

The Parish Paper

OF
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 54 No. 25

The Sunday after Ascension

May 21, 2023

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THIS SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S

8 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION, Church

Introit: Psalm 27, BCP pp.371-372; The Collects, BCP pp. 179, 177.

The Epistle and Gospel, BCP pp. 179-180

A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9 A.M. – FAMILY MORNING PRAYER, Church

The nursery will be available for this service.

A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

10 A.M. – ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL, Cranmer Hall/Chapel/Zoom

A full list of Sunday Classes and room assignments is available online at StJohnsSav.org/grow

11 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION, Church & Online

The nursery will be available for this service.

Music for this Sunday:

#102 *Hail Thee, Festival Day* (Salva Festa Dies)

#104 *Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise* (Llanfair)

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies, Gerald H. Knight

#198 *O God Unseen Yet Ever Near* (St. Flavian)

Jesu, Be Near Us, Michael Haller

#356 *At the Name of Jesus* (King's Weston)

Festal Flourish, Gordon Jacob

MUSIC IN THE MALL

This Wednesday sees the start of our 'outdoor concert season'.

Music will start at 7 p.m. in the Green-Meldrim House Mall, so come out and bring your lawn-chairs and blankets. For the first concert, food and beverages will be available for purchase from Chazitos Latin Cuisine Food Truck and Jenny's Treats on the Street food cart.

- **May 24th** Matthew Logan Vasquez (of *Delta Spirit*)
- **June 21st** Chris Staples
- **July 26th** Tim Christopher

For more details, visit StJohnsSav.org/arts.

ARCHITECTURE AND HOPE

The funeral of Dr Dorothy Kingery, a lover of the great Gothic cathedral of Chartres, prompted this reflection.

"Oh! I have slipped the surly/bonds of Earth/And danced the skies on/laughter-silvered wings;/Sunward I've climbed, and / joined the tumbling mirth of sun-split clouds..." It's not just the stained glass of a Gothic cathedral like Chartres that tells the story of Christ; the entire building is a kind of image of the gospel. For the architecture of the gothic cathedral – the architecture of pinnacle, spire and steeple, pointed arch and gable, of gravity-defying vault and flying buttress, of soaring colonnettes and lace-like traceries of stone – is architecture that seeks to escape the downward pull of gravity, and to dissolve matter in light. It is architecture "after an heavenly and spiritual manner", or, to borrow the words of the aviator poet John Gillespie Magee (quoted above), it is architecture that has "slipped the surly bonds of earth"; in which matter has been liberated from all that is dark and heavy to become a vehicle of light and freedom. Such architecture is an image of the spiritual body of the resurrection, an image of human nature delivered from all that is dark and heavy—physically, morally, and spiritually—and become translucent to the light of the Spirit. As the ancient preface for the departed puts it, in words borrowed from 2 Corinthians 5:1, "to thy faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not taken away: and at the dissolution of the tabernacle of this earthly sojourn-

ing a dwelling-place eternal is made ready in the heavens".

Moreover, as the great architectural historian John Summerson pointed out, the Gothic is an architecture *about* architecture – an architecture whose basic unit or form is the aedicule, the "little shrine" complete with columns and pediment that marks the indwelling presence of a saint, but multiplied and combined, scaled up and down, in endless variation, so that the entire building consists of nothing but aedicules; the whole house of God is comprised of a multitude of individual houses of God's elect. As such, it is an

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Monday–Friday, May 22-26th

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

Monday: 5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

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

Sunday, May 28th, Pentecost

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church
9 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Chapel
10 a.m. *All Ages Sunday School*, Cranmer Hall/Chapel/Zoom
11 a.m. *Solemn Eucharist*, Church/Online

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

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Junior Warden.....Mr. E. Brian Culver
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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. Edwin H. Culver, and Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.

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

Church Office.....(912) 232-1251
Parish House.....(912) 233-3845
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STANDING NOTICES

The occasional Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony, Penance, Communion and Unction of the Sick, and the Office of Burial of the Dead are always available by appointment, at announced times, or as necessary. Please call the Church Office to notify the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital or hospice.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed

11 a.m. Mr. Robert L. Sparks

USHER CHAIR

Mr. Robert L. Sparks

Please remember St. John's in your will.

