

The First Sunday in Advent
Year A

November 27, 2016



CHRIST CHURCH
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1733





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9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.—Nursery (Parish House, 18 Abercorn Street)

8:00 A.M.—Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Collect, Epistle, Psalm, Gospel and Sermon BCP 323

10:30 A.M.—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Entrance Rite

Voluntary <i>Sleepers awake! A voice is calling</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach
Processional	Hymnal 73
<i>The King shall come</i>	Greek; tr. John Brownlie
Opening Acclamation and Response	BCP 355
Kyrie eleison	Hymnal S-96
Collect of the Day	

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Word of God

First Lesson	Isaiah 2:1-5
Gradual Psalm 122 <i>Laetatus sum</i>	BCP 779
<i>Plainsong Tone 1, 2</i>	Sung by the Choir
Epistle	Romans 13:11-14
Sequence Hymn*	Hymnal 68
<i>Rejoice! rejoice, believers</i>	Laurentius Laurenti; tr. Sarah B. Findlater
Holy Gospel	Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon	The Reverend Liam G. Collins, <i>Assistant Priest</i>
Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, Form I	BCP 383
Confession and Absolution	BCP 360
Peace	

Holy Communion

Offertory <i>Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God</i>	G. F. Handel, arr. Hal H. Hopson
Doxology	Hymnal 380, v. 3
Great Thanksgiving, <i>Eucharistic Prayer B</i>	BCP 367
Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-130
Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction <i>Jesus, Lamb of God</i>	Hymnal S-164
The Holy Communion	Hymnal 61
<i>"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us</i>	Philipp Nicolai; tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr.
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Processional	Hymnal 57
<i>Lo, he comes</i>	Charles Wesley
Postlude <i>Veni redemptor gentium</i>	Michael Praetorius

Christ Church is the "Mother Church of Georgia" and was founded on February 12, 1733. The current church building was constructed in 1838 and is the third one on the original site. Our mailing address is 18 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401 (912-236-2500). Our website can be found at www.christchurchsavannah.org. Previous rectors of our parish include John Wesley, George Whitefield, F. Bland Tucker and George M. Maxwell.

*Children's Chapel.

Please join us after the 10:30 a.m. service for a reception in the Undercroft.

First Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the



highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and

their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Henry Ossawa Tanner. *Mary*. 1910. Private Collection.

Psalm 122 *Laetatus sum*

Plainsong Tone 1, 2

BCP 779

Sung by the Choir

1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city *

that is at unity with itself;

4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the Lord.

5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.

7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

9 Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

Epistle

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah



were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Annunciation. Nesterov. 19th century. Russia.

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Announcements

Altar Flowers and Memorials

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Nell Varnedoe by her parents, Catharine and Gordon Varnedoe.

Upcoming Dates and Events for November and December

- Advent Wreaths - Today at 9:30 a.m. all ages are invited to join us in Wesley Hall (Parish House, 1st Floor) for Advent Wreath Making. We will not have a reception after the 10:30 a.m. service.
- Adult Forum /Sunday School - Thank you so much to all of our adults who served as leaders for our fall Sunday School series Genesis Greatest Hits and to all the children who participated. Thank you also to all the adults who presented and those who joined in the discussions of our Adult Forum series Leadership and Spirituality. All of our 9:30 a.m. programming for adults and children are on an Advent/Christmas break and will return the later part of January.
- December 3 - All Saint's Tybee invites you to participate in the Tybee Christmas parade with us on Saturday, December 3. We walk and ride through the parade dressed as shepherds, wise people, and angels following the holy family. We have a special guest appearing as the baby Jesus this year—Julia Mae Reyes! The parade starts at the pier and proceeds to the Tybee Y (by City Hall), where the festivities continue. For more info, contact Jane Bridges at 786-8862 or tybeebridges@gmail.com.
- Children's Choir (Grades 1-5) - December 4 immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service our newly forming Children's Choir will gather in the Undercroft Choir Room for lunch and rehearsal. The Children's Choir will sing at our 10:30 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 11.
- EYC (Middle and High School Youth Group) - December 4 immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service our EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) will have our monthly luncheon and program. Sunday, December 11 the EYC will keep our holiday tradition of Ice-skating at the Civic Center.
- Evening Eucharist 6 p.m. - December 4 is the 1st Sunday of the month. Each 1st and 3rd Sunday we offer a quiet, reflective Evening Eucharist. Come enjoy the peace of God which passes all understanding.

