

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Year B

September 15, 2024



CHRIST CHURCH  
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA  
ESTABLISHED 1733





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SAVANNAH

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*The Book of Common Prayer ("BCP")*

## Holy Eucharist, Rite II

### Entrance Rite

Prelude <i>Prélude</i> , from <i>Trois Pièces</i>	Nadia Boulanger (1887–1979)
Processional	Hymnal 427
<i>When morning gilds the skies</i>	<i>Laudes Domine</i>

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
<i>Officiant</i>	Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
<i>People</i>	And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
The Collect for Purity	BCP 355
Hymn of Praise	Hymnal S-280
<i>Gloria in excelsis</i>	Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

#### The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### The Word of God

<b>First Lesson</b>	<b>Isaiah 50:4–9a</b>
The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher,	

that I may know how to sustain  
     the weary with a word.  
 Morning by morning he wakens—  
     wakens my ear  
     to listen as those who are taught.  
 The Lord God has opened my ear,  
     and I was not rebellious,  
     I did not turn backward.  
 I gave my back to those who struck me,  
     and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
 I did not hide my face  
     from insult and spitting.  
 The Lord God helps me;  
     therefore I have not been disgraced;  
 therefore I have set my face like flint,  
     and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
     he who vindicates me is near.  
 Who will contend with me?  
     Let us stand up together.  
 Who are my adversaries?  
     Let them confront me.  
 It is the Lord God who helps me;  
     who will declare me guilty?

**Psalm 116:1–8**

*Dilexi, quoniam*

**BCP 759**

*Sung by the choir.*

chant: Henry Walford Davies (1869–1941)

- 1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \*  
     because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me;  
     the grip of the grave took hold of me; \*  
     I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: \*  
     "O Lord, I pray you, save my life."
- 4 Gracious is the Lord and righteous; \*  
     our God is full of compassion.

5 The Lord watches over the innocent; \*  
I was brought very low, and he helped me.  
6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, \*  
for the Lord has treated you well.  
7 For you have rescued my life from death, \*  
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.  
8 I will walk in the presence of the Lord \*  
in the land of the living.

## Epistle

## James 3:1–12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us



make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever

the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we

curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

*The Temptation of Christ on the Mountain*, Duccio di Buoninsegna. c. 1308-11.  
The Frick Collection, New York.

Sequence Hymn

*Take up your cross, the Savior said*

Hymnal 675

*Bourbon*

## Holy Gospel

## Mark 8:27–38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.



Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and fol-

low me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

*Christ Appears to the Disciples on the Mountain in Galilee* (panel 6), Duccio di Buoninsegna. c. 1308-11. Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, Florence, Italy.

Sermon	The Reverend Dr. Bertice Berry, <i>Deacon</i>
Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People, Form VI	BCP 392
Absolution	BCP 360
The Peace	

## The Holy Communion

Offertory *God so loved the world* John Stainer (1840–1901)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whose believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.  
(*John 3:16-17*)

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
<i>Sanctus &amp; Benedictus</i>	Hymnal S-130
From <i>Deutsche Messe</i>	Franz Peter Schubert (1797–1828)
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>	F. P. Schubert

All Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Hymns at Communion  
*I sought the Lord*  
*Great is thy faithfulness*  
Postcommunion Prayer  
The Blessing  
Processional  
*Lift high the cross*  
Dismissal  
Postlude *Epithalame*

Hymnal 689, Insert  
*Faith*  
*Faithfulness*  
BCP 365  
  
Hymnal 473  
*Crucifer*  
  
Healey Willan (1880–1968)



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

For 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** Belinda Duke, