

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Year B

January 28, 2024



CHRIST CHURCH
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1733





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SAVANNAH

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Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Entrance Rite

Prelude <i>Balm in Gilead</i>	Adolphus Hailstork III (b. 1941)
Processional	Hymnal 616
<i>Hail to the Lord's Anointed</i>	<i>Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein</i>
(Children's Chapel follows the procession. Suggested ages are pre-K through fifth grade; younger children are welcome if accompanied by adults.)	
Opening Acclamation	BCP 355
<i>Officiant</i>	Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
<i>People</i>	And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
Collect for Purity	BCP 355
Song of Praise	Hymnal S-280
<i>Gloria in excelsis</i>	Robert Powell (b. 1932)
Collect of the Day	
Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. <i>Amen.</i>	

The Word of God

First Lesson Deuteronomy 18:15–20

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they

have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

Psalm 111 *Confitebor tibi*

BCP 754

Sung by the choir.

chant: Richard Woodward (ca. 1743–1777)

1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! *

they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, *

and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *

the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

5 He gives food to those who fear him; *

he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works *

in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *

all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *

because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;

he commanded his covenant for ever; *

holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *

those who act accordingly have a good understanding;

his praise endures for ever.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 8:1–13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to

know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Sequence Hymn
Fairest Lord Jesus

Hymnal 383
St. Elizabeth

Holy Gospel



Mark 1:21–28

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a

man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Exorcism at the Synagogue in Capernaum (Christus heilt einen Besessenen). Eleventh century fresco.

Sermon	The Reverend Michael S. White, <i>Rector</i>
Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, Form III	BCP 387
Confession and Absolution	BCP 360
The Peace	

The Holy Communion

Offertory

“Light of the World” from *The Light of Life* Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Light of the World, we know thy praise	So thou might bring into our night
The angels and archangels raise	the dawn of Thine eternal Light,
and all the host of Heav’n;	To shine upon our face.
More worthily than our faint hymns,	Nor death, nor hell, nor sin is Lord,
Whose jarring sound thy glory dims,	But Thou, O Son of God. Thy Word
Which God to Thee has giv’n.	is now our sov’reign law.
But thou didst not disdain to take	Therefore we thank Thee, and we pray
Our low estate, or e’en to make	Thy Light may shine unto the Perfect Day
The tomb thy resting place;	On us for evermore.
	(<i>Edward Capel-Cure, 1828–1890</i>)

Presentation of the Gifts

Hymnal 380, v. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise him, all creatures here below;
 praise him above, ye heavenly host;
 praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving, *Eucharistic Prayer B*

BCP 367

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymnal S-128

William Mathias (1934–1992)

The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction Anthem, <i>Agnus Dei</i>	Hymnal S-164
From <i>Deutsche Messe</i>	Franz Peter Schubert (1797–1828)
(All Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.)	
Holy Communion	Hymnal 339, 676
<i>Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness</i>	<i>Schmücke dich</i>
<i>There is a balm in Gilead</i>	<i>Balm in Gilead</i>
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Recessional	Hymnal 135
<i>Songs of thankfulness and praise</i>	<i>Salzburg</i>
Dismissal	BCP 366
Postlude <i>March</i> , Op. 32	E. Elgar



Prayers of the People*

For our confirmands preparing to affirm their baptismal vows: that they will receive power and wisdom from the Holy Spirit, and by grace grow into the full stature of Christ.

For the people of Ukraine, Israel and Gaza and places of conflict around the world: for strength, hope, perseverance, and protection; for liberation from violence and oppression; for the end of war and the laying down of weapons.

