

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 19—Year A

September 17, 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)

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>Elegy</i>	George T. Thalben-Ball
Processional	Hymnal 410
Praise, my soul	<i>Lauda anima</i>
Opening Acclamation and Response	BCP 355
A Song of Praise	Hymnal S-236
Collect of the Day	

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Word of God

First Lesson	Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:8-13 <i>Benedic, anima mea</i>	BCP 766
Anglican chant by Kellow J. Pye	Sung by the Choir
Epistle	Romans 14:1-12
Sequence Hymn*	Hymnal 1
<i>Father, we praise thee</i>	<i>Christe sactorum</i>
Holy Gospel	Matthew 18:21-35
Sermon	The Rev. Michael S. White, <i>Rector</i>

Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, Form III	BCP 387
Confession and Absolution	BCP 360
Peace	

Holy Communion

Offertory <i>O sing unto the Lord</i>	Peter Aston
Great Thanksgiving, <i>Eucharistic Prayer A</i>	BCP 361
Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-125
Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction Anthem <i>Christ our Passover</i>	Hymnal S-155
Holy Communion**	Hymnal 577, 336
<i>God is love</i>	<i>Ubi caritas</i>
<i>Come with us, O blessed Jesus</i>	<i>Werde munter</i>
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Processional	Hymnal 376
<i>Joyful, joyful, we adore thee</i>	Hymn to Joy
Postlude <i>Now thank we all our God</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach

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. Previous rectors of our parish include John Wesley, George Whitefield, F. Bland Tucker and George M. Maxwell. Our website can be found at www.christchurchsavannah.org.

*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.

**All baptized Christians are invited and encouraged to receive Holy Communion.

Please remember Christ Church in your Will.

First Lesson

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we



did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to

preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Auguste Rodin. *The Thinker*. 1880

Psalm 103 *Benedic, anima mea*
Anglican chant by Kellow J. Pye

BCP 733
Sung by the Choir

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

Epistle

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.



Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

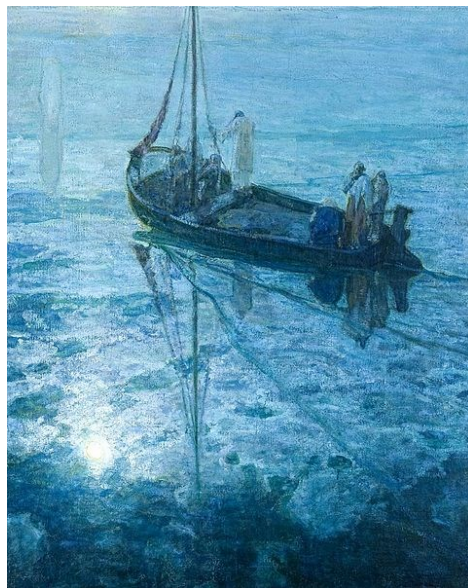
"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Chinese Jesus. Tyrus Wong. 1930. Asian Art Museum. San Francisco, CA.

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to



him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, say-

ing, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison

until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Henry Ossawa Tanner. *The Disciples See Christ Walking on the Water*. 1907.

Announcements

Welcome Samantha McKean

Assistant for Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Today, we formally welcome Samantha McKean to Christ Church as our new Assistant for Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Samantha grew up in what she calls "a one-stoplight town" in rural central Ohio. She then attended

Wheaton College in Illinois, where she graduated with a degree in Biblical and Theological Studies. While at Wheaton she found the Episcopal Church and became involved in youth ministry at her church. "When I first started attending an Episcopal church, the thing I really fell in love with was the liturgy. My connection with God wasn't dependent on my own experience; I felt carried by something bigger than myself. There were voices other than mine



speaking those prayers--both within that space and throughout the world--and I felt buoyed up by them. This is something I've become passionate about in working with youth and young adults--discovering together the ways in which God's love carries us." Having taken leadership roles in youth ministry growing up and in college, she spent her first full year after college putting this love into action as the Youth Minister at her church. She also took the affirmative step

of being confirmed at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Geneva, Illinois in May 2014. These experiences affirmed her growing sense of call to full-time ministry,



try, and Samantha then attended Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. During these three years, she interned with Duke's Episcopal House of Studies, and through the school's Field Education Program she worked at several different Episcopal Churches. This past year she worked at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Hillsborough, North Carolina with a focus on youth ministry and pastoral relationships with middle and high school students. She

graduated this past May with her Master of Divinity degree, was awarded the Jameson Jones Preaching Award.

