

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 55 No. 21

The Third Sunday after Easter

April 21, 2024

THIS SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S

8 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION, Church

Introit: Psalm 66, BCP pp.417-418 ; The Collect, BCP p.173; The Epistle, 1 St. Peter 2:11, BCP p.173 ; The Gospel, St. John 16:16, BCP p. 173-174.

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

9 A.M. – FAMILY MORNING PRAYER, Church

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

10 A.M. – ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

11 A.M. – SUNG EUCHARIST & SERMON, Church & Online

The nursery will be available for this service.

Music for this Sunday:

#95 *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* (Gwalchmai)

#90 *He is Risen, He is Risen* (Neander)

Salvation is Created, P. Tschesnokoff, arr. N.L. Norden

#210 *Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness* (Schmuecke Dich)

O Taste and See, Ralph Vaughan Williams

#94 *Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* (Gaudeamus Pariter)

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

- APRIL 27 Work Day at The Living Vine** Saturday, 9 a.m. Landscaping. Contact Sean Finnegan at 912.441.3267 or savfinn@gmail.com
- APRIL 27 Georgia Southern Symphony String Camerata.** Church, 7 p.m. This concert is free and open to the public.
- MAY 1 Tours of St. John's Church with Green-Meldrim House begin.** Wednesdays in May. With refreshments served on porch. \$25. Visit www.greenmeldrimhouse.org or call 912-333-3845
- MAY 4 1st Saturday @ Starland Yard.** 2411 DeSoto Ave 31401, 4:30 p.m.
- MAY 8 Faith + Fiction:** William Wangerin's *The Book of the Dun Cow*. Green-Meldrim House, 5:30 p.m.
- MAY 9 Women of St. John's Meeting.** Green-Meldrim House, 5:30 p.m.
- MAY 12 Family Evensong with the St. John's Boy's Choir** Church, 5 p.m.
- MAY 13 Links for the Living Vine Golf Tournament** stjohnssav.org/golf

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CHRIST AND CREATION

When contemporary Christians talk about creation what often emerges is a vaguely pantheistic and pelagian "spirituality" dressed up in the hippy nostalgia of "Celtic Christianity" and now combined with "the end is near" environmentalist activism – throwing tomato soup on van Gogh paintings and such. This is a shameful impoverishment of the Christian and biblical doctrine of Creation.

The doctrine of creation is the very core of Israel's religion: the recognition that all that exists, exists solely because of God's action, and has its existence in the word and will of God the Creator. The world as made therefore is neither divine nor demonic – the two standard explanations of pagan religion. As created, all things are good, and as a whole, all things are very good, and therefore evil does not inhere in matter or in bodies or bodily appetites (as the dualistic Gnostics and Manicheans maintained), but only in their perversion and corruption. Moreover, precisely because it exists in the word and will of the Creator, there is a relative autonomy in creation, and of the created order. It operates by cause and effect, that is, by law, an order which is knowable by humans. Thus the biblical teaching on Creation supplies the logical presupposition of all modern natural science, and without which modern natural science could not have developed. As natural science can only assume the idea that all things happen by law – it cannot prove it - it is amusing to think that militantly atheistic upholders of

science against religion are themselves logically dependent on the very religion that they deny! One should also note that this order in creation is not only physical, but also moral, and

UPCOMING WORSHIP: WEEK OF EASTER 3

MON.-FRI., April 22nd – 26th

Online prayer will resume April 29th.

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*, Chapel

Wednesday:

8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Chapel

12 p.m. *Holy Communion*, Church

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

9 p.m. *Sung Compline*, Church

Thursday: St. Mark, Evangelist & Martyr

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

12 p.m. *Holy Communion*, Church

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

Friday:

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

**Sunday, April 28: Easter 4
(the Third Sunday after Easter)**

8 a.m. Holy Communion, Church

9 a.m. Family Holy Communion, Chapel

10 a.m. All Ages Sunday School

11 a.m. Morning Prayer & Sermon,
Church/Online

12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour,
Green-Meldrim House

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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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The Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert [Retired](931) 327-5489
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Mr. Wesley PerkinsAssistant Conductor
Mrs. Angela FisherAssistant Organist
Mrs. Janice W. WoodsBusiness Manager
Ms. Doreen L. KarlsParish Administrator
Mrs. Abbey Terry Communications Coordinator &
Assistant to the Organist & Choirmaster

Mrs. Kristi Bryson.....Director, St. John's Boy's Choir
Mrs. Daniel J. MahfetFinancial Administrator
Mrs. Joseph Ross, Jr. (Sarah)....Children's Ministry Director
Mr. Steven D. Vanderlip, Jr. Minister w/Youth/Pastoral Intern
Mr. Sinisa Domazet.....Buildings Manager
Master of Ceremonies..... Mr. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr.
VergerMr. B. Ray Summerell

Senior WardenMr. Robert L. Sparks
Junior WardenMr. John G. Bradshaw, Jr.
Clerk of VestryMrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert
TreasurerMr. Floyd Whittington, Jr.
Assistant Treasurer.....Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan)
ChancellorDolly Chisholm

The Vestry: Mr. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mr. E. Brian Culver, Mr. Charles J. Ezelle, Mr. Stephen Ezelle, Mrs. James F. Holtzclaw (Sherry), Mr. R. Scott Howard, Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings (Stacy), Mrs. Thomas C. McCay (Connie), Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry), Mr. Graham P. Sadler, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert, Mr. Robert L. Sparks, and Mr. Richard Wright (Rick)

Vestry Emeriti: Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. Edwin H. Culver, and Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.

