



THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 22, 2023

11 a.m. Morning Prayer



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; **Please note that starting in February our 9 a.m. Family Worship Service will have a new schedule** (Morning Prayer in the church on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of the month and Holy Communion in the chapel on the second and 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. Morning Prayer is online each weekday at 8:15 a.m. **Please visit StJohnsSav.org for this week's services.**

Children's Nursery. This 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 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 – TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

All prayer is common prayer. We never worship alone. In worship and prayer, we take part in, and make conscious, known and willed, the worship that all creation owes its Creator. This is the theme of many psalms (e.g. 95, 148, 149, 150) but especially of the ancient canticle called (after its opening words in Latin) the *Te Deum Laudamus* (Prayer Book pp 9-10). In the first part it locates our worship in the praise of God as Creator, “the Father everlasting”, by all the powers of creation and the instruments of divine government, the angels who never cease to cry “Holy, Holy, Holy”, and to testify that “heaven and earth are full of thy glory”. Second, it locates our worship of God in the praise offered by the communion of saints, apostles, prophets, martyrs, and the “holy church throughout all the world”, to whom God has revealed himself in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. We never worship alone, but in fellowship with all Christians throughout time and space. Third, the *Te Deum* turns to the praise of Christ, the “everlasting Son of the Father”, incarnate for our salvation, victorious over death, exalted, and coming in judgment. As we consider the work of God in creation, and of Christ in redemption, we are drawn out of isolation into a community of worship that embraces all, and in that universal community of worship our praise naturally turns into prayer for those whom he has redeemed “with thy precious blood”, that they may be “numbered with his saints”.

THE ORDER FOR
MORNING PRAYER.

(At the sound of the bell all kneel)

HYMN (*All stand*) #545 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*.....Munich (#114)

PREPARING IN PENITENCE

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws which he set before us.
Dan. ix. 9, 10.

¶ 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*)

ALMIGHTY 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 SinsPrayer Book, page 7

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

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.*

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

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

Psalm 97. *Dominus regnavit.*Prayer Book, page 460-461

The Old Testament Lesson (*All sit*) 1 Samuel 24:1-22. *David overcomes evil with good.*

In those days: it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi. ²Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. ³And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave. ⁴And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. ⁵And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. ⁶And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD. ⁷So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.

⁸David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself. ⁹And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt? ¹⁰Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed. ¹¹Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it. ¹²The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. ¹³As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. ¹⁴After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea. ¹⁵The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand.

¹⁶And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. ¹⁷And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil. ¹⁸And thou hast shewed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine hand, thou killedst me not. ¹⁹For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day. ²⁰And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand. ²¹Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house. ²²And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men gat them up unto the hold.

CANTICLE *Te Deum laudamus. (All stand)*.....Hymnal #613/617(Monk/Croft)

The New Testament Lessons: (*all sit*)

Roman 12:16 & St. Matthew 8:1..... Prayer Book, pages 112-113, 114-115

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 (*Said by all*)

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. **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 Collect of the Day.....Prayer Book, page 112

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*) #53 *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*Salzburg

The Address (*All sit*)

THE OFFERING

Sentences (*All stand*)

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. *St. Matthew 6.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (*All sit*) *Almighty and Everlasting God* Orlando Gibbons
(Text found in the Prayer Book, page 111)

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.

Hymn #141, Stanza 4..... America

Our father's God, to thee, Author of Liberty / To thee we sing;

Long may our land be bright/ With freedom's holy light;

Protect us by thy might, Great God our King. 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

ALMIGHTY 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*) #46 *Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning* Morning Star

FINAL VOLUNTARY “Sing with Joy, Glad Voices Lift” Hermann Schroeder



12:15 P.M. COFFEE HOUR TODAY

*Plan to join us after 11 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Green-Meldrim House.
All are invited for this special time of fellowship!*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed

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

USHER CHAIR

Mr. John G. Bradshaw

LECTOR

Mr. David C. Schultz

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mr. & 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. R Gilbert Wells (Jane)

COFFEE HOUR CHAIR

Mrs. Daniel Gilfillan (Marilyn)

MUSICIANS

Angela Fisher, Assistant Organist

Wes Perkins, Assistant Conductor

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers in the Church this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse L. Fulenwider, Jr. by their family.

