



**QUINQUAGESIMA  
(THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT)**

Sunday, February 19, 2023

11 a.m. Holy Communion



**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; **Our 9 a.m. Family Worship Service has 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 see [page 7](#) for this week's services or visit [StJohnsSav.org](#).**

**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**.

**Ways to Give:** To support the ministries at St. John's Church, you may choose to give in several ways.

- **Collection Plate** – You may give in the offering, perhaps using an offering envelope.
- **Text** – Simply text 1928BCP to 73256 and receive a link where you can donate online.
- **Online** – Visit our website at [StJohnsSav.org](#) and click GIVE (top right of menu)
- **Automated** – Give automatically by setting up bill pay through your checking account.
- **Mail** – Send your check to St. John's Church, 1 West Macon Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401.

## HOW WE WORSHIP AND WHY – GETTING READY FOR LENT

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The practices of Lent are the three spiritual disciplines endorsed by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount: fasting (reduction in quantity and quality of food, drink, and other bodily pleasures), prayer (including the reading of Scripture), and almsgiving (giving to those in need). On the forty weekdays of Lent (Sundays are not fast days), we are asked to reduce the quality of our food (“abstinence”) and on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday also to reduce its quantity (“fasting”). The fast may be broken in the evening with a light meal of plain food. In the western church, the custom is to abstain from flesh meat during Lent. The rigor of the fast is alleviated for the very young, the elderly, for reasons of health, and for those engaged in heavy labor. Such moderation is not only good for our bodies, but also for our souls. We say “no” to our bodily appetites that we may say “yes” to God and neighbor. Fasting liberates time that might be spent in the pleasures of watching television, playing games, or socializing for the discipline of daily prayer. This may be fulfilled by participation in the Church's daily prayers, either in the chapel or on your own (daily lessons are available in the weekly emailed newsletter and in the chapel and church). Fasting also liberates money that might have been spent in self-indulgence – in pricey restaurant meals, expensive cuts of red meat, etc. – to help the needy. In these disciplines we bring our lives more fully into alignment with the gospel we believe and the grace we have received.

### ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22<sup>ND</sup>: Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion

7 a.m. in the Chapel; noon and 5 p.m. in the Church. (5 p.m. includes the choir and childcare.) Fr. Jameson will hear confessions in the church on Ash Wednesday (11-11:30 a.m. & 1-1:30 p.m.) and by appointment.

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

Arise, shine; for thy light is come,  
and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. *Isaiah 60:1*

HYMN #340 *We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died*.....Breslau

THE ANTE-COMMUNION

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*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 #702 (p. 743)..... John Merbecke  
Lord have mercy have upon us. / Christ have mercy upon us. / Lord have mercy have upon us.

*Minister:* The Lord be with you.

*Answer:* **And with thy spirit.**

*Minister:* Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day (*All kneel.*)..... Prayer Book, p. 122

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9. *God's promise to Abraham, and Abraham's obedience in faith.*

**I**n those days: the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: <sup>2</sup>And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: <sup>3</sup>And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. <sup>4</sup>So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came. <sup>6</sup>And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land. <sup>7</sup>And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him. <sup>8</sup>And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his

tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

The Epistle (*all sit*) 1 Corinthians 13:1 ..... Prayer Book, pages 122-123

HYMN (*all stand*) #376 *Come Down, O Love Divine*..... Down Ampney

The Holy Gospel (*all stand*) St. Luke 18:31..... Prayer Book, pages 123-124

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.*)

**C**harge them who are rich in this world, that they be ready to give, and glad to distribute; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may attain eternal life. 1 *Tim.* vi.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (*all sit*) *Amazing Grace*.....Charles F. Bryan

Amazing grace how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come. 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun. We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.

Presentation of Alms (*All stand.*) #732 *All Things Are Thine* (Hymnal, page 787) ..... Gardiner

All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to offer thee;  
And hence with grateful hearts today Thine own before thy feet we lay. **Amen.**

*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

**A**LMIGHTY 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 #734..... Hymnal #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 ...**

Proper Preface for Epiphany.....Prayer Book, p. 77

SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS #704 & #796..... John Merbecke

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 Invocation.....Prayer Book, p. 80-81

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

**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.**

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

**W**E 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 #706 (Hymnal, page 749) ..... John Merbecke

- Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us
- 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.*

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY Sarabande, from Suite No. 4 for Solo Cello .....J. S. Bach  
(Steven Elisha, cello)

HYMN #459 *Hark, My Soul! It is the Lord*..... Campian

COMMUNION MOTET *Eternal Love*..... Paul Sjolund  
(Sung by the trebles of the choir, Steven Elisha, cello)

Eternal love, all human thought transcending, humbly we bow to pray before your throne. That ours may be the love which knows no ending, now and for evermore to join in one. Eternal life, be now our full assurance of tender charity and steadfast faith, of patient hope and quiet, brave endurance, with child-like trust that fears no pain or death. Grant us the joy which brightens earthly sorrow. Grant us the peace which calms all earthly strife, that we may walk as one, beyond tomorrow in strength, fulfilled in love and life. Eternal love, eternal life.