Samantha, through her presence and ministry in Episcopal Churches, has continued to discern a call to ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church. Samantha has fully completed her seminary training and is now officially in the ordination process to be a priest of the Diocese of Georgia. Samantha and Garrett will live at Columba House in Savannah. Columba House is a ministry center for Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Georgia. From this home, Samantha will work to support Young Adult Ministry in Savannah and around the Diocese in addition to her ministry at Christ Church. The ordination process will take approximately 18 months during which time (God willing) Samantha will be ordained a deacon and then a priest while continuing to serve at Christ Church. In the meantime, she will be a full part of the community and spiritual life of our entire congregation with an intentional ministry focus toward Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

Please join us after today's 10:30 a.m. service for a special reception in the Undercroft to welcome Samantha and her husband Garrett.

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Scott Fredrick Miller, by his family.

Announcements and Upcoming Dates

- **Sunday, September 17, 6 p.m. Evening Eucharist** continues. As our Sunday Evening Eucharist has continued to grow, we are excited to announce that we will offer this quiet, reflective service every Sunday at 6 p.m. from September through May. In the noisy chaos of life, take this opportunity for an experience of God's peace. This evening and each third Sunday, we will have an evening reception following the 6 p.m. service.
- **Wednesday, September 20, Wednesday Noon Eucharist** continues. Join us each Wednesday for a mid-week experience of worship with a special opportunity for prayers for healing for ourselves and others.
- **Sunday, September 24, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School** for all ages begins. Did you know that Christ Church is home of the first Sunday School? John Wesley began the movement to form children more deeply in the faith. We enthusiastically continue this tradition for children, youth and adults! Come to the Parish House (Second Floor-18 Abercorn Street) at 9:30 a.m. on September 24th and the following Sundays. You will grow in faith, deepen in fellowship and experience the grace, joy and dignity of the Episcopal Church community.
 - Pre-K through 5th grade** will have a Bible Story Carnival.
 - EYC** (Middle and High School youth group) is invited to come to the Youth Room for a special youth gathering with Samantha McKean (Christ Church's new Assistant for Youth and Young Adult Ministries)
 - Adults** will begin a program called "**I am Christ Church.**" Using scripture, Church history, and personal narratives of current members, we will begin an exploration of God's unique call for our Church community. This will be a great opportunity to explore the history of the Episcopal Church/Christ Church and also deepen relationships as we learn more about one another.
 - Nursery** care will be provided.
- **Sunday, October 1 "Blessing of the Stuffed Animals"** Please bring new or slightly used stuffed animals to be blessed and shared with the Savannah

Police Department. Each year these stuffed animals are donated to the Police who use them as gifts for children in our community who have witnessed something frightening and are in need of a symbol of love and support. Also, children are invited to bring (and hold on to) their favorite stuffed animal. These animals will return home with the children with the assurance that God is always with us.

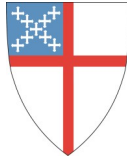
- **October 1—Youth Choir** (pre-k through 5th grade) begins after the 10:30 a.m. service on October 1 and will continue each 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Please speak with Timothy Hall or Emily Burch if you have questions or would like more information.
- **Saturday, January 20**—Because of damage to Honey Creek and the impact of Irma for many who live along the Georgia Coast, the Honey Creek Revival Service with the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church Michael Curry, originally slated for September 17, has been postponed until Saturday, January 20. Please mark your calendars and more details will follow.

Photos from August 20 and 27 and September 3, 2017



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

The Reverend Michael S. White, *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*

Timothy L. Hall, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Samantha K. McKean, *Assistant for Youth and Young Adult Ministries*

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.