And in loving memory of Dr. Robert A. Burnett by Mary, Wendy, and Decie.

And in loving memory of Leonard Trosten on his birthday by Mrs. Ali Trosten and son, Jay Overstreet.

And in honor of the first anniversary of Reverend Jonathan Jameson's ordination on January 21, 2022.

The flowers in the chapel on Epiphany were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of J. Robert Logan Jr. by Dr. and Mrs. J. Robert Logan.

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 Wyllly at 912-656-6235.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

MEETING FOR URBAN HOPE TUTORS

Please remember to stay in the church after 11 a.m. Morning Prayer today for a brief meeting for those interested in serving as a tutor for Urban Hope students. By taking part in Urban Hope's after-school tutoring ministry, you can make a big difference to an inner-city child whose education was disrupted by COVID.

As a reminder, no experience is needed, you may set your own schedule, the tutoring material is elementary, and you may make a short-term commitment. Please contact Matthew Sparks at sparksmjw@gmail.com for any other questions.

YOUTH GROUP + PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Our next Youth Group is later today from 5-7 p.m. in Cranmer Hall. Students are studying spiritual beings: God, angels, Satan, and ourselves as embodied souls. If your child is not old enough for youth group, we have nursery available. Please sign-up at StJohnsSav.org/youth and bring \$20/family.

JANUARY'S FAITH + FICTION

The book for this month's Faith + Fiction is *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka. This group will meet at 5:30 p.m. after Evening Prayer in the Green-Meldrim House this **Wednesday, Jan. 25th**. All are welcome to join this theologically focused book discussion led by Heather Cross and Fr. Jameson. The only requirement is that you've read the book.

THE WORD AT WORK

We had a wonderful response to the start of our eight-part lunch series on how different parts of the Bible fit together. The next session is **Thursday, Jan. 26th** at 12:15 p.m. in Cranmer Hall. You may sign up for any session at StJohnsSav.org/Word. The remaining sessions are: Jan. 26th; Feb. 9th & 23rd; March 9th & 30th; and April 13th & 27th. Registration is required: \$25 per session, which includes lunch catered by The Dive Savannah.

ANNUAL OYSTER ROAST & BARBECUE

St. John's much anticipated oyster roast and BBQ, sponsored by the Men of St. John's, is **Saturday, Feb. 11th** at Camp Villa Marie, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring your family and invite friends to enjoy delicious food and beverages, music, and a bouncy house. Oysters are served at 11:30 a.m.; BBQ and hot dogs are served at 1 p.m. All bakers are encouraged to bring a dessert to share. You may purchase advanced tickets by calling the church office or visiting the website at StJohnsSav.org/oyster. Prices are \$40/adults, \$30/guest, \$10/youth, Children under 5 are free. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$5 more. For questions, contact Sean Finnegan at 912-441-3267 or savfinn@gmail.com.

You may also enter to win a stunning, framed oyster photograph donated by Winslett Watson. This fine art print is valued at \$2,400. Tickets are available online at StJohnsSav.org/oyster or at the door for \$5 each, 5 for \$20, or 15 for \$50. The winning ticket will be drawn at 2:30 p.m. at the St. John's Oyster Roast. The winner does not need to be present to win.