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. I. David Futrell, Jr. (Penny), and Mrs. Benjamin W. Baxter (Cathy)

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Church this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Samuel P. Inglesby and Edith Inglesby Walker by their children.

And in loving memory of Alice Lee Johnson by Joseph Oliver Mercer.

To offer flowers for the Altar, please call the Church office. After Sunday, the flowers are delivered to the sick, sorrowing, and shut-in.

CHURCH DOCTRINE DISCUSSION

This week the church doctrine discussion group will begin meeting **THURSDAYS** (not Tuesdays) at 9:25-10:25 a.m. in the Reading Room, on the third floor of Cranmer Hall.

SUMMER OUTREACH

Help St. John's sponsored refugee family with driving the children to an enrichment program at GSU's Armstrong Campus (5/31-6/16) or with practicing language skills. Contact Melanie Summerell at 912-777-2376.

TRINITY SUNDAY BRASS

Sunday, June 4th is Trinity Sunday — a time to delight in the revelation of one God in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. We will celebrate with special brass and feature St. John's choir at 11 a.m. Choral Mattins. To contribute to this special brass, mail checks to the Church Office (payable to St. John's Church with "brass" in the memo line). Include your memorial honorarium for the Parish Paper.

image of the spiritual temple, built up of living stones (1 Peter 2:5); of the body of Christ, a unity comprised of many individual members (Romans 12:5); of a city, the heavenly Jerusalem, "which is at unity in itself", where God dwells among the people he has redeemed, whose sorrows he turns into joy (Psalm 122). For, on the eve of his own death, Christ spoke to his disciples of a home for them with God: "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (St. John 14:2-3). As in the great medieval *summae*, those systematic syntheses of classical and Christian learning, of reason and revelation, so in the Gothic cathedral, all the parts are drawn into ordered and harmonious relation to the whole. The Gothic cathedral is image in architecture of all creatures cohering in Christ and of being built up into his body as living members, of all things returning into unity in him by whom all things were made.

In one of Dorothy's short stories ("A Handsome Couple"), she wrote about losses as "a constant part of life's rebuilding" and the conviction that "nothing we truly love is ever lost". That "losses" should contribute to the "rebuilding", that death should be the means of life, and present sorrow only increase our final joy; that we might not only regain all that we have loved and lost, but also advance to what we never had, to what is "truly loved" because truly worthy of love — this is what is accomplished in the resurrection. Perhaps this seems too much to hope for, perhaps it seems too good to be true — yet if it is not true, then all our aspirations to beauty and truth, all

our hopes for justice and love, are merely illusions, delusions, deceptions, and all our endeavours are in vain. Is that really what we think? If there is a God, infinite in goodness, wisdom, and power, the Maker and Preserver of all things, then there is nothing more likely than that he should raise the dead. The one who brought the world out of chaos and light out of darkness can most certainly bring life out of death. Perhaps this does seem too much to hope for. Perhaps because, like the soaring vaults of the Gothic cathedral, it is out of reach to us who are held by "the surly bonds of earth" and cannot "dance the skies" like the poet's aviator. But the Gothic cathedral is a sign that the Lord most high made his home among us who are most low precisely that we may be at home with him. He has departed from us only to prepare a place for us in the Father's house, and he promises to return to take us to himself, that where he is there we may be also. In him are we set free to "dance the skies".

— GGD

FAITH + FICTION

The next meeting is **Wednesday, May 24th**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Green-Meldrim House to discuss the book *Persuasion*, by Jane Austen. All are welcome to attend!

SECOND SUNDAY SUPPERS

Sign-ups are now open for our June and September suppers. Please call the church office at 912-232-1251 if you wish to attend either dinner.

- Sunday, **June 11**: Co-hosted by Sally & John Bradshaw and Chambliss & Mark Stevens.
- Sunday, **Sept. 10**: Hosted by Connie & Mick McCay.