

The Parish Paper

OF
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 56 No. 51

The Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity

November 16, 2025

ANNUAL GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, November 16, after 11 a.m. Morning Prayer

The Annual General Congregational Meeting will follow 11 a.m. Morning Prayer, during which four new members will be elected to the Vestry for a three-year term. Please plan to attend.

REPENTANCE & JUDGEMENT

Reprinted from February 2018

The clergy, you know, can say some uncommonly foolish things. (I plead guilty). So I will not name the dignitary who some years ago opined at a clergy gathering that confession of sin made people judgmental. Though a murmur of reverent assent ran through the room, I refrained from asking the dignitary if giving things away also made people selfish. Some butterflies you don't break on the wheel.

What makes people judgmental, and ready to accuse and condemn others? Let me set aside one activity of judgment, which is the task of moral discernment, the discrimination of right from wrong, truth from falsehood, and so on, which is necessary and inescapable. (You can't say this kind of judgment is wrong without yourself making the judgment you condemn.)

The self-righteous judgmentalism that Scripture condemns – the readiness to accuse and condemn others with harshness of censure rather than the corrective charity of a brother or sister in Christ – is rather different. It is a response to an uneasy awareness of our own guilt, which we project on to others, in a futile attempt to escape the condemnation we fear. In condemning others, we feel better about ourselves. The more underlying unaddressed guilt and fear we have, the more harsh and blind we are in judging others.

Confessing and acknowledging one's sin, therefore, is a much more constructive response to guilt and fear – because it is humble, honest

and hopeful acknowledgement of the truth about ourselves. In humility and honesty we seek (by the help of the Holy Spirit) to see ourselves as God sees us, “unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid”. We submit ourselves to the judgment of God's holy will and commandments, without self-justification or self-exculpation. The hope is this, that not from ourselves, but from the Judge himself, and based upon the goodness of his nature and the promises of his grace, we may confidently expect mercy, forgiveness and his Holy Spirit – the forgiveness that sets us free from guilt and fear, the Holy Spirit that heals and makes whole (holy) our diseased and fallen nature. If the Judge himself has declared and pronounced the absolution of our sins, then we are forgiven, whether we feel it or not. In humility and hope we must accept his word, and not fall back into guilt and fear. Rather, delivered from guilt and fear by his word of mercy, we are to serve him in gratitude and love.

If this is what we have done, and if that is what we have received, then it will be impossible for us to look at our neighbours with a judgmental eye or censorious spirit. One may go even further: it is only if we have confessed our sins, and only if we know the power of his forgiveness and Holy Spirit, only then can we look at our neighbours without a judgmental eye or censorious spirit. We shall see their faults and failings, to be

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Church Office: 1 West Macon St, 31401(912) 232-1251

Bishop of GA.....The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue
Rector The Rev. Gavin G. Dunbar
Associate Rector The Rev. Jonathan Jameson
The Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert [Retired].....(931) 327-5489
Assisting Priest Rev. J. Patrick Hunt
Hon. Assisting PriestRev. David Thurlow
Organist and Choirmaster..... Mr. William Douglas
Verger Mr. B. Ray Summerell
VergerMr. James E. Morris
Acolyte Director/Master of Ceremonies...Mr. Carter C. Hubbard

Sr. Warden: Mr. Graham P. Sadler; Jr. Warden: Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry); Treasurer: Mr. Floyd Whittington, Jr; 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: M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq.; Vestry Emeriti: Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. Edwin H. Culver, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.

President, Women of St. John's: Melanie Finnegan; Co-President, Chancel Society: Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan and Mrs. Linda H. Pounds; President, Men of St. John's: Mr. Benjamin Baxter

P.A.C.K., Nov. 19 & Dec. 3

1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Volunteers meet at PACK, 4 Mall Terrace.

EYCS Scholarship Drive, Nov. 23

We'll have a special collection for the Episcopal Youth and Children's Services (EYCS). This organization provides need-based college scholarships and Honey Creek scholarships to deserving children within our diocese.

Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27

Plan to give thanks to the Lord for his many blessing during our 11 a.m. Holy Communion on Thanksgiving Day, **Thursday, Nov. 27**, in the church. This service will be live-streamed as well. No other services will be held that day or on Friday, Nov. 28, and the church office will be closed both days as well.

Faith + Fiction, Dec. 3

from 5:30–7 p.m., Green-Meldrim House

Fr. Jameson and Heather Cross facilitate a discussion on the moral and theological issues surrounding "Christmas at Thompson Hall", a short story by Anthony Trollope. All welcome!

UPCOMING WORSHIP

WEEK OF TRINITY XXII

Monday to Friday:

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

Monday, November 17

No in-person services.

Tuesday, November 18:

Noon *Holy Communion*, Chapel

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

Wednesday, November 19:

Noon *Holy Communion*, Church

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

9 p.m. *Sung Compline*, Church

Thursday, November 20:

Noon *Holy Communion*, Chapel

5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*

with Holy Communion, Chapel

Friday, November 21:

Noon *Holy Communion*, Chapel

Sunday, November 23:

Sunday Next Before Advent

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church

8:45 a.m. *Nursery*, Cranmer Hall

open until 12:15 p.m.

