

The Second Sunday In Lent

Year A

March 12, 2017



CHRIST CHURCH
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1733





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10:15 a.m.—12:30 A.M.—Nursery (Parish House, 18 Abercorn Street)

8:00 A.M.—Holy Eucharist, Rite I (Chapel)

Collect, Epistle, Psalm, Gospel and Sermon BCP 323

10:30 A.M.—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Entrance Rite

Voluntary *Fantasia and Fuge in C minor (BWV 537)* Johann Sebastian Bach

Processional Hymnal 401

The God of Abraham praise Thomas Olivers

Opening Acclamation and Response BCP 355

Kyrie Hymnal S-96

Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Word of God

First Lesson Genesis 12:1-4a

Gradual Psalm 121 *Levavi oculos* BCP 779

Plainsong, Tone VI. Sung by the Choir

Epistle Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Sequence Hymn Hymnal 635*

If thou but trust in God to guide thee Georg Newmark; tr.
Catherine Winkworth

Holy Gospel	John 3:1-17
Sermon	The Rev. Michael S. White, <i>Rector</i>
Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, <i>Form I</i>	BCP 383
Confession	BCP 360
Peace	

Holy Communion

Offertory <i>The lone, wild bird</i>	Southern folk melody, arr. David N. Johnson
Doxology	Hymnal 380, v. 3
Great Thanksgiving <i>Eucharistic Prayer A</i>	BCP 361
Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-130
Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction Anthem <i>Agnus Dei</i>	Hymnal S-164
Communion Music	Hymnal 337, 341
<i>And now, O Father, mindful of the love</i>	William Bright
<i>For the bread which you have broken</i>	Louis F. Benson
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Processional Hymn	Hymnal 637
<i>How firm a foundation</i>	K. in Rippon's <i>Selection</i> , 1787

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. Please remember Christ Church in your Will.

*Children ages PreK-5th grade are invited to attend Children's Chapel. Please process with the Cross at this time. Younger children are welcome to attend if they are accompanied by a parent.

First Lesson

Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Gradual Psalm 121 *Levavi oculos*

Plainsong, Tone VI.

BCP 779

Sung by the Choir

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

5 The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

Epistle

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.



For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Abraham and the Angels. Aert de Gelder (c. 1680–85).

Gospel

John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the pres-



ence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?”

Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Study for Christ and Nicodemus on a Rooftop. ca. 1923. Henry Tanner. Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Announcements

Altar Flowers and Memorials

The greens on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert David Gongaware by his family.

Christ Church’s Historic Colonial Silver

During the ancient season of Lent, we are using the Historic Colonial Silver for our 10:30 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist. The silver dates to 1814 and was a gift to our church. This is a reminder that as we walk through the days of Lent, we join together with Christians from around the world and throughout the generations at Christ Church, Savannah.

Today at Christ Church

- **6:00 p.m. Evening Contemplative Eucharist.** The Rev. Liam G. Collins, celebrant. We invite and encourage you to come for this and the following three Sundays in Lent and experience the gift of God’s transforming love for you. Come and discover how the prayer of the heart grounds your life in simplicity, stability and peace.
- **Music News—Upcoming Youth Choir Rehearsals**
 - Sunday, March 12 during Sunday School
 - Sunday, March 19 after Church (with lunch to follow)
 - Youth Choir sings at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, March 26
- **Summer Choir Camp** (completed grades 1-5). Tuesday thru Friday, May 30 - June 2, 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
- **EYC (Episcopal Youth Community)-Middle and High School—EYC**

Service Saturday: March 11 at 7:45 a.m. Give back and volunteer time with EYC at America's Second Harvest on Saturday, March 11. Plan to arrive at America's Second Harvest no later than 7:45 a.m. We will be helping their Brown Bag Program. For your safety, no sandals, clogs, flip flops or shoes exposing any part of the foot are allowed. Friends are welcome! We will need an accurate head count of volunteers, so please let Reverend Sierra know you're planning to volunteer.

- **EYC Game Night! March 24, 6-8 p.m.** Come and hang out on Friday Night with our EYC group at the Parish House! Bring your favorite games. We'll also discuss our April 29 basketball event & bake sale. Friends are welcome!
- **New Beginnings #50 - March 24-26.** Several of our EYC youth attended New Beginnings at Honey Creek! Mark your calendars for your next chance to experience this powerful weekend. New Beginnings will take place during the weekend of March 24-26, 2017, at Honey Creek. The cost of weekend is \$115 (scholarships available). New Beginnings is a weekend retreat for teenagers in grades 7-9. The weekend takes participants through a discovery about ourselves, our friends, our families, our faith, and how to live out our faith in our daily lives. Please let Reverend Sierra know if you're interested in attending!
- **Bruce Feiler in Savannah.** Savannah native and New York Times bestselling author Bruce Feiler will make two Savannah appearances to discuss and sign his new book The First Love Story: Adam, Eve and Us on April 1 at 6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church on Washington Avenue and April 2 at 2 p.m. at the Jewish Educational Alliance on Abercorn Street.

Christ Church Children's Ministries (pre-K through 5th grade):

Many thanks to all who donated children's books and supplies for Project Smile! We collected over 200 books along with many great toys, pencils, markers, etc. The Sunday School kids had a great time packing things up, and the boxes will head to Belize next week.

Operation Paperback Sends More Books!

Christ Church's Operation Paperback team currently boxes and sends 150-175 paperback books per month to active and hospitalized U.S. military personnel both stateside and overseas. Priscilla Carrington, who helps to organize this

effort, says, “The Operation Paperback team is successful only because parishioners and others donate sufficient numbers of quality paperbacks in suitable condition. Please continue to leave your paperback books in the Undercroft Collection Basket so we can continue supplying books to our service men and women.”

Photos from March 5, 2017—First Sunday in Lent

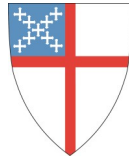


Mardi Gras 2017! "Laissez les bon temps rouler!"



Photos from March 5, 2017—First Sunday in Lent





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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.

