

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 42 No. 46

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

October 16, 2011

CONSECRATION SUNDAY IS COMING: OCTOBER 30TH

THE JUDGEMENT OF GOD (PART 4 OF 4)

If we are justified by faith, and if we are sanctified in the good works that proceed from faith, then it is critical to know what faith is, and where it comes from. In our world the word "faith" often seems to mean a blind and even irrational commitment of the will, a self-generated confidence without objective ground, an abstract believing - faith in faith itself. But Christian faith is always faith in God and in his mercy toward men in Christ - the free grace by which we are justified by Christ's blood and sanctified by his Spirit. It is a faith founded in God's self-revelation in his Word, and thus is a kind of knowledge, sure and certain because it is revealed by God. When the knowledge of his mercy enters into, and takes possession of, the mind and heart, it awakens commitment and confidence. Trust in God is founded upon the truth of God - the truth of his mercy toward us revealed in Christ. Truth elicits the trusting faith whereby we lay hold of and make our own the righteousness of Christ offered to us for our justification.

To awaken and sustain faith, God has entrusted his Church with the means of grace, centered in the ministry of Word and Sacrament. The Word of God is not "fast food"; as Cranmer put it, the Christian must ruminant and "chew the cud" of the Word, to extract its sweet juice and marrow. It must be received deeply into one's heart and mind - we must "feed

on Christ in our heart by faith with thanksgiving".

To seal and confirm the promises of grace made in his Word, God has also provided the Sacraments. These ceremonies are "effectual signs" of grace: in them God shows us what he does and does what he shows us. His inward and invisible grace he makes visible and indeed tangible to us in outward signs, which are thus the means whereby we may lay hold of his grace, so that our weak faith may be strengthened and sustained. In his treatise on *The True and Catholic Doctrine of the Lord's Supper*, Cranmer writes, "The priest should declare the death and passion of Christ, and all the people should look upon the cross in the mount of Calvary, and see Christ there hanging, and the blood flowing out of his side into their wounds to heal all their sores; and the priest and people all together should laud and thank instantly [i.e. insistently, urgently] the chirurgeon [surgeon or healer] and physician of their souls. And this is the priest's and people's sacrifice, not to be propitiators of sin, but ... to worship continually in mystery that which was but once offered for the price of sin." In the Lord's Supper or Eucharist, the faithful know themselves to be loved and accepted by God - assured of his favour and goodness towards them -

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OF
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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.

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

Please call the Church Office to inform the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital.

ST. JOHN'S WEB SITE

Parish Paper essays and recordings of Services and Sermons are to be found on our web site:
www.stjohnssav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mr. R. Gilbert Wells

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Austin O. Kennedy

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my brother, George Henry, by Janet Riley.

And in loving memory of Jane Hass Philbrick by Mr. and Mrs. D. Brian Harlander and family.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III
Mrs. Thomas Johnson, Ms. Anne H. Mingleddorff,
Mrs. Nicholas Farley, Ms. Jeanne H. McMillan,
Mrs. William H. Dearing, Mrs. Michael E. Donahue

ACOLYTES

8:00 Lawson Turner
10:30 Clayton Compton
Chris Dixon, John Osborne
Charles Perrie, Louis Palla
Peter Stein, Patrick Perrie

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Jr.

HOLLY DAYS BAZAAR—

NOVEMBER 9TH AND 10TH

- We have storage available for **White Elephant, Treasure Room and Books**. Please call the church office or Amy Wilson, chairman, (308-6471) for instructions.
- **Soup and Chili** - As you are cooking for your football parties, please consider doubling your soup or chili recipe and freezing for the bazaar. Please remember to mark your containers/ziploc bags with soup or chili. Christiana Turner (898-1810) or Sherry Holtzclaw (897-3889)
- **Desserts** - We would love to have your delicious homemade desserts. Call Marsha Berger (598-0396) or Kathie Johnston (303-9483).
- **Sandwiches - Chicken Choppers** are needed **Tuesday, November 1st at 9:00am** in Cranmer Hall. Leah Brunson (ldbrunson@yahoo.com) or Jentri Hand (352-8913)

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

by the merits of Christ's death and passion, and in that knowledge, faith is sustained and strengthened. Therefore to receive these holy signs without faith, without perceiving and willing the mercy they signify, is to call down judgement. For, as every celebration of the Lord's Supper declares, the judgement is here and now; and it is made in our own response to grace.

