

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Year B

September 1, 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 *Berceuse* Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

Processional Hymnal 423

Immortal, invisible, God only wise *St. Denio*

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

Gloria in excelsis Hymnal S-280

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

The Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Word of God

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that

the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?



But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

Moses Shown the Promised Land, Benjamin West. 1801. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY.

Psalm 15 *Domine, quis habitabit?* BCP 599

Sung by the choir.

chant: George Elvey (1816–1893)

- 1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
 who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
 who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
 he does no evil to his friend; *
 he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
 but he honors those who fear the Lord.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.
6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

Epistle

James 1:17–27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at



themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who

forget but doers who act— they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Mother Teresa. 1990. On September 4, 2016, Pope Francis canonized Mother Teresa as a saint.

Sequence Hymn
What does the Lord require

Hymnal 605
Sharptorne

Holy Gospel

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Loren Lasch,
Canon to the Ordinary, Episcopal Diocese of Georgia

Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Prayers of the People, Form III

BCP 387

Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory *Draw us in the Spirit's tether* Harold Friedell (1905–1958)

Draw us in the Spirit's tether;	As the brethren used to gather
For when humbly, in thy name,	In the name of Christ to sup,
Two or three are met together,	Then with thanks to God the Father
Thou art in the midst of them:	Break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia, alleluia,	Alleluia, alleluia,
Touch we now thy garment's hem.	So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living
Make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving,
We may true disciples be.
Alleluia, alleluia,
We will serve thee faithfully.

(Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936)

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, <i>Eucharistic Prayer A</i>	BCP 361
Sanctus and Benedictus	Hymnal S-129
	R. J. Powell
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Be known to us, Lord Jesus Gary James (b. 1957)

Cantor, then all Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.
Cantor The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the
body of Christ. *Refrain*
One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one
bread. *Refrain*

All Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Holy Communion	Hymnal 704, 711
<i>O thou who camest from above</i>	<i>Hereford</i>
<i>Seek ye first the kingdom of God</i>	<i>Seek Ye First</i>
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
The Blessing	
Processional	Hymnal 541
<i>Come, labor on</i>	<i>Ora Labora</i>
Dismissal	
Postlude <i>Prelude in E-flat, BWV 552/1</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)



Prayers of the People*

For the people of Haiti, 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 Mary Reeves, Morgan Kuhn, Tom Massie, Keith, Melissa Coleman, Clark Smith, Hilary Jones, Chander Rogers, Carol Jennings, Marti Lee

For the Birthdays of Claire Davis, Joe Gussler, Carter Hubbard, William Stovall, Merry Bennett, Samantha McKean, Sam Chappell, Steve Acuff, Priscilla Carrington, Clayton Gagne-Thomas, Clara Hubbard, Dane Reiley, Casey Wright, Faye Brandt, Lila Critz, Lila Crowder, Nan Marshall, Kristy Reeves, Becky Milmine, Suzanne Phillips Smith, Leslie Littlejohn, Ben Stolba, Michael Slatinsky, Melissa Bragg, Shaun Bragg, Mary Thurmon, Buller Claiborne, Sage Hooten, Jeff Keller, Jake von Trapp, Emma Davis, Kamryn Hill, Brian Martine, Lloyd Childs, Lee Griffith, Ronald Martinez, Andrea Stolba, Alice Young, Trina Brown, Abigail Smith, Grovey McGaw, Patti Davis, Cindy Gilbert, Spencer Lindley, Hope Gruver

For the Wedding Anniversaries of Cathy and Jay Howington, Marisa and Paul Strychalski, Becky and Charlie Milmine, Mary and Patton Dugas, Isabella and Jerry Reeves IV, Meagan and Dane Reiley, Julia and Bob Christian, Debbie and Asa Davis, Claire and Wiley Ellis, Alice and Steve Edwards

For Those Who Have Died and for the Comfort of Their Families:

*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 thanksgiving for the birthday of Priscilla Carrington by Maddie, Casey and Ronald Martinez.

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, September 1 - The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, September 2

Church office closed for Labor Day

Tuesday through Friday, September 3–6

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Docent Tours

Wednesday, September 4

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

12:30 p.m. Mid-day Music. George Fergus, *organ*

5:15 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Next Sunday at Christ Church

Sunday, September 8 - The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist / The Rev. Canon Cathy Zappa's 1st Sunday

4:00 p.m. Christ Church Concert Series: *The Young Person's Guide to the Organ*

Mid-Day Music

Wednesday, September 4, 12:30 p.m.

