

THIS SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S*The nursery is available from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.***8 A.M. BLESSING OF PALMS & HOLY COMMUNION, Church***A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following 8 a.m. service.*

Blessing of the Palms; St. Matthew 21:1-9, BCP, pg. 91

The Collects, BCP pp. 134, 124;

The Epistle and Gospel, BCP pp. 134-137

9 A.M. FAMILY SERVICE WITH BLESSING OF PALMS & BAPTISM, Church*A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following 9 a.m. service.***10 A.M. ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL, Chapel & Cranmer Hall****11 A.M. PROCESSION WITH PALMS & ANTE-COMMUNION, Church & Online****Music for This Sunday:**

Pièce héroïque, César Franck

#62 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, St. THEODULPH#64 *Ride On! Ride On, In Majesty!*, WINCHESTER NEW#66 *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*, PANGE LINGUA

What wondrous love is this, Geoff Weaver

At the Name of Jesus, James Kirby

#75 *O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded*, PASSION CHORALE**11 A.M. YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS, Cranmer Hall (3rd Fl)****5 P.M. PARENTS' NIGHT OUT + CHORISTER PROGRAM***Chorister program open to 3rd through 12th grades. Dinner & childcare provided. If you plan to attend, please fill out the contact form at StJohnsSav.org/chorister***PALM CROSS MAKING****Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m. – noon**

Join us in Cranmer Hall (1st floor, Fellowship Hall) to make palm crosses. All you need is a willingness to help and bring a pair of scissors if you can. All are welcome! RSVP at StJohnsSav.org/palms.

OUTSIDE WAY OF THE CROSS**Friday, April 18, 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

On Good Friday, worshippers of all ages will meet at the arches on the north side of the church and follow the youth and clergy of St. John's in a public witness of the Way of the Cross around Madison Square and concluding in the Church.

EASTER AT ST. JOHN'S**Easter Eve Saturday, April 19****4 p.m. Choral Evensong****& Confirmation, Church & Online***A reception in the Green-Meldrim House will follow the liturgy.***Easter Sunday, April 20***All services in the Church & Online***8 a.m. Sung Eucharist with Brass****9 a.m. Flowering of the Cross***Meet us at the steps of the Green-Meldrim House to decorate the cross with flowers and take family photos.***9:30 a.m. Family Sung Eucharist with Brass** (with Children's egg hunt outside)**11:30 a.m. Solemn Eucharist with Brass***Nursery available in Cranmer Hall; no other Children's Ministry offered for this service.*

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

A GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK

Over the course of Holy Week the Church reads the Passion narratives of all four gospels in order. It is a lot to absorb, and these notes are intended to assist us in doing so. It is the ancient lessons for Passion Sunday (the 5th in Lent), which introduce two key themes of these narratives, one that is forensic or judicial (the cross as an act of judgment), and the other liturgical (the cross as an act of worship, and specifically of sacrifice).

The forensic or judicial aspect is obvious: the passion narratives record the trial, condemnation, and punishment of Jesus by earthly judges, before the Jewish high priest, and before the Roman governor. The specific charges on which he is found guilty are of the utmost importance, because when God raises him from the dead, he is overturning these judgments and vindicating Jesus on these particular claims. In the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke), in his Jewish trial, the high priest puts Jesus under oath to affirm or deny that he is the Messiah, the Son of God. Jesus' answer (in Matthew and Luke's account) is a qualified affirmation – “thou hast said”, which means something like “those are your words”. In the first-century Jewish context both are potentially misleading. The title “Son of God” was a standard metaphor for the Messiah's special relationship with God, and the title “Messiah” could be interpreted in earthly political-military terms as a kind of Jewish nationalist warrior-king. But Jesus then provides a response in his own unambiguous terms: “ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right

**UPCOMING WORSHIP:
WEEK OF LENT VI****Online Morning Prayer:**
8:15 a.m. Monday-Friday**Holy Monday – Wednesday**

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Chapel

Noon Holy Communion & Sermon, Church

5:30 p.m. Tenebrae & Sermon, Church

*(No Compline on Wednesday)***Maundy Thursday, April 17**

10 a.m. Holy Communion, Chapel

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Watch at the Altar of Repose in the Chapel

5:30 p.m. The Liturgy of the Last Supper

Sung Eucharist, Sermon & Stripping of

the Altar, Church & Online

*6:30 p.m. – midnight Watch at the Altar of Repose in the Chapel***Good Friday, April 18***10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Confessions in the Church*

Noon Solemn Liturgy of the Passion &

Veneration of the Cross, Church & Online

Church open for Prayer until 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. Sung Evening Prayer, Church

5:30 p.m. Outdoor Stations of the Cross

around Madison Square

*Meet in the courtyard by the arches on the north side of the Church.***Holy Saturday, April 19**

11 a.m. Ante-Communion & Sermon, Chapel

Easter Eve Saturday, April 19

4 p.m. Choral Evensong

& Confirmation, Church & Online

*Reception in the Green-Meldrim House***Easter Sunday, April 20**

8 a.m. Sung Eucharist with Brass,

Church & Online

9 a.m. Flowering of the Cross, Green-Meldrim

9:30 a.m. Family Sung Eucharist

with Brass, Church & Online

(Children's egg hunt outside)

11:30 a.m. Solemn Eucharist with Brass,

Church & Online *(Nursery available)*

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 Wednesdays), send name and email address to information@stjohnssav.org

