

# The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 48 No. 47

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

October 8, 2017

## PARISH KALENDAR

### ◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP ◆

**Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**

*Office Closed for National Holiday.  
No daily services.*

**Tuesday - Friday**

*Morning and Evening Prayer  
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.*

**In addition, on Wednesday**

*9:45 a.m. Litany  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist*

**In addition, on Thursday**

*5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer with Holy  
Communion*

## GIFTED FOR SERVICE

The gospels tell us that the disciples vied with one another for position and status in the kingdom of God. This should not surprise us. It is the way of the world, as Jesus acknowledges: *The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.* They use their position to promote their own advantage, and to be applauded for their self-promoting ways. *But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.* His demand turns the world's priorities upside down: we are to seek not our own advantage, but rather the good of others.

Jesus' demand contradicts the world's wisdom and perplexes the disciples. How can these things be? As often in

the gospels, first there is the radical ethical demand, and only then does Jesus supply its doctrinal basis, the indicative behind the imperative: *For which is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.* Though Lord of all, he made himself the slave of all. Though rich he made himself poor, that we through his poverty might be made rich. As a victim he was victorious, and triumphed over sin, Satan, death, and hell, not by an act of divine power but by suffering in sacrificial service. And because he has served us, and met our deepest needs for status, security, and worth, we are set free from anxious self-concern, to serve others, to meet their needs as he has met ours.

In our culture, there is a lot of talk about service. It's just one of the many ways in which the world apes the Christianity it spurns. But to motivate us to selfless service, secular ethicists must extoll its benefits for doing so. You will feel good. You might find love. It will look good on your college application. It will make you happy. So we are caught in a trap - ultimately, the motive for selfless service is a selfish one. In the final analysis, I am not doing it to help others, but to help myself.

Religious people can get caught in

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

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Mrs. Janice W. Woods.....Business Manager  
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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 CHARMEN**

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed  
10:30 Mr. L. Allan Reynold, Jr.

**USHER CHAIRMAN**

Robert A. Vinyard, Esq.

**ACOLYTES**

8:00 a.m. Henry Osborne  
10:30 a.m. Jacob Perkins Turner Stevens  
Jamie McClellan Jackson McClellan  
William Taylor

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The flowers at the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in memory and honor of loved ones by John Helmken family.

**MICHAELMAS BRASS**

Donations were given to the glory of God by:

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Paul D. Troxler;

Mr. R. Steven Branyon;

And in thanksgiving for Connor Michael Wells by

Mr. and Mrs. R. Gilbert Wells

**CHANCEL SOCIETY**

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Edward J. Derst III,

Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard,

Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings,

Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan, Mrs. Joseph R. Ross,

Mrs. John C. Wylly, Jr.

**COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. R. Kran Riddle

**ROAMING GREETER**

Dr. J. Davidson Carson

**ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

9:30 a.m. Cranmer Hall – Third Floor

**MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION**

Tuesday- *Men's Breakfast* with Father O'Brien  
6:45 a.m., Parish House

Thursday- *St. Luke* with Father Dunbar

7:00 a.m., Reading Room, CH3

Thursday- *Men's Small Group* with lunch

Noon- Fellowship Hall, CH1

**WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION**

Wednesday-October 11- *C. S. Lewis Group*

11:00 a.m. Reading Room, CH3

Thursday- *Reading Group* with Father O'Brien

9:15 a.m., Reading Room, CH3

Wednesday-October 11- *DOK Prayer Circle*

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall, CH1

**ARDF COLLECTION LAST SUNDAY**

Last Sunday \$2528.50 was contributed to the Anglican Relief and Development Fund.

**JANE'S CANNERS**

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Cranmer Hall.

**Need:** Hard pears picked straight from the trees and shelled or unshelled pecans.

**HOLLY DAYS BAZAAR NOTICES**

Can be found in the St. John's weekly e-newsletter (to subscribe send you name and email address to [info@stjohnssav.org](mailto:info@stjohnssav.org) or call the office with it 232-1251) or in the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service booklet.