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

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

HYMN #479 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*..... Hyfrydol

FINAL VOLUNTARY *Reprise on Eternal Love*..... Paul Sjolund



## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

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### VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRS

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed  
11 a.m. Mr. E. Brian Culver

### USHER CHAIR

Mr. Mark D. Stevens

### MUSICIANS

The trebles of the choir  
Steven Elisha, cello

### 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. Jeanne Howell McMillan, Mrs. W. Lee Belford, Sr. (Cathy), Ms. Linda H. Pounds, and Mrs. R. Bart Turne (Christiana)

## FLOWERS

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The flowers in the Church this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ruth and Homer F. Peeples by the Wardens and Vestry.

And in loving memory of Mrs. M. Tyus Butler, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. W. Lee Belford.

*To offer flowers for the Altar, call the Church office at 912-232-1251. After Sunday, the flowers are delivered to the sick, sorrowing, and shut-in.*

### UPCOMING WORSHIP

**Monday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>**

**George Washington's Birthday**  
(Also known as Presidents' Day)  
*Church office closed.*

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

**Monday–Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>**

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

#### **Tuesday:**

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

**Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist*

7 a.m. in the Chapel & Noon in the Church

5 p.m. in the Church, with Hymns  
(Nursery available for 5 p.m.)

*Confession with Fr. Jameson*

11-11:30 a.m. & 1-1:30 p.m. in the Church  
(and by appointment)

#### **Thursday:**

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

**Friday (St Matthias the Apostle):**

11:50 a.m. *Litany &*  
*Holy Communion*, Church  
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*  
*with Holy Communion*, Chapel

#### **Saturday:**

11 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Chapel

**Sunday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, Lent I**

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church  
9 a.m. *Family Holy Communion*, Chapel  
10 a.m. *All Ages Sunday School*,  
Cranmer Hall/Chapel/Zoom  
11 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Church/Online  
12:15 p.m. *Coffee Hour*, Green-Meldrim

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

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### THANK YOU!

The Men of St. John's would like to thank everyone who joined us for another fabulous Annual Oyster Roast and BBQ. We were delighted to see many people turnout despite the very rainy weather! The oysters, BBQ, and fellowship were wonderful once again! Congratulations to Ted Muller on winning the beautiful piece of art so generously donated by Winslett Watson. Many thanks to the dedicated team of men who worked so hard to make this year's event successful. We look forward to another fabulous event next year! Mark your calendars for **February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024!**

### CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences to parishioner, Melanie Shepherd whose mother, Marilyn Kesler York, passed away on February 16<sup>th</sup>. A graveside service was held on February 18<sup>th</sup> in Martinez, GA.

### YOUTH GROUP + PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Our next Youth Group is this **Sunday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://StJohnsSav.org/youth) and bring \$20/family.

### THE CHILDREN'S SCHOOL AT ST. JOHN'S

**Enrollment for the 2023-24 school year is now open!** The preschool located on the second floor in Cranmer Hall offers weekly classes ranging from infants to Pre-kindergarten. Their school hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. To learn more about their classes and to register, please visit [StJohnsPreschool.org](http://StJohnsPreschool.org).

### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER, FEB. 21<sup>ST</sup>

Families of children and youth (parents, grandparents, friends, and distant relations too!) are invited to a Shrove Tuesday supper on **Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>** from 6-7:30 p.m. in Cranmer Hall. The youth will cook and serve pancakes and sausages. No reservations are required; donations will be appreciated.

During the pancake supper, we will be sharing details about our children's & youth Lenten project: Baby Bottle Collection for the Savannah Care Center (105 E. 34<sup>th</sup> St.). The center offers free education and assistance to women with unplanned pregnancies.

### ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22<sup>ND</sup>

**Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion:** 7 a.m. in the Chapel; noon and 5 p.m. in the Church. (5 p.m. includes the choir and childcare.) Fr. Jameson will hear confessions in the church on Ash Wednesday from 11-11:30 a.m. and 1-1:30 p.m. Confessions may also be made by appointment with any of the clergy.