9 a.m. *Family Holy Communion*, Church

10 a.m. *All Ages Sunday School*,

Cranmer Hall & Chapel

11 a.m. *Choral Mattins*, Church/Online

5 p.m. *Three Choirs Evensong*, Church/Online

A reception follows in the Green-Meldrim House

5 p.m. *Youth Group: Cooking with Chef Meredith*,

Cranmer Hall, 1st floor

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

AT

HOPE HAVEN

SAVANNAH RESPITE

Just show up!

Cranmer Hall of St. John's Church:
27 West Charlton Street, 3rd Floor

Tuesday, Nov. 18 @ 10:45 am



Join us for our
next Youth Group

Cooking with Chef Meredith

Hands-on cooking activity

Nov. 23 @ 5:00 PM

St. John's Church
Cranmer Hall Kitchen



THREE CHOIRS EVENSONG

A new annual tradition not to be missed. Roughly *50 singers will join* together to sing works by Herbert Howells, Katherine Webb, and others.

23 NOV 2025

5PM | St. John's Church
325 Bull Street Savannah, GA

Reception to follow in the historic Green-Meldrim House



CHRIST CHURCH
THE METHODIST CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1788



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - SAVANNAH
Ready in the Anglican Tradition



ST. PETER'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



COME AND SING!
Sunday, Nov. 30, at 5 p.m.
Green-Meldrim House

*Join us for an evening of
fellowship, refreshments,
and the singing of great
Advent & Christmas hymns
of the Church!*

Join us in the Green-Meldrim House to sing some of the great hymns of our faith. Register and request a hymn Everything you need to participate will be provided. Bring friends and family to enjoy this opportunity to sing together in a relaxing environment.



This event is free and open to the public. Register and submit your hymn requests scanning the QR code or by calling the Church office at 912-232-1251.

THE AQUILA MUSIC FOUNDATION

MUSIC ON MADISON SQUARE



**The Choirs of St. John's
"Christmas Oratorio"**

The Choirs of St. John's Church
with members of the Savannah Philharmonic
Orchestra perform the Christmas Oratorio
by Saint-Saens along with other Christmas
choral favorites!

Music that awakens the heart

SUNDAY, DEC 14 AT 5 PM

St. John's Church
325 Bull St, Savannah GA 31401



THIS SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S

*The nursery (infants to four-year-olds)
is available from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
on the 2nd floor of Cranmer Hall.*

8 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION, Church

*A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall
following the 8 & 9 a.m. services.*

Introit: Psalm 130, BCP pp. 507

The Collect, BCP p. 220

The Epistle and Gospel, BCP pp. 220–222

9 A.M. FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION, Church

10 A.M. ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL

Cranmer Hall & St. Mary's Chapel

11 A.M. MORNING PRAYER & ANNUAL GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING,

Church & Online

FLOWERS THIS SUNDAY

The flowers in church this Sunday are given to the glory of God, and in honor of the wedding anniversary of Amanda and Tom Heath, who were married on November 2, 2002 at St. John's Church by Susan Kingery.

And in loving memory of
Dr. and Mrs. Jules Victor, Jr.
by Mr. and Mrs. Neil H. Victor.

And in loving memory and in honor of the birthday of our sweet mother and grandmother, JoAnn Clark Troxler by her family.

And in thanksgiving for, and on the occasion of the birthday of William Reese Cooper by Mrs. Patti Cooper.

And in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lawton Williams on their 48th Wedding Anniversary on November 19th.

To offer flowers for the altar, please call the Church office. After Sunday, the flowers are delivered to the sick, sorrowing, and shut-ins. To volunteer for this ministry, call Margaret Wylly at 912-656-6235.

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sure, but not because we want to see them, or are secretly gratified to discover their shortcomings, or delight in censuring them. We shall regard them as fellow-sufferers of the same disease, who need the same remedies we ourselves have received.

We approach the confession of sin, not as an exercise in guilt-mongering or blame-shifting, but an exercise of humility, honesty, and hope. "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." – GGD

St. John's Men's Bible Study

*First four meetings: Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 11,
Jan. 8, 7–8 a.m., Cranmer Hall, Reading Room*

Fr. Dunbar will lead a small group of men for fellowship in prayer, mutual support, and understanding of the Scriptures. The first class begins next Thursday, Nov. 20. To sign up or for information, please contact the Church office at 912-232-1251.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed

11 a.m. Mrs. Patrick Worsham (Jane)

USHERS

Mr. Frank Somoskey

Mr. Joseph R. Ross (Rusty)

CHOIR

Schola Choir

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Timothy E. Coy (Dorothea)

Mrs. Jayne G. Holland

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara)

Mrs. B. Ray Summerell (Melanie)

Mrs. Nohl A. Braun, Jr. (Alyce)

Mr. John G. Bradshaw (Sally)

Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr. (Penny)

Miss Stella Futrell

Mrs. Martin Sheehan (Kristine)