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL**

a similar trap. By my service, I can assuage my guilt; prove my moral superiority; be accepted by God, and so on. It's the same trap - selfless service done for selfish reasons. Only the Christian religion - that is, the gospel of grace - can set us free from this trap. For Christ has come among us, as he who serves. By his sacrificial service, he has met our deepest needs (a reality truly represented to us in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.) Herein is the only purely altruistic motive for service. We are not earning brownie points with God, assuaging guilt, proving our moral superiority, advancing ourselves or promoting our personal interests. Our motive is simply that of gratitude and love, to please the one who has loved us, and given himself for us. Because of what he has done for us, there is nothing we will not do for him.

When grateful love is enkindled in our heart, we begin to see what we are, what we have, what we can do, in a new light. We will no longer see them as means of self-advancement - we will see them as resources with which to please him in works of service. Because he has set us free from anxious self-concern, by meeting our needs, we are able to meet the needs of others, with all that we have, all that we are, all that we can do. We are richly *gifted for service*, if only we could see it.

To see the revolutionary transformation that the gospel works in us, is of course to see how great our resistance has been to it, how sluggish our response, how cold our hearts. That should not surprise us. The old Adam dies hard. But it should stop us making excuses for it,

it should stop us defending those attitudes and actions. And it should drive us back to the cross, in a deeper conversion, a greater longing for God to transform us from the inside out, and in a new resolution to use the gifts he has given us - time, talent, and yes, treasure - in his service.

Here's three complimentary ways you can serve Christ in his Church:

First, if you have not pledged support to St. John's recently, please start. If you do pledge, please consider making an increase in your pledge. As the Senior Warden's letter says, we have been skimping on the ministry of St. John's to balance the budget. That needs to change.

Second, give your support to St. John's outreach efforts - like the hands-on service days at the Tybee Fresh Air home, or the contributions of money, school supplies, and children's books that have been so generously donated to the community of Parkside Elementary in Naples, Florida, hard hit by Hurricane Irma.

Third, because what our neighbors need, above all, is a relationship of faith and love in Christ, invite someone to church. Conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit, but he needs opportunities to do so. That's where we come in, by inviting, welcoming, and connecting new-comers to St. John's. For most of us, this is a skill to be learned. Next Sunday after church there will be a 40-minute workshop upstairs in the Green Meldrim House on the Art of Inviting people to church, sponsored by the "Invite-Welcome-Connect" task force. Please plan to join us for a low-pressure learning experience that will equip you (by God's grace) for his service. GGD

**8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION**

COLLECT, EPISTLE & GOSPEL.....Prayer Book, page 213  
*A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.*

**9:30 A.M. – ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Cranmer Hall)**

10:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Noon) - **Nursery (Cranmer Hall)**

**10:30 A.M. – MORNING PRAYER, SERMON, & CHILDREN’S CHURCH**

HYMN: #463 <i>O Thou Who Camest from Above</i> .....	Hereford
Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord’s Prayer .....	Prayer Book, pages 3-7
Versicles and Responses .....	7-8
VENITE: #609.....	9
Psalm #132, 133 .....	508, 509
First Lesson: 1 Kings 12 <i>How pride provoked anger and destroyed unity</i> .....	
TE DEUM LAUDAMUS #615.....	10
Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:11 & Luke 14:1 .....	213
BENEDICTUS#634 .....	14
<i>Children may exit for CHILDREN’S CHURCH, following the Cross.</i>	
Apostles' Creed.....	15
Responses.....	16
Collect of the Day.....	213
Collects for Peace and for Grace, other prayers .....	17-20
Welcome and Announcements.....	The Rector
HYMN: #418 <i>Blest Are The Pure in Heart</i> .....	Franconia
Sermon.....	Father Dunbar

**OFFERING**

Sentences	
Anthem: <i>O Holy Spirit, Lord of Grace</i> .....	Christopher Tye
Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139, and Hymn #141 (verse 4)	
General Thanksgiving ( <i>said by all</i> ) and Aaronic Blessing .....	19
HYMN: #396 <i>The Church’s One Foundation</i> .....	Aurelia
VOLUNTARY: <i>Processional</i> .....	Francis Howard McKay

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

**12:00 P.M. (Noon)—HOLY COMMUNION (Chapel - as at 8:00 a.m.)**