### FASTING DURING LENT'S FORTY DAYS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and prayer for all — except as required by reason of age, health, demanding physical labour, or work. A light lunch and no flesh meat may be kept in the evening. The rest of Lent's forty days (Sundays excluded) are kept as days of abstinence (reduction in quality of food) traditionally from flesh meat (fish permitted).

### THE WORD AT WORK

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



## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

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### DONATE BOXES OF MAC & CHEESE

Help St. John's Church donate 1,000 boxes of macaroni & cheese to restock the P.A.C.K. pantry! Bring boxes to Cranmer Hall each Sunday through the month of February, or purchase via St. John's Outreach Amazon link at [StJohnsSav.org/outreach](http://StJohnsSav.org/outreach) to have boxes shipped directly to the Finnegans.

### A RENAISSANCE CHORAL CONCERT

*Thursday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 5:30 p.m. at St. John's Church*  
Ralston College is hosting an evening of Renaissance music led by Fr. Robert Mehlhart, OP, the Director of Music and Organist at the Theatine Church in Munich. Please visit [Ralston.ac](http://Ralston.ac) for more details.

### ANNUAL CHEFS & CHOCOLATES, MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>

St. John's purchased a table at Urban Hope's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Chefs & Chocolates on **Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**, from 7-10 p.m. at Kehoe Ironworks. This fun-filled evening features live music with tastings of appetizers and desserts from Savannah's finest chefs.

To reserve your seat and join other St. John's attendees, please contact Cathy Baxter at [cathybaxter@gmail.com](mailto:cathybaxter@gmail.com) or 912-704-5111 and send your payment to St. John's Church office marked "Outreach-UH Table".

### OUTDOOR ART DISPLAY DURING LENT

Man of Sorrows, by artist Sean Marnul will be on outdoor display at St John's Church during Lent. Join us for the opening reception on **Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Green-Meldrim House with refreshments.

### SOLEMN CHORAL EVENSONG FOR LENT

*Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, at 5:05 p.m.*

If you've never been to Evensong, discover the beauty of this ancient tradition of worship at our next Solemn Choral Evensong for Lent with prelude music beginning at 5:05 p.m. and the service beginning at 5:30 p.m. Plan to attend!

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT SAAW

Volunteers are needed to help at next month's Savannah Antiques & Architecture Weekend (March 9-11). If you are interested in helping, please contact Betty Youles at 703-963-3265. To learn more about this annual event, visit [SavAntiquesWeekend.com](http://SavAntiquesWeekend.com).

### MOVIE NIGHT, MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>

We will offer a movie night, showing the 1965 film *Simon of the Desert* at 6 p.m. in Cranmer Hall. All are welcome to come watch with us and discuss!

### UPCOMING SECOND SUNDAY SUPPERS

*Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> & May 21<sup>st</sup>*

Sign-up for the next supper on **Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** — co-hosted by Mrs. Cathy Jarman and Mr. Rick Wright in the Midtown/ 31406 area. We won't hold a supper in April due to Easter and May's supper — hosted by Coren & Rusty Ross — is moving to **May 21<sup>st</sup>** (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) due to Mother's Day falling on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. If you are interested in attending either supper, call the Church Office at (912) 232-1251.

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARKING



Purchase a parking space for \$25 to use on **Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**, from 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Purchases are limited to parishioners (one spot per family). To reserve with a credit/debit card, use the QR code. To reserve with cash/check, call the Church office. Spaces not purchased by March 10<sup>th</sup> will open to the public or parishioners to buy an additional spot.

### WOMEN'S QUIET DAY, MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>

All women of St. John's Church are invited to this year's Quiet Day on **Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 10 a.m. in the Green-Meldrim House. A full schedule will be shared soon. If you'd like to attend, call the Church office at 912-232-1251 so we may have a headcount for lunch.

## PARISH PAPER ESSAY

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### A GENDER-NEUTRAL GOD?

You may have seen the news reports about the proposal in the Church of England to develop gender-neutral language for God. It was hard to tell if this proposal really has traction or it was a slow news day, but even if it's the latter, two things are worth noting. First, that there will always be plausible reasons for fabricating language for God, but when that happens, it is not God we are worshipping but the image of our own priorities and preoccupations. The Scriptures remind us that the alternative to worshipping the true and living God as he has revealed himself to the prophets and in his Son is idolatry, the worship of fabricated gods, gods who cannot save, and who will most certainly betray our trust. Though God is most certainly neither male nor female (nor "gender-fluid"), he has chosen to reveal himself in language that is predominately masculine – such as Lord and King. Above all, it is Jesus himself who teaches us to speak of God as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, so deviation from that language raises questions about our trust in his teaching. The Episcopal Church authorized rites with gender-neutral language for God years ago, in a supplement to the 1979 Prayer Book entitled "Enriching Our Worship". One can only savour the irony, that the deliberate omission of the language for God that Christ himself endorsed is called an "enrichment" of worship. *O brave new world . . .*

– GGD

### KEEPING LENT

Lent, as has been mentioned in the pulpit once or twice, is the church's spring training, an opportunity to get into spiritual shape by the exercise of the spiritual disciplines, that we may give ourselves more fully and freely to the service of God, and in more fruitful discipleship. The disciplines are those endorsed by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, fasting, prayer, and the giving of alms.

In **fasting and abstinence** we practice self-denial for the sake of self-control, learning to say "no" to our selves that we may say "yes" to God. In particular, we are invited to keep a fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. That means going without food of any kind until the evening, when the fast may be broken with a modest Lenten meal; and to practice a measure of abstinence on the other weekdays of Lent (not Sundays), which is a reduction in the quality of our food and drink. The tradition of the western church is to abstain from flesh meat, which has the advantage therefore of a standard that is objective and in common. It's also customary to reduce the quantity and quality of our other indulgences and amusements in Lent. (The requirements are relaxed for the very old, the very young, those in poor health, or engaged in heavy physical labor.) Whatever particular practices you adopt, remember that they are pointless unless they involve a real measure of daily self-denial.

In the discipline of **prayer**, we practice saying "yes" to God, for which fasting's "no" prepares us. Less time spent on indulgences and amusements means more time for prayer, the aligning of our wills with God's will declared in his word, so that his will may come to fruition through us. Spiritually, prayer is the referring of all the circumstances of our lives to God, so that we may begin to see them in the perspective of heaven;

## PARISH PAPER ESSAY

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practically, it involves the discipline of saying prayers, especially the Church's daily common prayer. You can join us in the chapel, or online, or say them by yourself with a Bible and Prayer Book. (A leaflet with the weekly psalms and lessons is available at the church and chapel door.)

The third discipline of Lent is **almsgiving**. If fasting is an exercise of *faith* in God's goodness, and prayer an exercise of *hope* in his promises, the giving of alms for the relief of material and spiritual need is an exercise of *charity*, of love for neighbour. In fasting and abstinence we deny ourselves that we may give ourselves to the service of God in prayer, and to the service of our neighbor in the giving of alms. Less money spent on self means more money to give to those in need.

This Lent we will be taking up a special "**baby-bottle**" **collection** for the Savannah Care Center, in support of their compassionate and hopeful ministry to women (and men) who face unplanned pregnancies. Funded entirely by donations, this Christian ministry offers them realistic alternatives to abortion and provides emotional, educational, and material support for them to meet the challenges of pregnancy and parenting.

– GGD

### FOR LENTEN DISCIPLINE

**V**OUCHSAFE us, O Lord, the help of thy grace; that being intent, as becomes us, on fasting, prayer, and the giving of alms, we may be delivered from our bodily and spiritual enemies; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



### ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22<sup>ND</sup>

*Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist*

7 a.m. Chapel; Noon Church

5 p.m. Church (with Hymns & Nursery)

*Confession with Fr. Jameson*

11-11:30 a.m. & 1-1:30 p.m. in the Church  
(and by appointment)

### WEEKDAY SERVICES DURING LENT

#### Monday – Friday

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*, Chapel  
Noon *Litany & Holy Communion*, Church  
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

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

**Friday:** 11:50 a.m. *Litany &*  
*Holy Communion*, Church  
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*  
*with Holy Communion*, Chapel

#### Saturdays

11 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Chapel

Visit [StJohnsSav.org](http://StJohnsSav.org) for Sunday  
services & other events during Lent.

# 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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Buildings Manager – Mr. Sinisa Domazet..... sdomazet@stjohnssav.org  
Acolyte Director and Master of Ceremonies – Mr. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr..... chubb44850@aol.com  
Verger – Mr. B. Ray Summerell .....(912) 777-9532 rsummerell@stjohnssav.org

### **Wardens and Vestry**

Senior Warden: Mr. John G. Bradshaw, Jr.  
Junior Warden: Mr. E. Brian Culver  
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. McMillan & Mrs. Linda H. Pounds  
President Emeritus, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers  
President, Men of St. John's ..... Mr. Sean F. Finnegan