Also for Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Sharon Williams, Suzanne Brichta, Carry Smith, Sylvia Severance

For the Birthdays of Corrine Brown, Roy Yarger, Phil Walters, Isaac Bringman, Huntsman Childs, Yalanda Cooper, Caroline Holden, Maggie Mikell, Jacob Reeves, Helen Claiborne, Christopher Reed-McGlade, Stella Oelschig, Otto Immel, Todd Lerch, Jim Pember, Charlie Sachs, Oliver Brevik, Mathilde Brevik, Jack Lerch, Reese Bailey, Owen Myers, Baker Sumner, Jeff Bailey, Maureen Bailey, Kendall Beene, Rich Nelson, Jim Shipley, Richard Beattie, Stuart Childs, Caroline Harper, Carolyn Warren, Hannah Kumjian, Ken Brandt, Teddy Fergus, Mills Fleming, Jack Sumner, Fay Woodruff, Barrett Benton, Clementine Larvan, Anna Beth Baker, Paige Carson, Jenny Long, John Mikell, Mary Dugas, Felicia Burch, Hayes Carson

For the Wedding Anniversaries of Katharine and Chris Logan, Savannah and Will Young, Caroline and Sam Harper, Daniela and Mike Bringman, Karen and Kurt Oelschig

For Those Who Have Died and for the Comfort of Their Families: Thomas (Tom) Augustine Barrow, Dr. Victor Andrews, Ashley Harrison, Brian Bebermeyer

*The full prayer list may be found on our website and in our weekly email.

Announcements

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Susan Wolfe Harrison, Elizabeth Harrison Austin, Lawrence Miner Austin, Sr. and Joseph Huger and Louise Lynah Harrison by their family; and Kirk Varnedoe, by Comer and Otto Immel.

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, January 28

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum. *Exploring Episcopal Worship: Altar Guild*

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

6:00 p.m. Choral Evensong and Annual Meeting

Monday through Friday, January 29–February 2

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Docent Tours

Wednesday, January 31

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Prayers for Healing

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, February 3

11:00 a.m. Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza

Next Sunday at Christ Church

Sunday, February 4

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum. *Exploring Episcopal Worship: the Role of Deacons in Worship*

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Concerts at Christ Church: Wesley Harrison Hall, *organ*

Choral Evensong and Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 28, 6:00 p.m.

Join us and experience the beauty of Choral Evensong, sung by the Christ Church Parish Choir. This service of sung evening prayer lasts about a half hour, and will be followed by the Annual Meeting, at which the new slate of vestry members will be officially installed and we will have a presentation on the organ project. Reception to follow in the undercroft.

Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza

Saturday, February 3, 11:00 a.m.

Bring the whole family to learn more about Christ Church's historic pipe organ in this kid-friendly event! Dynamic organist and TikTok star Wesley Hall will demonstrate the kaleidoscope of sounds available in a pipe organ, explain how an organ works, and even lead us on a behind-the-scenes sneak peek inside the organ. And if that's not enough, how about a chance to play the organ?? All participants are invited to join us for a pizza lunch in the undercroft following this 45-minute event.

Concerts at Christ Church: From the Sea to the Stars

Sunday, February 4, 4:00 p.m.

TikTok Organist Wesley Hall plays 500 years of organ music, from ancient pop songs and intricate fugues to soundtrack music and new compositions, and of course... Bach! A festive reception in the undercroft will follow.

Bishop's Visitation

Sunday, February 11, 10:30 a.m.

The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue, the Episcopal Bishop of Georgia, will make his visitation to Christ Church on Sunday, February 11th. Our youth confirmation class will be confirmed together on that day.

LENT AT CHRIST CHURCH

Ash Wednesday Services

February 14, 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. (with Choir and Nursery at 6:00 p.m.)

Listening for God's Call: The Spiritual Practice of Discernment

Sunday Adult Forum, 2nd Floor of the Parish House, 9:30 a.m.

Nursery provided for ages 0–4

This series is back by popular demand, including new material. The spiritual work of discernment is ongoing and part of the Christian experience, no matter your age or stage. We discern our studies, professions, relationships, parenting, financial decisions, retirement and a million decisions in-between. The Church offers many tools and great wisdom on discerning vocation—the call of God—in ways big and small. However, these gifts have primarily been used by those seeking ordination. In this series, we will explore some of the ways you may discern the decisions of your life in the context of Christian Faith. We especially welcome two guest speakers: the Rev. Canon Loren Lasch, Canon to the Ordinary for the Diocese of Georgia and the Rev. Lauren Byrd, retired head of the Commission on Ministry for the Diocese of Georgia.