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Ms. Doreen L. Karls Parish Administrator
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Mrs. Joseph Ross, Jr. (Sarah) Children's Ministry Director
Mr. Steven D. Vanderlip, Jr. Minister w/Youth/Pastoral Intern
Mr. Sinisa Domazet Buildings Manager
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Verger Mr. B. Ray Summerell
Verger Mr. James E. Morris

Senior Warden Mr. Graham P. Sadler
Junior Warden Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry)
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Assistant Treasurer Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan)
Clerk of Vestry Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert
Chancellor Dolly Chisholm

The Vestry: Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara), Mrs. L. Allan Reynolds, Jr. (Beverley), Mr. Douglas P. McManamy, Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague (Mary), Mrs. Patrick Worsham (Jane), Mr. Charles J. Ezelle, Mr. Stephen D. Ezelle, Mr. R. Scott Howard, Mr. Richard Wright (Rick), and Mrs. James F. Holtzclaw (Sherry)

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

President, Women of St. John's Melanie Finnegan
Co-President, Chancel Society Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan
..... Mrs. Linda H. Pounds
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Church Office (912) 232-1251
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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. Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague
(Mary)

USHERS

Mr. Frank Somoskey
Mr. Mark D. Stevens

CHOIR

Choir of Adults

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw (Sally)
Mrs. Nohl A. Braun, Jr. (Alyce)
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy (Dorothea)
Mrs. B. Ray Summerell (Melanie)
Mrs. David A. Young (Pam)
Mrs. Jayne G. Holland
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara)
Mrs. Rhett N. Willis (Wayne)
Mrs. Morgan W. Murray (Anne)
Mrs. Richard R. Schulze (Donna)
Ms. Linda H. Pounds
Mrs. Joseph R. Ross (Coren)
Mrs. Jeanne Howell McMillan
Mr. and Mrs. David Schultz
(David and Lucinda)

FLOWERS

The flowers in church this Sunday are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Denny Somoskey and the celebration of their marriage on April 16, 1966 by her loving husband, Frank Somoskey.

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

WATCH AT THE ALTAR OF REPOSE *Exposition of the Sacrament on Maundy Thursday, April 17*

Parishioners are invited to sign up for 30-minute slots for self-directed devotion and prayer while the sacrament is reserved on the altar on **Maundy Thursday** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Chapel and from 6:30 p.m. to midnight in the Church. We ask that at least one parishioner be present throughout the day. Sign up online at StJohnsSav.org/Thursday.

hand of power” – that is, of God – “and coming in the clouds of heaven”. To sit on the right hand of God is to take the place of shared and equal authority with him, as the Mediator of his kingdom. It is thus no claim to an earthly kingdom like David’s or Caesar’s, but rather to the sovereign authority of God as Lord. To advance this claim for a human being, was to his Jewish hearers simple blasphemy; but to obtain a capital sentence for it from the Roman governor, they translate it into political terms, as “king of the Jews”, with its implicit challenge to Roman power. Though Pilate is unwilling to do the bidding of the Jewish authorities, his resistance crumples when mob violence is threatened, and in condemning to shameful death a man he acknowledges is innocent he abandons the Roman pretensions to impartial justice.

In John’s passion, in line with his usual practice of omitting material that the synoptics have covered, he skips the account of the trial before the high priest and provides an account of Jesus’ trial before Pilate. What comes out of this interrogation is Pilate’s fearful recognition that Jesus is in some sense a divine agent, the “Son of God” not merely in a metaphorical sense. Though Pilate succumbs to the pressure of the chief priests and elders to condemn Jesus, he extracts from them the avowal, “we have no king but Caesar”, an implicit denial that God is Israel’s true king. Thus Israel’s claims to religion are exposed, along with Rome’s pretensions to justice. In the world’s judgment of Jesus, God’s judgment is already underway.

There are other differences in the four passions. In Mark and Matthew, Jesus is depicted as the suffering servant of the Lord, who makes the alienation of human sin his own. He is forsaken of God, that we might never be forsaken of God, who put our trust in him (Mark 15:34; Matthew 27:26). Luke softens the starkness of this portrait, and highlights

the active compassion of Jesus, and the conversion he elicits, especially in the penitent thief, who is a template for our own response to the crucifixion (23:39-43 cf. 23:48). In John the accent is on the sovereign freedom of Jesus, who acts with divine authority right up to his triumphant proclamation of mission accomplished, “it is finished”. In Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the vindication of Jesus begins immediately after Christ’s death, in the confession of the centurion, “truly this man was the Son of God”. In John’s account, the vindication follows the centurion’s piercing the side of the dead body of Jesus with a lance, when blood and water stream forth, the signs of the cleansing and lifegiving power of his death.

The teaching of the Epistle to the Hebrews (read on Wednesday and Friday) places the death of Christ in the liturgical frame of the priestly offering of a sacrifice that unites sinners to God in a new covenant. As such, both in his condemnation and vindication Jesus is our representative before God, with the result that his vindication is also ours, who trust in him. In him we pass over from wrath to favor, from sin to righteousness, from death to life.

– GGD

Stephen Ministry

This week the Stephen Minister trainees explore, “How to Make a First Caring Visit,” summarizing everything they’ve learned to date and getting their first caring relationships off to a strong, healthy start. Pray for their continued growth and for those who will begin receiving care from them in the coming weeks. If you think you’d benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, or if you know someone who might, contact Rick Wright, Paul or Sally Lambert to learn more.

Our Stephen Minister trainees will be commissioned on **Sunday, April 27**, at the 11 a.m. service.