



# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - SAVANNAH

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 14, 2025

11:00AM

## MORNING PRAYER AND BAPTISM

*Please maintain a reverent silence before the service*

**VOLUNTARY:** Variations on *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

Stefan Trenner (1967-2024)

*At the sound of the bell, the People kneel and a Priest says the opening prayer to which they respond*

Amen.

*As the procession enters the Nave, the People stand and sing*

Hymn 440 "Watchman, tell us of the night"

ABERYSTWYTH

**THE CONFESSION OF SIN**

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 6

*The Officiant bids the Confession, the People kneel and say together*

Almighty and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults, Restore thou those who are penitent, According to thy promises declared unto mankind In Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*The Officiant alone stands and pronounces the Absolution to which the People respond*

Amen.

*All remain kneeling and say together*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

BCP, p. 7

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**THE PRECES** *(said by the Officiant and People)*

✠ O Lord, open thou our lips.

✠ And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

℣ O God, make speed to save us.

℟ O Lord, make haste to help us.

*The People stand and the Officiant continues*

℣ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

℟ As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

℣ Praise ye the Lord.

℟ The Lord's Name be praised.

THE VENITE (*sung by All*)

The Hymnal 1940, 608

THE PSALM APPOINTED

Psalm 85 *Benedixisti, Domine*

BCP, p. 446

*At the conclusion of the Psalm, the following is said*

*Officiant*      Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*People*          As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*The People sit*

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 35 *Christ's kingdom foreshown by the prophet*

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them;

and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

It shall blossom abundantly,

and rejoice even with joy and singing:

the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it,

the excellency of Carmel and Sharon,

they shall see the glory of the Lord,

and the excellency of our God.

Strengthen ye the weak hands,

and confirm the feeble knees.

Say to them that are of a fearful heart,

Be strong, fear not:

behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

even God with a recompence;

he will come and save you.

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

Then shall the lame man leap as an hart,

and the tongue of the dumb sing:

for in the wilderness shall waters break out,

and streams in the desert.

And the parched ground shall become a pool,

and the thirsty land springs of water:

in the habitation of dragons, where each lay,  
shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

And an highway shall be there,  
and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness;  
the unclean shall not pass over it;  
but it shall be for those:  
the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

No lion shall be there,  
nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon,  
it shall not be found there;  
but the redeemed shall walk there:  
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion with songs  
and everlasting joy upon their heads:  
they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*The People remain seated as the Choir sings*

CANTICLE: Advent Prose (*sung by the Choir*)

*Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.*

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever:  
thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness,  
Jerusalem a desolation:

our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. *Repeat Antiphon*

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf:  
and our iniquities, like the wind have taken us away;  
thou hast hid thy face from us:  
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. *Repeat Antiphon*

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen;  
that ye may know me and believe me:

I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour:  
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. *Repeat Antiphon*

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry:

I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:

Fear not, for I will save thee:

For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. *Repeat Antiphon*

*The People sit.*

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS:

1 Corinthians 4:1–5 *The witness of the Church to Christ*

BCP, p. 94

Matthew 11:2–10 *The witness of Christ and of John*

BCP, p. 94

*The People stand and join in singing*

Hymn 10 “On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”

WINCHESTER NEW

*During the hymn, the clergy proceed to the Font for*

THE MINISTRATION OF HOLY BAPTISM

BCP, p. 273

*At the conclusion of the baptism, the People stand and join in singing*

CANTICLE: Benedictus (*sung by All*)

Hymnal, 638

THE APOSTLES’ CREED (*said by All*)

BCP, p. 15

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The ✠ Resurrection of the body: And the Life Everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS (*said by the Officiant and People*)

℣ The Lord be with you.

℟ And with thy spirit.

℣ Let us pray.

*The People kneel, and the Officiant continues*

℣ Lord have mercy upon us;

℟ Christ have mercy upon us;

℣ Lord have mercy upon us.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*said by All*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

℣ O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

℟ And grant us thy salvation.

℣ O Lord, save the State.

℟ And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

℣ Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

℟ And make thy chosen people joyful.

℣ O Lord, save thy people.

℟ And bless thine inheritance.

℣ Give peace in our time, O Lord.

