

The Celebration and Thanksgiving  
for the Life of

**The Reverend George Motier Maxwell**

September 11, 1930 - August 28, 2016



**CHRIST CHURCH**  
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA  
ESTABLISHED 1733

AUGUST 31, 2016





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The Book of Common Prayer, Rite II ("BCP")

**Entrance Rite**

Processional Hymn	Hymnal 287
<i>For all the saints</i> (stanzas 1-4)	William Walsham How
Anthems and Collect	BCP 491
O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother George. We thank you for giving him to us, his family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. <i>Amen.</i>	

**Word of God**

First Lesson	Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalms 23 <i>King James Version</i>	BCP 476
Second Lesson	Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39
Sequence Hymn	Hymnal 208
<i>The strife is o'er</i> (omit stanza 3)	trans. Francis Pott
Holy Gospel	John 10:11-16
Homily	The Rt. Rev. Scott Anson Benhase <i>Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia</i>
Apostles Creed	BCP 496
Prayers of the People	BCP 497
The Peace	

**Holy Communion**

Offertory Hymn	Hymnal 174
<i>At the Lamb's high feast</i>	trans. Robert Campbell
Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A	BCP 361

Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-129
Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Fraction Anthem <i>Christ our Passover</i>	Hymnal S-154
Breaking of the Bread	
Communion	
<i>The Servant Song</i>	Gilliard
<i>I want to walk</i>	Hymnal 490
<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks</i>	Hymnal 178
Post Communion Prayer	BCP 498

### Commendation

Commendation Prayers	BCP 499
Blessing	
Processional Hymn	Hymnal 690
<i>Guide me, O thou great Jehovah</i>	William Williams

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Celebrant	The Rt. Rev. Scott Anson Benhase <i>Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia</i>
Assisting Clergy	The Rev. Michael S. White The Very Rev. William Willoughby, III The Rev. Sierra Wilkinson Reyes The Rev. Helen S. White
Organist and Choirmaster	Timothy L. Hall
Choir	Parish Choir and Friends
Verger	Karl D. Bohnstedt
Crucifers	Kelly O. Lancaster and Janet Miller
Lectors	David Shephard and Laura Lawton

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The Maxwell family invites the congregation to a reception, immediately following the service, at The Oglethorpe Club, 450 Bull Street, Savannah. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Christ Church, 18 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31401.

## **First Lesson**

## **Isaiah 25:6-9**

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

## **Psalm 23** *King James Version*

## **BCP 476**

The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \*  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul; \*  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his  
Name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; \*  
for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of  
mine enemies; \*  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days  
of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

### Second Lesson

### Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?



No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Fresco, *Resurrection of Christ and the Women at the Tomb*, Fra Angelico, 1440. Convento di San Marco, Florence, Italy.

### Holy Gospel

### John 10:11-16

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.



Triptych of the Resurrection, Hans Memling, 1490.  
Musée du Louvre, Paris, France.

**The Reverend George Motier Maxwell, *Rector Emeritus***

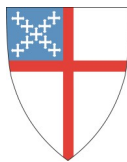
**September 11, 1930–August 28, 2016**      *The Rt. Rev. Harry W. Shippo*

“The Lord giveth. The Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” I trust we all can say these words with confidence, difficult as it sometimes may be. For we also know for a certainty that our joys will return on that great last day. “Happy are they who die in the Lord. So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.” Eternal rest has come for George Maxwell, a much loved pastor and dear personal friend and mentor has passed from this mortal life.

Father Maxwell became rector of Christ Church in 1973 while I was a parish priest in Augusta. His was a faithful and fruitful ministry. On his retirement in 1991 while I was bishop, and knowing his valuable gifts in spirituality, I asked him to serve as Spiritual Director for the clergy of our Diocese, a role he happily fulfilled. Allow me to share a few reflections on my treasured relationship with George since that time. We began meeting regularly for lunch in various eateries in recent years, which bonded us in close friendship, and was personally enlightening and rewarding for me. When I no longer could drive, George made the trip to Skidaway Island to join me for lunch. As I write, I can hear him admonishing me: “Harry, don’t talk about me, talk about God and His Kingdom and the love of Jesus.” But I love to talk about my old friend! Indeed, dear friends become the more treasured as we become older, our companions in life. I was grateful for his insights and wisdom, his grace, and his sound theology. We discussed a wide range of topics. We solved all the issues of the church, the nation and the world! Unfortunately no one asked for our solutions. He was an avid golfer and we often discussed the PGA tour. I hope there are golf courses in heaven.

In the Eucharistic sacrifice of Christ, we pray to God that that sacrifice may be the gateway for our beloved George’s entry into Paradise. Remember these words from The Revelation of St. John the Divine: “He who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

George, may you rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen



## 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 109 Dioceses which composes The Episcopal Church in the United States of America. 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.

