of the priest for charitable purposes, especially helping parishioners and non-parishioners in need. If you would like to contribute to the Discretionary Fund, make out the check to St. John's and write "Discretionary Fund" in the memo. All donations are tax deductible.

### LIVESTREAM QUALITY

Our livestream ministry is an important component of our service in total to the parish and beyond. Yet occasionally, we learn that the received livestreams have gaps or static or may cut in and out. Sometimes this is the result of faults inherent with digital broadcasting (a.k.a. livestream), yet there are steps you may take that may be helpful.

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*(Continued onto page 13.)*

## PRAYER BOOKS AND HYMNALS

Mark a special occasion, or leave a lasting memorial to a loved one, by dedicating a Prayer Book or a Hymnal for use at St. John's Church. Each dedication will be recorded by a bookplate. The charge of \$50 per book will offset the costs of replacing Hymnals and Prayer Books in the Church or Chapel.

Contact the Church office at 912.232.1251 if you are interested.

## PARISH PAPER ESSAY

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### O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

“The Spirit and the bride say, come. And let him that heareth say, come.” (Revelation 22:17). With the voice of the Spirit and of the Church we are invited to join our own, as we do in the haunting Advent hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, a 19<sup>th</sup> century translation of a medieval hymn, itself based on a very early medieval series of richly scriptural antiphons sung in the last eight days of Advent, the “Great O” Antiphons (so called, because they begin with the vocative particle, “O”). The point of Advent, is that we learn to hope and pray for the coming of Christ.

Behind these Advent prayers stands the great petition in Psalm 80, which shaped the “stir up” collects of the season, “Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up thy strength and come!” Psalm 80, as the note in the Geneva Bible puts it, is “a lamentable prayer to God to help the miseries of his Church, imploring him to consider their first estate, when his favor shined toward them, to the intent that he might finish that which he had begun”. That is, we ask the Lord to come, because he has already come; and our past experience is the basis of present expectancy; memory the matrix of hope; and what we seek is the restoration, the renewal, and the completion of what he began.

Likewise in Revelation 22. The Spirit that says “Come”, is the Spirit by whose overshadowing Christ was conceived of the Virgin Mary, who was poured out on the disciples of Jesus for the publishing of the gospel, and is the same Spirit who moved over the deep in the beginning to bring the world into being. Of all those beginnings the Spirit now demands the completion, the fulfilment in Christ of God’s purposes for us and for creation. With the Spirit speaks “the bride”, that is, the Church, with whom we are invited to join our own

voice: “Let him that heareth say, come”. It is not taken for granted that we should do so, and in fact the Church’s true voice is often muffled or drowned out by other voices, not only the chorus of strident worldly agendas, but also by the voice of well-meaning, muddled, and ineffectual piety.

For us to join our voices with the Spirit and the Church, we must know what it means to ask him to come; and we can only know what to expect of his coming if we know him as he has already come. Memory – the memory embedded in the Scriptures above all – is the matrix of hope: “whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope”. We give ourselves to hear the Scriptures, to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace the hope which they offer.

And what the Scriptures teach us, is that the coming of Jesus, his being called to our side (‘paraclete’) in that closed system we call ‘the world’, chastens its pretensions, while also opening possibilities of which that closed system is not capable. Where Jesus came demons are cast out, the diseased are healed, the dead are raised, defilement cleansed, and debts are forgiven, above all the crushing burden of guilt and fear; and though the unbelieving world recoils and reacts in hostility, yet notice has been served: its time is up; and it’s time also for us to switch our loyalties from worldly pretenders to the world’s true king.

Don’t mistake me: I am not turning “Jesus” into a magic wand to wave all our troubles away. But in his coming, even in our praying for his coming, there is something else here besides our anxieties, sorrows, and failures, a new and untameable power, which sets us free from their vise-like grip. Winter may continue for a while, but already “Aslan is on

the move”, and even in our griefs and sorrows there is reason to take heart. The one who has come, will come, and is even now coming. “Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus” (22:20).

– GGD

**THE GREAT O ANTIPHONS**

*Said before and after the Magnificat.*

*O Sapientia.* Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

**O** Wisdom, which camest out of the mouth of the most High, and reachest from one end to another mightily, and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence. (*Ecclus. 24:3; Wisd. 8:1; cf. 1 Cor. 1:24; Prov. 1-9*)

*O Adonai.* Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

**O** Lord of Lords, and Leader of the House of Israel, who appearedst in the bush to Moses in a flame of fire, and gavest him the Law in Sinai: Come and deliver us with an outstretched arm. (*Exod. 3:14; John 8:58*).

*O Radix Jesse* Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

**O** Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall shut their mouths, and to whom the Gentiles shall seek: Come and deliver us, and tarry not, we beseech thee. (*Isaiah 11:10; Rev. 22:16*)

*The other antiphons will be published next week.*

*(Continued from page 11.)*

The systems at the church are not infallible; therefore, we diagnose the livestream system in advance of a broadcast, tweak as needed, and regularly have our system support vendor visit for updates and adjustments. After each service, we receive a broadcast quality report; it is most always perfect. Moreover, we locally record every service. These files are clear and unmanipulated by software. Unfortunately, the files are too large to attach to email. If you ever want a copy, please contact the church office.

We notice that when a live broadcast isn't high quality, it is often due to external factors. Frequently, if you watch or listen the recorded service at another time, it appears fine. However, and prior to watching a livestreamed service, we suggest you try the following to maximize the quality:

1. Check internet speeds to your location, making sure your house or neighborhood isn't experiencing slow performance.
2. Refresh your internet modem and router. Often, these devices become clogged with digital junk and a reboot will clear things up.
3. Do the same for your computer, tablet, or PDA. A reboot (cold start) may help, as those devices tend to hold extraneous data that adversely affects performance.
4. We recommend that you watch and listen on YouTube versus Facebook as quality is better there, particularly for sound.

Experience tells us that these steps will normally resolve any potential problems that you might experience. Then again, if you consider how many switches, servers, filters, miles of cable, software and satellites, etc., lie between the church and you, sometimes there's trouble that cannot be explained. But if you are having persistent problems, please contact the church office and we will do our best to help resolve your issues.



**Christmas 2022**  
**Wreaths, Garlands and Poinsettias**

*For the decoration of St. John's Church*

**Poinsettia - \$35 each Wreath/Garland - \$80 each**

To order a decoration please complete this form and include a check payable to St. John's Chancel Society. Forms may be submitted in the offering plate or directly to the church office.

Dedications will be published in the January 1<sup>st</sup> Parish Paper.

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**Giver Name(s):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the how many of each type of decoration and the dedication

\_\_\_\_\_ **Poinsettias**      \_\_\_\_\_ **Wreaths/Garlands**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

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**IN THANKSGIVING FOR, IN HONOR OF, OR IN CELEBRATION OF:**

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Questions? Contact the Church Office—(912) 232-1251

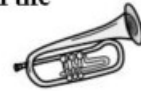


## Christmas Music Donations

To contribute to the expense of brass or string instrumentalists at Christmas, please complete this form and include a check payable to St. John's Church marked *Christmas Music*.

Forms may be submitted directly to the church office.

Donations received by December 23<sup>rd</sup> will be published in the in the January 8<sup>th</sup> Parish Paper.



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**Giver Name (s):**

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**Phone:**

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**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

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**IN THANKSGIVING FOR, IN HONOR OF:**

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Questions? Contact the Church Office—(912) 232-1251

# 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  
Administrative Assistant – Mrs. John C. Nelson (Margaret).....(912) 232-1251 mnelson@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  
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: 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