- Advent Lessons and Carols - Sunday, December 11 our 10:30 a.m. service will be a Service of Lessons and Carols. Join us for this special service as we hear the sacred story in Scripture and song.
- The Joy of Christmas: Carols for a Cause - Sunday, December 18 at 7 p.m. we will host The Joy of Christmas: Carols for a Cause. This is a festive community-wide evening of Christmas music, featuring Savannah Brass Quartet, Savannah Children's Choir, RISE Chorale, Holiday Harmonies, Ann Marie McPhail, soprano. (Free-will offering to benefit the Emmaus House feeding ministry.)
- Christmas Pageant - Christ Church's annual Christmas Pageant will occur during the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Eucharist on Saturday, December 24th. All children are invited to participate in the pageant, with 4 years old being a suggested youngest age. We also need parents and other adult volunteers to help us with the pageant. Please contact the Rev. Helen White if you would like to volunteer helen.white@ccesavannah.org
- Christmas Service Schedule:
 - Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24, 5 p.m. Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist, and at 11 p.m. Choral Eucharist (Carols by Candlelight beginning at 10:30 p.m.),
 - Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25, 12 Noon Holy Eucharist

Christ Church Christmas Pageant

Christ Church's annual and time-honored Christmas Pageant will occur during the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Eucharist on Saturday, December 24th. All children are invited to participate in the pageant, with 4 years old being a suggested youngest age. We also need parents and other adult volunteers to help us with the pageant. Please contact the Rev. Helen White if you would like to volunteer helen.white@ccesavannah.org

Christ Church Restorations Report

The Vestry has recently approved a significant restoration effort in Christ Church's ongoing goal of appropriately maintaining our beautiful historic church building. Please understand this is not a complete restoration, but an effort to maintain. All areas of concern cannot be immediately addressed, but we have tried to prioritize projects while maintaining our financial integrity.

This will be an ongoing process. Our initial phase will be to replace the fire and intrusion alarm and repair a number of the windows in the Nave which have serious challenges. Our next (and primary) phase will be painting. On the exterior, we will paint the shrubbery curbing, the south and east sides of the church and portions of the north and west sides. On the interior, we will paint the chapel, undercroft, flower room, sacristy, narthex and portions of the Nave. The work will be done in stages over a period of approximately six months. We will make every effort not to interrupt our Sunday service schedule. Re-scheduling some of the week-day activities may be required and we will keep you posted. This work may create dust, odors, noise, debris, inconvenience and at times frustration. We ask for your patience, cooperation, and prayers. The restoration effort will be managed by Denton Stone and Bill Haile together with the rector and wardens under the guidance of a professional architect and designer.

Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

Christ Church was both pleased and proud to participate in this year's annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service held at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Troup Square on November 22. In addition to Episcopalians, clergy from the following denominations were present: Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Jewish, Methodist, Muslim, Unitarian and Presbyterian.

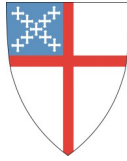


Photos from November 20, 2016 Last Sunday after Pentecost



Photos from November 13, 2016—28th Sunday after Pentecost





CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

The Right Reverend Scott Anson Benhase, D. Min., *Bishop of Georgia*

The Reverend Michael S. White, *Rector*

The Reverend Sierra Wilkinson Reyes, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Helen S. White, *Assistant for Children and Family Ministries*

The Reverend Liam G. Collins, *Assistant for Pastoral Care and Spiritual Life*

The Reverend Patricia Rhoads Davis, *Deacon*

The Right Reverend Henry I. Louttit, Jr., *Bishop-in-Residence*

The Reverend George M. Maxwell (1930-2016), *Rector Emeritus*

Timothy L. Hall, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Leslie D. Parker, *Parish Administrator*

Vestry

William F. Wallace, M.D., *Senior Warden*

J. Ryan Chandler, *Junior Warden*

Mary E. Raines, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Jane F. Espy, *Treasurer*

Robert M. Davenport

M. Marie Dent, Ph.D.

Celia W. Dunn

John Thomas Gennuso

Catherine M. Gussler

Kelly O. Lancaster, Ph.D.

Ann Y. Miller

J. Kurt C. Oelschig

Denton W. Stone

Andrew M. Wright

Christ Church, the "Mother Church of Georgia," was founded on February 12, 1733 and is a member of the Diocese of Georgia which, in turn, is one of 110 Dioceses which composes The Episcopal Church in the United States of America and abroad. The Episcopal Church is a constituent member of the Anglican Communion, a fellowship within the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of those duly constituted dioceses, provinces, and regional Churches in communion with the See of Canterbury. The fellowship upholds and propagates the historic Faith and Order as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer.

