

THIS SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S*The nursery is available from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.***8:00 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION, Church**

Introit: Psalm 19: BCP p. 363-364

The Collects, Epistle, and Gospel: BCP pp. 95, 90 and 95-96

Music for 8 a.m.:*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* (HYFRYDOL),

arranged for Flute, Voice & Guitar by Audrey Allgaier & Joe Flanders

Of the Father's Love Begotten (DIVINUM MYSTERIUM 13th c. plainsong)

arranged for Flute, Voice & Guitar by Audrey Allgaier & Joe Flanders

*A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following the 8 a.m. service.***9:00 A.M. FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION, Church***A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following the 9 a.m. service.***10:00 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL (all ages), Cranmer Hall & Chapel****11:00 A.M. PROCESSION, LESSONS & CAROLS, Church & Online****Music for This Sunday:***Prelude on Veni Emmanuel*, John Schaffner*Advent Responsory*, Palestrina#2 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, VENI EMMANUEL#1 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*, STUTTGART*Adam lay ybounden*, Boris Ord*Lo, how a Rose e't blooming*, Bruce Neswick*Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth*, PRAETORIUS*5th Lesson Angelus ad Virginem*, Victor Whitburn#775 *Joy to the World*, ANTIOCH*People Look East*, Barry Ferguson#236 *Once in Royal David's City*, IRBY*Toccata on Veni Emmanuel*, Adolphus Hailstork**12:15 P.M. COFFEE HOUR, Green-Meldrim House***Hosted by The Women of St. John's and featuring Myrtice Lewis's Eggnog.***THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AT ST. JOHN'S**For a full list of Christmas events at St. John's, please StJohnsSav.org/Advent.

A few upcoming highlights include:

• Tuesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve:

* 5 p.m. Christmas Pageant & Eucharist (Nursery available)

* 10:40 p.m. Prelude for Christmas Eve

* 11 p.m. Solemn Sung Eucharist – Midnight Mass

• Wednesday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day: 11 a.m. Solemn Sung Eucharist**• Friday, Dec. 27, St. John's Day:** 5:30-8:30 p.m. Light Dinner & Trolley Caroling**HOPE HAVEN: Lunch & Learn and Volunteer Training****• Tues., Jan. 7,** 12 p.m. Lunch & Learn for those Living with Dementia & Their Caregivers, Cranmer Hall. RSVP: SavannahRespite@gmail.com.**• Fri., Jan. 10:** 3:30-6 p.m. & **Sat., Jan. 11:** 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Hope Haven Volunteer Training, Cranmer Hall. RSVP: [Evite.me/HopeHavenTraining](https://evite.me/HopeHavenTraining)

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

FURTHER UP AND FURTHER IN

C. S. Lewis wrote the Narnia books for children, but with a richness of imagination and a depth of psychological and spiritual insight that merit serious attention by adults. A recent conversation about the challenges of transitioning from childhood beliefs about Santa Claus (and more generally from childhood) drove me back to them. For Christian parents, there is the worry that a child's disillusionment about one Christmas story will undermine faith in another and far more important Christmas story. It's a danger Lewis is aware of – the temptation to adopt a “sophisticated” adult perspective, which is determined not to “taken in”, “sees through” everything and as a result sees nothing. Ultimately, Lewis shows this is a particularly nasty form of damnation (“the dwarfs are for the dwarfs”). Lewis shows us children who embrace the false sophistication of worldly “knowing” (Edmund and Eustace before their conversions; and Susan, who has known the reality of Narnia, but turns away from it), but there are also children who leave the world of Narnia with reluctance.

At the end of *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* Aslan tells Edmund and Lucy that they will “never” return to Narnia, as they are now too old. The children are dismayed, above all at the prospect of losing Aslan; but he assures them they shall meet him in their own world (England) also: “But there I have another name. You must learn to know me by that name. This was the very reason why you were brought into Narnia, that by knowing me here for a little,

UPCOMING WORSHIP: WEEK OF ADVENT IV & CHRISTMAS**Online Morning Prayer:**

8:15 a.m. Monday-Friday

Monday, Dec. 23:8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Chapel5 p.m. *Evening Prayer with**Holy Communion*, Chapel**Tuesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve**5 p.m. *Children's Pageant &**Family Eucharist*, Church/Online

(Nursery is available.)

10:40 p.m. *Prelude for Christmas Eve*,

Church/Online

11 p.m. *Solemn Sung Eucharist –**Midnight Mass*, Church/Online**Wednesday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day***Church office is closed.*10:40 a.m. *Prelude for Christmas*,

Church/Online

11 a.m. *Solemn Sung Eucharist*,

Church/Online

Thursday, Dec. 26, Feast of St. Stephen*Church office is closed.*Noon *Holy Communion*, Chapel**Friday, Dec. 27, St. John's Day**Noon *Holy Communion*, Chapel5:30 p.m. *Trolley & Caroling*, Cranmer

Hall (Sign up required.)

Saturday, Dec. 28, Holy Innocents11 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church**Sunday, Dec. 29 (Christmas I)**8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church**No 9 a.m. Family Service, Breakfast,****or Sunday School Today**11 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*, Church/Online

THE PARISH PAPER
of
St. John's Church
ONE WEST MACON STREET
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401
www.stjohnssav.org

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

The *Parish Paper* of St. John's Church (USPS 887-960) is published weekly with a bonus edition for Christmas by St. John's Church, One West Macon Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401. Periodicals postage paid at Savannah, Georgia. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to St. John's Church, One West Macon Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401.