ADULT CONFIRMATION & RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP BEGINNING FEB. 5TH

The Rector will be offering a class on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. beginning **Feb. 5th** for adults seeking Confirmation, reception into membership at St. John's, or a refresher/introduction to the Anglican tradition of Christianity. It will run through Palm Sunday (April 2nd), and will touch on the history of Anglicanism, and its distinctive approach to Christian faith and worship. If interested, please notify the Church office at 912-232-1251 or Fr. Dunbar at gdunbar@sjohnssav.org.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

A PIECE OF ST. JOHN'S HISTORY

For a \$100 donation, you may own a unique piece of St. John's Church history with a very special, limited-edition memento of a wooden plank of the Nave's original flooring, which were uncovered during recent renovation work. These planks include a beautiful commemorative plate on the front and the limited-edition number on the back. Email crmccay50@comcast.net with your details and we can ship to you.

Funds raised from these planks of the Nave's original flooring will be used for a much-needed refurbishment of the Choir Room, on the third floor above office and chapel, where the organist and choir prepare the music that adorns our worship.

SHARING OUR HISTORY AND BEAUTY

Our beautiful, historic buildings are regionally significant and a draw for visitors. Guiding tours through the Green-Meldrim House and the church is our pleasure and a part of our broader volunteer outreach ministry. If you have a few hours to volunteer each month, please consider being a docent. It's easy and builds stronger relations in our parish.

Green-Meldrim House: We open the Green-Meldrim House on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We are always in need of new docents. If you would like to share the beauty and history of our parish house, please contact Jane Pressly at 912-667-1584 or janepressly@aol.com.

The Church: Consider being a docent to give tours of our beautiful and historic church. If you are available Tuesdays or Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., please contact Frank Somoskey at 830-608-4939 or frank-denny@sbcglobal.net.

SAVANNAH ANTIQUES & ARCHITECTURE WEEKEND (SAAW) *March 9-11, 2023*

The seventh annual Savannah Antiques & Architecture Weekend presents: *Home Is Where the Art Is*. Celebrate the influence of Savannah's antiques and architecture on great works of art, while helping to preserve the Green-Meldrim House and the Andrew Low House Museum. To learn more, purchase tickets, or become a patron, you may visit SavAntiquesWeekend.com.

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.

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.

DO YOU WISH TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE PARISH PAPER BY MAIL?

As St. John's Church has expanded its efforts to communicate news and events in a variety of ways: weekly emails, Facebook posts, website, and Sunday service booklets, we realize you may no longer need us to mail you the Parish Paper. If you wish to be removed from the weekly Parish Paper mailings, please call the Church office at 912-232-1251.

PARISH PAPER ESSAY

CONVERSION OF PAUL

“Right dear in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints”. On the feasts of the saints, the Church celebrates the witness to Christ that they completed by their death, and their entrance into supernal glory. There are three exceptions to this rule: the Nativity of John the Baptist, the Annunciation of Saint Mary the Virgin, and the Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle (which falls this week on Wednesday). Each of the first two in its own way marks a turning point in salvation history: but what of the Conversion of St Paul? How can the conversion of one individual be a turning point in salvation history?

In revivalistic Christianity, conversion is often understood as an intense emotional experience. An experience it is, and one that often involves the emotions, though “high emotional temperature” as Robert Crouse drily remarks, “is no clear symptom of conversion”. (Fr Ralston would recall hearing an excited radio preacher exclaim, “Oh, Oh, I don’t know what I am feeling, but Oh, how I feel it!”) Sometimes, as in Paul’s case, it involves special effects; but (as Crouse also said), ‘Conversion is not fundamentally a matter of blinding lights and secret voices, but a matter of a new integration of personality around a new centre, a new focus of insight and energies. “I live, yet not I, but Christ in me” (Gal. 2:10)’.

That’s why conversion, turning to Christ, recentering the energies of the mind and will on him, entails our ongoing transformation by the renewal of our minds, transformation “from the inside out”, no longer conformed to the world, but reformed in the likeness of Christ by the working of his Spirit.

