

# The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

July 2, 2017



**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)

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### 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>I vow to thee, my country</i>	Gustav Holst, arr. Eric Thiman
Processional	Hymnal 518
<i>Christ is made the sure foundation</i>	Latin, ca. 7th cent.;
	after John Mason Neale
Opening Acclamation and Response	BCP 355
Gloria in excelsis	Hymnal S-280
Collect of the Day	

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Amen.*

#### Word of God

First Lesson	Jeremiah 28:5-9
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 <i>Misericordias Domini</i>	BCP 713
Epistle	Romans 6:12-23

Sequence Hymn*	Hymnal 609
<i>Where cross the crowded ways of life</i>	Frank Mason North
Holy Gospel	Matthew 10:40-42
Sermon	The Rev. Patricia Rhoads Davis, <i>Deacon</i>
Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, Form II	BCP 385
Confession and Absolution	BCP 360
Peace	

### Holy Communion

Offertory <i>This is a happy land</i>	Dale Wood
Great Thanksgiving, <i>Eucharistic Prayer A</i>	BCP 361
Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-129
Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction Anthem <i>Christ our Passover</i>	Hymnal S-154
Holy Communion	Hymnal 607, 343
<i>O God of every nation</i>	William Watkins Reid, Jr.
<i>Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless</i>	James Montgomery
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Processional	Hymnal 718
<i>God of our fathers, whose almighty hand</i>	Daniel Crane Roberts
Postlude <i>March</i>	Noonan and Bell

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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. Please remember Christ Church in your Will. Our website can be found at [www.christchurchsavannah.org](http://www.christchurchsavannah.org). Previous rectors of our parish include John Wesley, George Whitefield, F. Bland Tucker and George M. Maxwell.

\*Children ages Pre-K-5th grade are invited to attend Children's Chapel. Please process with the Cross at this time. Younger children and caregivers are also invited to participate in Children's Chapel.

## First Lesson

## Jeremiah 28:5-9

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the



words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people.

The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet.”

*Sacrifice of Isaac. Caravaggio. 1603. Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy.*

## Psalm 89 *Misericordias Domini*

## BCP 713

1 Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant;

4 I will establish your line for ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all generations."

15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout! \*  
they walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.

16 They rejoice daily in your Name, \*  
they are jubilant in your righteousness.

17 For you are the glory of their strength, \*  
and by your favor our might is exalted.

18 Truly, the Lord is our ruler, \*  
the Holy One of Israel is our King.

### Epistle

### Romans 6:12-23

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?



But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater



and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which

you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Above: *Sunday Morning Breakfast*. Horace Pippin. 1943. St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri.

Opposite Page: *Crucifixion*. Mathias Grünewald. 1511. National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

## Gospel

## Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the

righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple -- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

## **Announcements**

### **Upcoming Dates**

- July 4—Independence Day.
- July 9—The Rev. Sierra, Rudy and Julia Mae’s last Sunday before moving to Colorado.

### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Elizabeth Faircloth and Robert Gordon Bell, both of whom died on June 26, 2017 at 92 and 88 years of age, respectively; in celebration of the birthday of Franklin Reed Dulany, III, by his family; and in thanksgiving for the ministry of our rector, the Rev. Michael S. White.

### **The Rev. Michael S. White’s Ninth Anniversary as Christ Church’s Rector**

July 1 marked Fr. White’s ninth anniversary as Christ Church’s rector. Prior to coming to Christ Church, Fr. White served as the priest-in-charge of Christ Church, Georgetown, Washington, D.C.; rector of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Durham, N.C.; and rector of St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church in Richmond Hill, Georgia. Fr. White became Christ Church’s rector on July 1, 2008.

### **Christ Church, The Episcopal Church and July 4**

Did you know that of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 32 (or 57.1%) were Episcopalians? These include the two of the three signers from Georgia: Button Gwinnett and George Walton. Since Gwinnett lived in Savannah and was an Episcopalian, he must have been a member of Christ Church given that our church was the only Episcopal church in Savannah at that time. Gwinnett's signature is one of the rarest and most valuable of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. After serving as Georgia’s governor in 1777, he was killed in a duel with General Lachlan McIntosh on May

19 of that year. He is purportedly buried in Savannah's Colonial Cemetery located at the corner of Abercorn Street and Oglethorpe Avenue.

## The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul—June 29

*The Rt. Rev. Gladstone B. "Skip" Adams, III*  
*Bishop of the Episcopal Church in South Carolina*

The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul is a liturgical feast in honor of the martyr-



dom in Rome of the apostles Saint Peter and Saint Paul. Together, the two saints are the founders of the See of Rome, through their preaching, ministry and martyrdom there. In a sermon in the year 395, St. Augustine of Hippo said of Sts. Peter and Paul: "Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace

what they believed, their life, their labors, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith."

Why is it that these two giants of the Christian faith are bundled on one feast day? Yes, they are remembered on other days in the Church's calendar; Paul for his conversion and Peter for his confession. But, why this day? Apparently it is to remind us that they both died as martyrs in Rome. According to tradition, their deaths occurred in the same year, 64, during the persecution under Nero. They were united in death, united in faith, united in their common love of Jesus the Christ, united in their sense of mission to feed God's sheep.

We also know, however, that in life they had occasion for great differences of theological opinion. In the letter of Paul to the Galatians in 2:11 we have these



words, “But when Cephas (Aramaic for Peter) came to Antioch I (Paul) opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.” This controversy was about the mission to the Gentiles and matters of the circumcised and uncircumcised. Adherence to the Law and differences in the interpretation of Scripture and its application played a huge part. This was no small matter and Paul was resolute. Unless we miss the significance, this matter threatened to tear apart the fledgling Church.

What won the day was Peter’s and Paul’s common faith in Christ. Their unity in the person of Jesus and his teaching transcending ideology and pointing to the great room of inclusion enabled them to eventually move to a new place. As a child growing up in the Episcopal Church, I was aware of a very tense time in my home parish when two lay leaders of the congregation were at enmity with one another. The sharing of the “peace of Christ” in the liturgy was brand new and for many a bit controversial. One Sunday one of these persons, at the peace, left his pew and walked around the rather large worship space. It became apparent he was going straight to the person with whom he had been having the great argument. Everyone was holding a collective breath.

The most astonishing thing then occurred. One held out his hand to the other in what seemed like slow motion, eyes met, the hand was gently pushed aside and an embrace was offered and received. In an instant a relationship was restored, healing happened and worship continued. In a follow-up parish newsletter article it was expressed by these two men that if they were going to claim Christ as Lord they needed to act like it. So they did, right before our eyes.

This was a formative moment for me as a young Christian as well as a transforming moment for that parish. Memory tells me that the sharing of the peace of Christ was never the same again. The subsequent reconciliation of Peter and Paul, on a much larger stage, was formative for the first century Church. My hope is that it continues to inform and transform who we are as the people of God today.

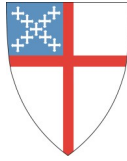
El Greco. *St. Peter and St. Paul*. 1595. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain.

Photos from June 25, 2017—3rd Sunday after Pentecost



Photos from June 25, 2017—3rd 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 J. Sierra 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

J. Ryan Chandler, *Senior Warden*

Mary E. Raines, *Junior Warden*

Sarah K. Jones, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Catherine M. Gussler, *Treasurer*

Bertice B. Berry, Ph.D.

Robert M. Davenport

Celia W. Dunn

Michael M. Franck

John Thomas Gennuso

Kelly O. Lancaster, Ph.D.

Laura Connerat Lawton

Gary M. Radke, Ph.D.

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.

