

The First Sunday in Lent

Year B

February 18, 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 “Andante” from *Sonata IV in E minor*, BWV 528

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Processional

Hymnal 143

*The glory of these forty days*

*Erhalt uns, Herr*

Children’s Chapel, please follow the procession. Suggested ages PreK to Fifth grade,  
younger children welcome if accompanied by adults.

Penitential Order

BCP 351

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* His mercy endures for ever.

Summary of the Law

Confession and Absolution (*Kneeling*)

BCP 352

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Kyrie eleison (*Kneeling*)  
from *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*  
Lord, have mercy upon us (3x)  
Christ, have mercy upon us (3x)  
Lord, have mercy upon us (3x)

Hymnal S-91  
Healey Willan (1880–1968)

Collect of the Day (*Kneeling*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## The Word of God

### First Lesson

### Genesis 9:8–17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living crea-



ture that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God

said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living crea-

ture of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

*Noah's Thanksoffering*, Joseph Anton Koch. c. 1803. Städelsches Kunstinstitut und Städtische Galerie, Frankfurt, Germany.

**Psalm 25:1–9 *Ad te, Domine, levavi***

**BCP 614**

*Sung by the choir.*

*chant: Plainsong, Tone I*

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**Epistle**

**1 Peter 3:18–22**

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in

the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Sequence Hymn

*Forty days and forty nights*

Hymnal 150

*Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*

### Holy Gospel

### Mark 1:9–15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in



the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

*Battesimo di Cristo (The Baptism of Christ)*, Andrea del Verrocchio and Leonardo da Vinci. c. 1475. Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy.

Sermon	The Reverend Dr. David C. Seyle, <i>United Methodist Pastor-in-Residence</i>
Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, Form I	BCP 383
The Peace	

## The Holy Communion

Offertory	“Kyrie eleison” from <i>Messe solennelle</i> , Op. 16 Louis Vierne (1870–1937)
Doxology	Hymnal 380, v. 3
The Great Thanksgiving, <i>Eucharistic Prayer A</i>	BCP 361
Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-114
from <i>Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena</i>	H. Willan
Lord’s Prayer	BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread	
Fraction Anthem, <i>Agnus Dei</i>	Hymnal S-158
from <i>Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena</i>	H. Willan
All Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.	
Holy Communion	Hymnal 455, 559
<i>O Love of God, how strong and true</i>	<i>Dunedin</i>
<i>Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us</i>	<i>Dulce carmen</i>
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
Processional	Hymnal 448
<i>O love, how deep, how broad, how high</i>	<i>Deus tuorum militum</i>
Postlude	
<i>Prelude in C minor</i> , BWV 546/1	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)



### **Prayers of the People\***

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** Ted, Mike and family, Allison, Darrell Reese & family, Jane Bridges, Lisa H. Svetlik

**For the Birthdays of** Will Young, Rod Davis, Morgan Kuhn, Virginia Maxwell, Julia Mikell, Bill Wallace, Kev Jackson, Hanks Young, Pamela Benton, Alice Edwards, Holley Helfrich, Polly Webster, John Skeadas III, Jerry Reeves IV, Sandy Yarger, John Rilee, Daniela Bringman, Brooke Stone, Finn Taylor, Bob Vouk, Carol Jennings, Lynn Harrison, Rosemary Mackey, Monica Sliva, Jeff Whitlow, Clare Ellis, Vera Zajac, Kate Bailey, Jamie Lindley, Kim Lutz, Florence Slatinsky, Russell Smith, David Crampton, Kristen Stovall, Mercy Wright, Joey Stolba, Susan Huennekens, Serenity Lewis

**For the Wedding Anniversaries of** Casey and Ronald Martinez, Stephen and Clayton Gagne-Thomas

**For Those Who Have Died and for the Comfort of Their Families:** James F. McClelland, Anne West

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

### **Christ Church Historic Silver**

From the first Sunday of Lent through Easter Sunday, we will use our historic silver chalices and paten at the 10:30 service. The engraving on these vessels states: "Presented to Christ Church by the Ladies of the Congregation 1816." The chalices are very plain but very deep. If you drink from the chalice, please assist the server, who will not be able to see if you have actually received the wine. Some people may find it easier to stand to drink from the chalice. Parents may want to help children who receive wine. For over 200 years, worshippers at Christ Church have received bread and wine from these vessels. We follow in a long line of those who came before us. We give thanks for the love of God that continues from generation to generation.

## Announcements

### Altar Greens

The greens on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Stuart Frederick Sligh, Jr., by Stuart, Mary Brooke, and Brookey Sligh.

### This Week at Christ Church

#### Sunday, February 18 - The First Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum & Children's Sunday School (Parish House)

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

6:00 p.m. *Embracing the Dark*, followed by Choral Compline

#### Monday, February 19

Church office closed for Presidents Day

#### Tuesday through Friday, February 20–23

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Docent Tours

#### Wednesday, February 21

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

12:30 p.m. Mid-day Music. *If Music Be the Food of Love*

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Next Sunday at Christ Church

#### Sunday, February 25 - The Second Sunday Lent

9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum & Children's Sunday School (Parish House)

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

6:00 p.m. *Embracing the Dark*, followed by Choral Compline

### Mid-day Music: *If Music Be the Food of Love*

#### Wednesday, February 21, 12:30 p.m.

Join us for *If Music Be the Food of Love* following the noon service on Wednesday, February 21. George Fergus will play a program of Lenten organ music featuring the works of J. S. Bach.

### 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*

On Sunday, Feb. 25th, we welcome the Rev. Canon Loren Lasch, Canon to



the Ordinary for the Diocese of Georgia. Canon Lasch will introduce us to the processes of discernment used by those seeking Holy Orders in our Diocese, and she will discuss how all baptized Christians may benefit from these practices.

### **St. Peter's Savannah to Screen *The Philadelphia Eleven***

**Thursday, February 29, 5:45 p.m.**

St. Peter's (3 West Ridge Road, Savannah, GA 31411) is hosting a screening of the documentary *The Philadelphia Eleven*— an exploration of the ordination of the first female Episcopal priests. The event is open and free to the public, with the opportunity to give a donation. Seating will be first come, first serve, and snacks will be provided.

The diocese had a screening of the documentary at convention in November 2023, and it was a moving and educational experience for many in attendance.

### **Music & Meditation for Passiontide**

**Palm Sunday, March 24, 4:00 p.m.**

Begin your journey through Holy Week with this contemplative program featuring Marcel Dupré's *Passion Symphony*. This exquisite work for solo organ will be paired with readings and meditations by the Rev. Canon Todd Smelser.

### **Last Sunday: Bishop's Visitation and Confirmation**



## LENT AT CHRIST CHURCH

### **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.

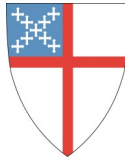
Often imitated but never superseded, *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* is a classic that offers clear thinking and consolation in times of sorrow.

### **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*;

Washington C. Dender; Lindsey A. Eberle; Katherine J. Griffith;

Stephanie C. Lindley; Rosemary W. Mackey; Elizabeth L. Macfadyen;

Roger Moss, Jr.; Rena K. Patton; Paul D. Reddick;

Paul H. Threlkeld; Polly C. Webster; 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.