The second season of Mid-Day Music begins this week! This bi-monthly concert series is offered following the noon Eucharist on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. It is associated with the national musicians' movement *If Music Be the Food...* which seeks to use music to raise money to address food insecurity in cities across the country. 100% of the donations given at these concerts go directly to Emmaus House in support of their critical ministry.

Adult Forum, September 8–November 17

“From Here to There: Flourishing in Times of Transition”

In the Parish House, 9:30 a.m.

All are invited to take part in a special adult forum series which began this morning. It will continue through November 17 in the Parish House, led by Interim Rector, the Rev. Canon Cathy Zappa, and other Christ Church clergy. Together we will ask, What does it mean to be in an interim period? What might we expect during this time? Join us as we discuss the hope and promise of living into a season of transition. The nursery will open at 9:15 for those in need of childcare, with activities available for older and younger children alike.

The Young Person’s Guide to the Organ

Sunday, September 8, 4:00 p.m.

You and your family are invited to enjoy a free concert by George Fergus on Sunday afternoon, September 8, at 4:00 p.m. It is the first concert of the church’s 2024–2025 concert series which offers several varied concerts free of charge to the community throughout the year.

All children and their families will be invited to sit near the organ console and get a close-up look at the action. George will perform works well-known to fans of the *Bluey* franchise, *Star Wars* aficionados of all ages, and more, as well as give a demonstration of the inner workings of the pipe organ. A projector screen will be available at the front of the church so that all audience members can see him perform and demonstrate the instrument.

Neighborhood Parties

Sunday, September 15, 5:30 p.m.

A party is coming to your neighborhood! On Sunday, September 15, neighborhood parties will be held wherever Christ Church members are found. These casual gatherings are a great way to connect with your literal Christ Church “neighbors” in a fun and relaxed setting. No need to bring anything but a smile! To RSVP to your neighborhood party, please visit the Christ Church website.

Transition Update from the Vestry

Bishop Logue has shared with us that there are 3 major phases of a Rector’s transition:

1. Celebrating the current Rector and seeking an Interim Rector
2. Searching for the next full-time Rector
3. Welcoming and integrating the new Rector into the life of the church.

We are nearing the end of the first phase, having celebrated Michael and Helen in June and with the Reverend Canon Cathy Zappa joining Christ Church on September 1! Her first Sunday will be September 8 and we have plans to welcome her to the church. We all owe a very big “thank you” to Reverend Samantha McKean, and the entire clergy & staff, who have managed seamlessly during this summer!

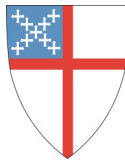
As a reminder, Cathy is currently Canon for Liturgy and Pastoral Care at The Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta where she has worked for ten years. Cathy enjoys teaching in multiple settings and styles, working with volunteers and guilds, mentoring staff members, and leading ministry training.

At the Cathedral, she was instrumental in expanding pastoral care through new community partnerships and support groups, including off-site worship services. She has deep experience in both homeless and prison ministry.

Cathy is originally from Atlanta and has received degrees in English and German from the Universities of Georgia and Texas, as well as a Master of Arts in German Literature from the University of Texas Austin and Master of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. She and her husband are recent “empty nesters” with a child in college and two recent graduates. For many years, she has had a family home in Savannah and is familiar with the area. Cathy enjoys running, walking her dog, and doing jigsaw puzzles.

It’s also important to note that we have posted a call for a new Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries to fill some of Helen White’s many roles. A big thank you to Savannah Young, who has been coordinating Children’s church during this interim period.

About 6 months after we settle into this interim phase, we will commission a Search Committee. This phase will include writing a Parish Profile and doing the actual search. The entire process will likely take 12-18 months, and we will continue to provide updates throughout the process.



CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

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

The Reverend Canon Cathy Zappa, *Interim Rector*

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

The Reverend Patricia Rhoads Davis, *Deacon*

The Reverend Dr. Bertice Berry, *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

Stephen R. Rilee, *Senior Warden*; Washington C. Dender, *Junior Warden*;

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

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

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

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.