

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
Year A  
October 15, 2023



CHRIST CHURCH  
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA  
ESTABLISHED 1733





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SAVANNAH

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## The Liturgy of the Word

### Prelude

Selections from *Mass for the Parishes* François Couperin (1668–1733)

### Processional

Hymnal 460

*Alleluia! sing to Jesus*

*Hyfrydol*

(Children's Chapel follows the procession. Suggested ages are pre-K through fifth grade; younger children are welcome if accompanied by adults.)

### Acclamation and Response

BCP 355

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

### The Collect for Purity

BCP 355

### Song of Praise

Hymnal S-236

### The Collect of the Day

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; 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

Isaiah 25:1-9

O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;

for you have done wonderful things,

plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap,

the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of aliens is a city no more,

it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;

cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,  
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

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

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.

**Psalms 23**

*Dominus regit me*

**BCP 612**

*Sung by the choir*

*chant: H. Walford Davies (1869–1941)*

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways  
for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.



5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*The Lord is My Shepherd*, Eastman Johnson. 1863. Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.

### Epistle

### Philippians 4:1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 645

*The King of love my shepherd is*

*St. Columba*

### Holy Gospel

### Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.'

But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.



“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

*Parable of the Great Banquet*, Brunswick Monogrammist. circa 1525. National Museum in Warsaw, Poland.

Sermon	The Reverend Samantha K. McKean, <i>Senior Associate 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	<i>O for a closer walk with God</i>	Charles V. Stanford (1852–1924)
	The text can be found at hymn 684 of the <i>Hymnal 1982</i> .	
Doxology		Hymnal 380, v. 3
The Great Thanksgiving, <i>Eucharistic Prayer A</i>		BCP 361
Sanctus and Benedictus		Hymnal S-125
Lord’s Prayer		BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread		

Fraction Anthem, Christ Our Passover	Hymnal S-154
(All Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.)	
Holy Communion	Hymnal 321, 707
<i>My God, thy table now is spread</i>	<i>Rockingham</i>
<i>Take my life and let it be</i>	<i>Hollingside</i>
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Processional	Hymnal 556
<i>Rejoice, ye pure in heart! (stanzas 1-5)</i>	<i>Marion</i>
Postlude Allegro Maestoso, from <i>Sonata No. 2</i> , Op. 65/2	
	Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

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## 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** Lazarus Lebanoff, Peter Doyle, Julia Jones

**For the Birthdays** of Nan Hooten, Jay Eberle, Henry Perkins, Catherine Hallman, Lane Lynch, Rena Patton, Dax Reiley, Emmy Burch, Catherine Gussler, Angela Brandt, Holden Haenel, Jan Smith, Bella Grace Baker, Kim Bockius-Suwyn, Marie Dent, Erin Waterman, Anna Claire Davis, Parsons Summerell, Edward Wallace, Cathy Howington, Samuel Mikell Jr., Roger Moss, Tiara Sanders, Ollie Truex, Ryan Chandler, Tori Chandler, John Mikell, Susan Gedes, Etta Jones, Harlan Lerch, Stephen Smith, Barrie Bradley, Savannah Young, Rick Smith, Susan Wetmore, Florence Stovall, Kristi Anderson, Wanda Bohnstedt, Brylee Bragg, Hartford Gongaware, Wash Dender, Maisie Gardner, Cora Bett Thomas, Rob Gibson, Rivers Myers, Irene Feddem, Meg Nelson, Kim Sachs

**For the Wedding Anniversaries** of Susan and Charlie Wetmore, Mary Helen and John Skeadas, Jim Gerhart and Todd Smelser, Comer and Otto Immel, Heather and Will Wallace, Rima and Kwasi Agyei-Gyamfi, Melissa and Shaun Bragg, Kathryn and Peter Trussell

**For Those Who Have Died and for the Comfort of Their Families:** Tom McArthur, Thomas R. McWhorter, Carol Ann Canter, Hale Walcoff

\*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 Alice Barrow Myrick and Shelby Myrick Jr by the Gussler family.

### Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Many thanks to Claire and Whit Davis for leading our stewardship campaign this year.

This week marks the official end of our campaign. Thank you to those who have already made a pledge. To those who have not had the chance to do so yet, please prayerfully consider a pledge so that Christ Church may continue to serve all in our church family and reach out in love and service to the world. May the lyrics of Hymn 135 inspire us to give generously and serve faithfully, as we raise our voices in praise of our Lord.



You may pledge online at [christchurchsavannah.org/giving](http://christchurchsavannah.org/giving). If you have any questions, please contact Catherine Gussler, [treasurer@ccesavannah.org](mailto:treasurer@ccesavannah.org) or 912-222-0888.

### This Week at Christ Church: Sunday, October 15th

*9:30 AM: Adult Forum in the Chapel*

**Then and Now: Today's Topics through the Lens of Church History**

Using Church History as a foundation, we will explore the past and present on significant themes.

◆ *The Role of Women in the Early Church and Today*—Led by the Rev. Max Maxwell

*12:15 PM: Lunch and Formation in the Parish House (18 Abercorn)*

(Nursery is included.)

◆ Chorister Rehearsal

◆ Confirmation Class

◆ Children's Sunday School

◆ Adult Sunday School: "Living Sunday, Everyday"

How does our "Sunday morning" faith translate to the rest of our lives?