Chancellor Emeritus & Vestryman Emeritus: Mr. M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq.

President, Women of St. John's.....Melanie Finnegan
Co-President, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan

President, Men of St. John's.....Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's.....Mr. Sean F. Finnegan

Church Office..... (912) 232-1251
Parish House(912) 233-3845
Cranmer Hall(912) 232-8887
E-mails..... (firstinitiallastname)@stjohnssav.org

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. Mrs. James F. Holtzclaw
(Sherry)

USHER CHAIRS

Dr. James S. McClellan, Jr.
Mr. Frank Somoskey

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Jayne G. Holland
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara)
Mrs. B. Ray Summerell (Melanie)
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy (Dorothea)
Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr. (Sally)
Mrs. Nohl A. Braun, Jr. (Alyce)
Mrs. Jean Howell McMillan
Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr. (Laura)
Ms. Linda H. Pounds
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Church are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for and on the occasion of the birthday of Vincent Graham Cooper by Ms. Patti Cooper;

And in loving memory of Amanda Jackson Stoess and with prayers to her family by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas (Mick) McCay;

And in loving memory of Frank B. Arden, Jr. and Frank B. Arden III by their family;

And in loving memory of Thomas Peaslee Frank by Linda Roberts LeFurgy.

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 TOUR DOCENTS NEEDED

Will you be a docent to share our beautiful and historic church? We need door greeters & historical guides for our visitor tours, Tuesdays or Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Contact Frank Somoskey at 830-608-4939; or write frank-denny@sbcglobal.net. Tour proceeds support those in need in our community.

when we attempt to emancipate ourselves from either order, as the moralists and environmentalists rightly warn us, we experience the ruinous consequences of doing so.

Christianity not only took over the doctrine of Creation from the Scriptures of Israel, but confirmed and developed it in the doctrine of the Incarnation – the Creator's taking upon himself creaturely existence, in a human body and soul, not temporarily, but permanently, as Christ's bodily resurrection and ascension indicate. It is manifest therefore that in the new creation in Christ, God wills to restore and bring to perfection the integrity of the creature in body and soul. In the great councils of the 4th and 5th centuries it affirmed both the distinction in Christ of the uncreated divine and created human natures, each in their integrity, and their inseparable unity in his person. This Christology thus provides a template for understanding relation of the divine and human, the Creator and creature, in the unity of Christ. "Grace" (the supernatural action of the Creator) "does not abolish nature, but perfects it". In communion with God we become not less human, but more so.

To perfect nature, however, grace must first redeem it. It is as fallen creatures that Christ calls us, sinners "who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator" (Romans 1:25). Thus the predominant emphasis of the Prayer Book is on the doctrines of sin and salvation; yet the doctrine of creation does not disappear. The Creeds – recited twice a day, and three times on Sunday – begin with confession of faith in God as Creator. The Prayer Book Catechism's brief explanation of the Apostles' Creed taught children to believe in God the Father as the one "who made me and all the world". At Morning Prayer,

the Venite teaches the Church to "worship, and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker". In the Te Deum, the church locates itself in the ceaseless praise of the Creator by the powers of creation: "all the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting". In the Benedicite we call on the whole spectrum of creatures – from angels and atmospheric phenomena to holy and humble men of heart – to the praise of God. When it is recited in Lent, a season of repentance for our misuse of the creatures, it teaches us to see all creatures in right relation to God as their source and end.

Moreover, in the Lord's Supper, the memorial of our redemption, we confess our sins to Almighty God as "Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men". It is the author of creation, and upholder of its right order by his righteous judgments, whom we approach for pardon of our sins, on the basis of God's fatherly love for his Son our Lord. In "these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine", by the working of God's Spirit and Word, we are made partakers of Christ's own body and blood, and nourished unto everlasting life of soul and body. The integrity of the creature is not left behind, but taken up in Christ, as the very means of our participation in the new creation.

GGD

**WORK DAY AT THE LIVING VINE
SAT. APRIL 27, 9 A.M.**

Join us as we tackle landscaping/garden projects for the mothers & babies of the Living Vine Maternity Home. We hope for 20 helpers. Contact Sean Finnegan, 912-441-3267 ; savfinn@gmail.com to sign up. All are welcome. Bring garden tools; water will be provided.