Faith is a divine gift which must be received and cultivated. While the cultivation of the interior life is not easy, even small progress bears great fruits. In any celebration of the Eucharist there is time before or after Communion in which you have the rare privilege to bless and thank God for the Sacrifice of his Son, and in grateful love to offer yourself a living sacrifice. This is what the Prayer of Consecration (pp.80-81) has rehearsed to us already, and the Prayer after Communion (p. 83) will complete. If you need other words to help you, turn to Communion Hymns (#189-213). This is also the moment - none better! - to offer to God your own intercessions and supplications for your church, your neighbours, and yourself. If you renew that moment of interior thankfulness later in the day (as for instance at Evensong), the fruits of the sacrament will be more fully experienced in the deepening of faith.

GGD

CONSECRATION SUNDAY R.S.V.P.

If you are **not** able to attend Church on Sunday, October 16th or 23rd, please let us know whether or not you **can** join us on October 30th, Consecration Sunday, for brunch or lunch. Call Elaine Barrow (598-9326) and indicate how many adults, how many children, and which service (8 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.). Please let us know also if you are not able to attend on Sunday October 30th.

VESTRY NOMINATIONS

Nominations for four five-year terms may be submitted in writing to the Nominating Committee or in a sealed envelope to the Church Office. Nominations will close Wednesday, November 9, 2011. The Annual Congregational Meeting is on Sunday, November 20, 2011.

Nominees must be:

1. Members of St. John's for at least 5 years;
2. Financial supporters of St. John's;
- 3 Regular worshippers at St. John's.

PARISH KALENDAR

Monday- Friday (Chapel)

8:15am & 5:30pm

Morning or Evening Prayer

Tuesday 18th:

ST. LUKE EVANGELIST

8:15 a.m. & 5: 30 p.m. *Holy Communion*

Wednesday (Chapel)

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*

Wednesday (Church)

EVENSONG, SUPPER, & CLASS

5:30 p.m. *Evensong* (Girls' Choir)

6 p.m. *Supper* (in Cranmer Hall)

6:35-7:20 *Adult Class*

(a reprise of the Clergy Sunday class on Paul's Epistle to the Galatians)

Cost of Supper: \$9/person;

\$15/family. Nursery available.

Thursday

NOON MEN'S FORUM

Lunch and Talk: Guests welcome.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

ALL WELCOME

7:30-8:30 p.m. led by Mike Chastain at the home of Scott and Betsy Howard, 216 Grove Point Road (Isle of Hope). Call Scott or Betsy at 353-3396. Baby-sitting available with advance notice.

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECTS, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL Prayer Book page 213

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

9:00—12 Noon NURSERY (Cranmer Hall)

9:30 A.M.—ADULT, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN’S CLASSES (Chapel and Cranmer Hall)

10:30 –Pre-school Program continues—3 year olds through Kindergarten (Cranmer Hall)

Jr. Choir—grades 1 through 4 (Cranmer Hall)

10:30 A.M. —SUNG EUCHARIST & SERMON

HYMN #300 *Before the Lord Jehovah’s Throne* Winchester New

ANTE-COMMUNION

Collect for Purity Prayer Book page 67

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KYRIE ELEISON: (Hymnal #710)..... Healey Willan

Collect and Epistle 213

HYMN #474 *O Day of Rest and Gladness* Woodbird

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HYMN #302 *O that I had a Thousand Voices*..... Mentzer

SERMON Fr. Dunbar

OFFERTORY

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Anthem: *Praise the Lord, Ye Servants* John Blow

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AGNUS DEI (Hymnal # 712)..... Healey Willan

HYMN # 213 *Shepherd of Souls*..... St. Agnes

MOTET: *Let All Mortal Flesh*Edward C. Bairstow

Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*)..... 83

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (Hymnal #739) Old Scottish Chant

The Blessing (*Kneeling*)..... 84

HYMN #396 *The Church’s One Foundation* Aurelia

ORGAN: *Prelude in F# minor*.....Dietrich Buxtehude

*Everyone is invited to attend the Coffee Hour in the Parish House immediately after the 10:30 service
If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.*