What Saint Paul’s conversion also shows us is that the conversion that begins in the inner life of the

individual does not stop there: for conversion is not only recentering insight but also refocusing vocation. Jesus appears to Paul on the way to Damascus, because he is a “chosen vessel” to bear the name of Jesus among the Gentiles, “to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me” (26:18). The zeal Paul poured into ferocious persecution of the church must now be invested in the fervent preaching of the gospel.

Paul was not the first to take the gospel to the Gentiles. Peter’s ministry in Caesarea (Acts 10), and Barnabas’ ministry in Antioch (Acts 11) show us that it is the Spirit who leads the way, and the Church plays catchup as best it can. Though Paul then takes a leading role in the first intentional mission to the Gentiles, he does so only in a team that includes others like Barnabas and Silas, Aquila and Prisca, Timothy and Titus; and long before he arrives in Rome there was a mixed congregation of Jews and Gentiles, and this must have been true in many other parts of the Mediterranean world as well. In addition, before Paul’s conversion, the conversion of Cornelius had already taught Peter that you don’t need to be Jewish in order to be Christian, and that salvation is by the grace of Jesus Christ, and not by doing the works of the law (Acts 15:7-11). So Paul is far from a one-man show – the besetting temptation of too many charismatic religious personalities. Yet Paul holds more tenaciously to the principles than anyone else, when even stalwarts like Peter and Barnabas were temporizing on the exemption of Gentile converts from legal observance of the law (Galatians 2:11ff). And no one articulated as clearly and extensively, and *in writing*, the rationale and implications of the

PARISH PAPER ESSAY

gospel for the doctrines of Christ and of the Spirit, of justification, moral life, the church, its ministry and sacraments, of Christian hope in the face of death. It took centuries for the Church to absorb Paul's teaching, and it is still absorbing it, for there is a lot to absorb, and it must always be overcoming our native inclinations to Pelagian self-help; yet somehow, from the beginning, enough Christians recognized the importance of these writings to preserve and honor them as scripture. Without them our grasp of the gospel would be sadly impoverished.

By conversion, Paul receives a vocation of conversion, and so it is with our conversions also; in them we are caught up in the conversion of the whole human community, indeed, the whole creation, the return of the creature to the Creator, and its being refashioned in glory. This is not the work of man, but the work of God in bringing us to himself. So our prayer must be: "Turn thou us, O good Lord, and so shall we be turned" (Cf Lamentations 5:21). "Turn us again, O God, show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole" (Ps. 80).

—GGD

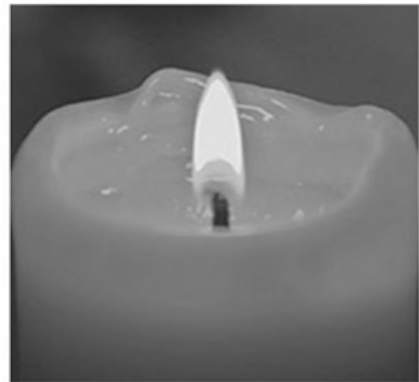
PRAYER BOOKS & HYMNALS

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.

Candlelight Choral Evensong

Sunday, Feb. 5 at 5:05 p.m.

*A beautiful, music-filled
service based on the classical
Anglican Prayer Book*



Prelude music begins at 5:05 p.m.

Service begins at 5:30 p.m.

NO ADMISSION CHARGE

Free Parking in St. John's Lot on Whitaker St.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH

Worship in the Anglican Tradition

325 Bull Street, Savannah ■ StJohnsSav.org

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.***

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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
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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.,

Dr. J. Davidson Carson (David), Mr. E. Brian Culver, Mrs. James F. Holtzclaw (Sherry),

Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings (Stacy), Mrs. Thomas C. McCay (Connie), Mrs. Paul M. Pressly (Jane),

Mrs. Gary M. Schubert (Elizabeth), Mr. Robert L. Sparks, Mr. Mark D. Stevens, and Mr. Richard Wright (Rick)

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