The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue.....Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Gavin G. Dunbar.....Rector
1 West Macon Street, 31401.....(912) 429-3384
The Rev. Jonathan Jameson.....Associate Rector
The Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert [Retired].....(931) 327-5489
Rev. J. Patrick Hunt.....Assisting Priest
Mr. William Douglas.....Organist and Choirmaster
Mr. Wesley Perkins.....Assistant Conductor
Mrs. Angela Fisher.....Assistant Organist
Mrs. Janice W. Woods.....Business Manager
Ms. Doreen L. Karls.....Parish Administrator
Mrs. Daniel J. Mahfet.....Financial Administrator
Mrs. Jeremy J. Harvey (Heather).....Communications
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.
Verger.....Mr. B. Ray Summerell
Verger.....Mr. James E. Morris

Senior Warden.....Mr. Robert L. Sparks
Junior Warden.....Mr. John G. Bradshaw, Jr.
Clerk of Vestry.....Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert
Treasurer.....Mr. Floyd Whittington, Jr.
Assistant Treasurer.....Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan)
Chancellor.....Dolly Chisholm

The Vestry: Mr. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mr. E. Brian Culver, Mr. Charles J. Ezelle, Mr. Stephen Ezelle, Mrs. James F. Holtzelaw (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
.....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
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. Richard Jennings (Stacy)

USHERS

Mr. Frank Somoskey
Mr. Charles B. Compton, Jr. (Chip)

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw (Sally)
Mrs. Nohl A. Braun, Jr. (Alyce)
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy (Dorothea)
Mrs. Jayne G. Holland
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara)
Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan (Martha)
Mrs. B. Ray Summerell (Melanie)
Mrs. Ronald C. Berry (Caroline)
Mrs. Charles B. Compton, Jr. (Alva)
Mrs. Martin Sheehan (Kristine)
Miss Margaret Sheehan
Mrs. Patrick Worsham (Jane)
Mrs. Joseph R. Ross (Coren)
Mrs. Gilbert Wells (Jane)

COFFEE HOUR

The Women of St. John's Church

FLOWERS

The flowers in church this Sunday are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of our Mother Dorothy Williams Kingery by her daughters Susan, Amanda and family

And in memory William Nahay on his 84th birthday by his grandchildren Daniel, William & Elizabeth Sills.

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

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Forms are available in the Church or download forms from StJohnsSav.org/Christmas. Complete forms and mail with a check (payable to *St. John's Chancel Society*) to the church office for the giving of a poinsettia (\$36), wreath (\$80), or garland (\$80) for the Church.

NEW! STEPHEN MINISTRY

St. John's Church will offer training on **Feb. 8, 2025**, for those interested in becoming a lay Christian caregiver. To learn more, contact Bishop Paul Lambert, Sally Lambert, or Rick Wright.

you may know me better there". The mode in which we know the reality of Christ changes, but not the reality itself. Though the images we knew in childhood must be recognized as images, the reality which we knew in the images abides still. In fact, the images themselves are means by which we come to recognize the reality in the mode of adult reason. This is emphatically not a transition from religious illusion to atheist reality (the position refuted in *The Silver Chair*).

This transition from image to reality is not confined to the transition from childhood to adolescence: it is the work of one's entire life, a continual growing up to spiritual maturity in a deepening knowledge of spiritual reality. "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." In *The Last Battle*, after the destruction of Narnia, the Narnians discover themselves in a new Narnia. "When Aslan said you could never go back to Narnia, he meant the Narnia you were thinking of. But that was not the real Narnia. That had a beginning and an end. It was only a shadow or copy of the real Narnia, which has always been here and always will be here: just as our own world, England and all, is only a shadow or copy of something in Aslan's real world. You need not mourn over Narnia. All of the old Narnia that mattered, all the dear creatures, have been drawn into the real Narnia through the Door. And of course it is different; as different as a real thing is from a shadow or a waking life from a dream". As the speaker (Digory) notes, "It's all in Plato, all in Plato". The challenge of growing up is not to exchange illusion for a kind of cynical "knowing-ness" (really just another illusion), but to move

"further up and further in" into the reality that was first met in images. Our entire life is engaged in that journey "inwards and upwards". "Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul" (Ps 25:1).

It is a theme addressed also by T. S. Eliot in *The Cultivation of Christmas Trees*. For the child, the poet says, " / ...the candle is a star, and the gilded angel / Spreading its wings at the summit of the tree / Is not only a decoration, but an angel". The image and the reality are not distinguished, and so there is a possibility of disillusionment as we grow up, but the poet directs us in another path: "The child wonders at the Christmas Tree: / Let him continue in the spirit of wonder ... / So that the glittering rapture, the amazement / Of the first-remembered Christmas Tree, / ... the reverence and the gaiety / May not be forgotten in later experience, / In the bored habituation, the fatigue, the tedium, / The awareness of death, the consciousness of failure, / Or in the piety of the convert / Which may be tainted with a self-conceit / Displeasing to God and disrespectful to children" The purpose of cultivating the capacity to wonder is emphatically *not* to nurture sentimental nostalgia for childhood, but rather to advance through memory towards an adult experience of awe: "So that before the end, the eightieth Christmas / (By "eightieth" meaning whichever is last) / The accumulated memories of annual emotion / May be concentrated into a great joy / Which shall be also a great fear, as on the occasion / When fear came upon every soul: / Because the beginning shall remind us of the end / And the first coming of the second coming". "Not in that poor lowly stable, / with the oxen standing by, / we shall see Him, but in heaven, / set at God's right hand on high; / when like stars His children crowned / all in white shall wait around". "Further up and further in".

—GGD