℟ For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

✠ O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
✠ And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## THE COLLECTS

BCP, pp. 93, 90, 17

*The Officiant says the Collects and may add other prayers, to each the People respond*

Amen.

*The Officiant continues with the prayers for the faithful departed*

<i>Officiant</i>	Of your charity, I bid your prayers for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed: Rest ✠ eternal grant unto them, O Lord;
<i>People</i>	and let light perpetual shine upon them.
<i>Officiant</i>	May they rest in peace.
<i>People</i>	Amen.

## A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

BCP, p. 20

*The Officiant continues with*

## THE GRACE

BCP, p. 20

*The People respond*

Amen.

*The People sit*

## THE NOTICES

*The People stand and join in singing*

Hymn 9 “Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding”

MERTON

## THE ADDRESS

## THE OFFERING

*The People stand and the Priest begins the Offertory with a sentence of scripture. After which, the People sit.*

## THE ANTHEM

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory,  
foretold in sacred story.  
*Oh, blest is Christ that came  
in God's most holy Name.*

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding,  
for grace and joy abounding.

*Refrain*

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.  
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow before him,  
their voices will adore him.

*Refrain*

Words: Frans Franzen (1772-1847)

Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, arr. William Douglas (b. 1994)

*The People stand as representatives of the congregation bring the People's gifts to the Priest and sing*

Hymn 139 "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*The Priest then says*

*People* All things come of thee, O Lord,  
and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

*Then the Priest continues with*

*People* The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.  
*Priest* Let us pray.

*The People kneel and join in saying the following*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

*The People remain kneeling and a Priest (or Bishop, if present) pronounces a blessing to which they respond*  
Amen.

*The People stand and join in singing*

Hymn 329 "How bright appears the Morning Star"

FRANKFORT

*The People kneel and the Priest says*

The Spirit and the Bride say Come, and let everyone that heareth say Come, Amen;  
even so, quickly come, Lord Jesus.

*People* Amen.

**VOLUNTARY:** Chorale prelude on *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern* Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*The People are invited to be seated for the voluntary or depart quietly.*

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## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

*Our mission is to build a community in Christ that is grounded in historic faith, reverent worship,  
and is committed to sharing the life-transforming truth of the Gospel.*

325 Bull Street on Madison Square

Telephone: 912.232.1251 • Website: [www.stjohnssav.org](http://www.stjohnssav.org)

Nursery care is available from 8:45AM - 12:15AM in Cranmer Hall.

Please speak to an usher for assistance with the location of the nursery.

For information on worship and other events of the Parish, see the separate Parish Paper located at  
the back of the Nave.

## WAYS TO GIVE

To support the ministry of St. John's Church please consider one of the following options below:

- You may place your offering in the plates as the ushers pass through the Nave.
- You can text 1928BCP to 73256 to receive a link where you can donate online.
- You can visit our website [www.stjohnssav.org](http://www.stjohnssav.org) and click "give."
- You can mail your check to:

St. John's Church  
1 West Macon Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31401

### **Clergy**

The Right Reverend Frank Logue, *Bishop*  
The Reverend Gavin Dunbar, *Rector*  
The Reverend Jonathan Jameson, *Associate Rector*

### **Honorary Assisting Clergy**

The Right Reverend Paul Lambert, *Bishop (retired)* DEPO  
The Reverend J. Patrick Hunt, *Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend David Thurlow, *Assisting Priest*

### **Vestry**

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

### **Vestry Emeriti**

Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. Edwin H. Culver, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.,  
M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq. (Ty), *Chancellor Emeritus & Vestryman Emeritus*

### **Officers of the Vestry**

Mr. Graham P. Sadler, <i>Senior Warden</i>	Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry), <i>Junior Warden</i>
Mr. Floyd Whittington, Jr., <i>Treasurer</i>	Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan), <i>Assistant Treasurer</i>
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert, <i>Clerk of Vestry</i>	Dolly Chisholm, <i>Chancellor</i>

### **Women of St. John's**

Melanie Finnegan, *President*

### **Chancel Society**

Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan and Mrs. Linda H. Pounds, *Co-Presidents*

### **Men of St. John's**

Mr. Benjamin Baxter, *President*