Let's Build Some Bible Stories

Children's Sunday School, 2nd Floor Parish House, 9:30 a.m.

Nursery provided for ages 0–4

Children and youth are invited to roll up their sleeves and get to work. Modeled after “Adventures with Moses” from last summer, we are going to create immersive art focused on five great Bible stories.

Embracing the Dark followed by Choral Compline

Sunday Evenings in the Nave, 6:00 p.m.

What happens if we abandon our preconceptions of Lent as primarily a season of doom and gloom and instead seek to find inspiration and even illumination in darkness? Join Christ Church member and professor of art history Gary Radke for a four-part Lenten series on the positive power of darkness in Renaissance art. Discuss how all of us might meaningfully embrace darkness, shadows, and obscurity. Consider “The Positive Power of Darkness” (February 18); “Renaissance Depictions of Night” (February 25); “Darkness and Drama in

Caravaggio's Art" (March 3); and "Problems with Light" (March 10). Sessions will be held in the church nave from 6–7 p.m., beginning with a Powerpoint presentation and discussion followed by Choral Compline sung by the staff singers. You are welcome to attend one, several, or all four gatherings.

In the Spirit: Lenten Discussion Series

Mondays, February 26, March 11, & March 26 at the Sandfly 5-Spot, 5:30 p.m.

"In the Spirit" is a discussion group for those who seek to deepen their faith through meaningful conversations. Join us this Lent as we explore questions surrounding change, conflict, and Christ's mandate to love.

Mid-Day Music

Wednesdays following the noon Eucharist in the church. Contemplative organ music will be offered by area organists each Wednesday in Lent. These programs are free and open to the public, with a free-will offering to benefit Emmaus House's homeless meals ministry.

Christ Church Book Group

Thursday, March 14 in the Undercroft, 10:30 a.m.

When Bad Things Happen to Good People by Rabbi Harold Kushner.

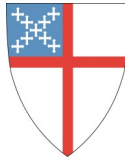
Often imitated but never superseded, *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* is a classic that offers clear thinking and consolation in times of sorrow.

Lenten Book Study

Wednesday, March 20th in the Undercroft, 6:00 p.m.

Learning to Walk in the Dark by Barbara Brown Taylor

This book was chosen in tandem with the Sunday evening program, *Embracing the Dark*. In *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, Episcopal priest and New York Times best-selling author, Barbara Brown Taylor, steps away from our "solar spirituality." She explores the uncomfortable experience of darkness, physically and spiritually, and encourages us to seek God's presence there, also.



CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

The Right Reverend Frank S. Logue, *Bishop of Georgia*

The Reverend Michael S. White, *Rector*

The Reverend Samantha K. McKean, *Senior Associate Rector*

The Reverend Helen S. White, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Patricia Rhoads Davis, *Deacon*

George H. Fergus, *Director of Music*

Suzanne Phillips Smith, *Parish Administrator*

Charles L. Epps, *Sexton*

The Reverend Canon Todd D. Smelser, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend Liam G. Collins, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend Richard "Max" Maxwell, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend David C. Seyle, *United Methodist Pastor-in-Residence*

Vestry

Sarah K. Jones, *Senior Warden*; Stephen R. Rilee, *Junior Warden*;

Sarah B. Smith, *Clerk of the Vestry*; Patton W. Dugas, *Treasurer*;

Catherine M. Gussler, *Assistant Treasurer for Stewardship and Finance*;

Charles H. Chewning; Washington C. Dender; Katherine J. Griffith;

Stephanie C. Lindley; Rosemary W. Mackey; Roger Moss, Jr.; Rena K. Patton;

Elizabeth L. Pember; Molly C. Taylor; Paul H. Threlkeld; Susan H. Wetmore

Sundays

9:15 a.m. Nursery, located on the 2nd floor of the Parish House at 18 Abercorn

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

The Church building is located at 28 Bull Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401

The telephone number is 912-236-2500

www.christchurchsavannah.org

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. The current church building was constructed in 1838 and is the third one on the original site.