Led by Junior Warden, Stephen Rilee

*6:00 PM: Evening Adult Program in the Undercroft*

◆ *The Nature of God*—Led by Steve Edwards

## Next Week at Christ Church: Sunday, October 22nd

*9:30 AM: Adult Forum in the Chapel*

Study of the Gospel of Mark

Please join us as we take a deeper dive into Mark's Gospel.

*12:15 PM: Lunch and Formation in the Parish House (18 Abercorn)*

(Please RSVP for lunch. Link will be available in the Thursday email or contact the Rev. Helen White, [helen.white@ccesavannah.org](mailto:helen.white@ccesavannah.org). Nursery is included.)

- ◆ Chorister Rehearsal
- ◆ Confirmation Class
- ◆ Children's Sunday School
- ◆ Adult Sunday School: "Living Sunday, Everyday"  
How does our "Sunday morning" faith translate to the rest of our lives?  
Led by Vestry Member, Chuck Chewning

*6:00 PM: Evening Adult Program in the Undercroft*

- ◆ *The Problem of Evil*—Led by the Rev. Michael White



### Adult Forum in the Chapel

*October 22<sup>nd</sup> November 26, 2023, 9:30 AM*

On Sunday, October 22, the 9:30 a.m. forum will begin a six week study of the Gospel of Mark. In the lectionary reading cycle that begins in December, we will have Mark's Gospel as the primary Gospel of our Sunday scripture lessons. Please join us as we take a deeper dive into Mark's Gospel. Then when you hear that Sunday lessons from Mark, you will have a bigger framing through which to engage each Sunday's readings.

*St. Mark the Evangelist*, Emmanuel Tzanes. 1657.  
Benaki Museum, Athens, Greece.



## Evening Adult Program

*Wrestling with the Big Questions:*

*A Philosophical and Theological Examination of Faith*

*October 8-29 in the Christ Church Undercroft at 6 PM*



Join Dr. Brian Martine, Steve Edwards, the Rev. Michael White, and the Rev. David Seyle as we explore the deeper questions of our faith. This is a continuation of the Adult Forum offered last winter. From the two perspectives of philosophy and theology, we will explore complex ideas concerning Christian faith and belief.

- ◆ **October 8:** *Arguments for the Existence of God*—  
Led by Dr. Brian Martine
- ◆ **October 15:** *The Nature of God*—  
Led by Steve Edwards
- ◆ **October 22:** *The Problem of Evil*—  
Led by the Rev. Michael White
- ◆ **October 29:** *Freewill and Grace*—  
Led by the Rev. David Seyle

## Coming Events

Sunday, October 15—Stewardship Ingathering

Sunday, October 15—Adult Forum in the Chapel, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, October 15—Lunch and Formation in the Parish House, 12:15 p.m.

Sunday, October 15—Evening Adult Program, Undercroft at 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 16—*In the Spirit*, 5:30 p.m. - The 5-Spot in Sandfly  
(7360 Skidaway Rd.)

Wednesday, October 18—Mid-Day Music, 12:30 p.m., following the Holy Eucharist  
with Prayers for Healing at noon

Saturday, October 28—"Why We Are Apart: The Slave Bible and the Church in  
Black and White," 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 5—Empty Bowl Fundraiser for Emmaus House, 12:00–2:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 5—Eucharist for All Saints: Fauré's *Requiem*, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 19—Concerts at Christ Church: George Fergus, *organ*

## “Why We Are Apart: The Slave Bible and the Church in Black and White”: Saturday, October 28, 10 AM - 12 PM

Join St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and Christ Church members Bertice Berry and Hermina Glass-Hill for this exciting event. The program and discussion will be available both online and in-person.

**\*Online and In-Person\***

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/wn\\_jiSaCp3GSLukWed5o2Fhg](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/wn_jiSaCp3GSLukWed5o2Fhg)

# Why We Are Apart

The Slave Bible and the Church in Black and White

October 28, 2023  
10 am - 12 pm

St. Matthews Episcopal Church  
1401 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Savannah, GA 31415

Join theologians Father Guillermo Arboleda, Deacon Ella Roundtree Davis, sociologist Dr. Bertice Berry, historian Hermina Glass-Hill and African American musical historian Mrs. Beryl C. Dandy for a presentation and discussion regarding the most segregated hour in the United States. We will review the texts *The Slave Bible*, and *Religious Instruction of the Negro*. Discuss field hollers and meter hymns, church segregation in the U.S and The Baptismal Covenant.

You will leave more educated, inspired and renewed. Come learn with us!

Free Online Registration

SCAN ME

Donations to St. Matthews Episcopal Church are welcome and appreciated!

SCAN ME

Save the Date!



YOU'RE *Invited!*



To the 13th Annual Empty Bowl Fundraiser benefiting Emmaus House! Proceeds from the event go directly toward providing resources for the hungry and homeless in our community. Scan the QR code below with your smart phone to purchase tickets, become an event sponsor and follow our socials!



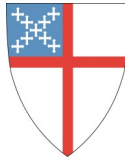
*Scan me*



Sunday Nov 5th

FROM NOON - 2 PM

Reynolds Square, Savannah GA



## 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](http://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.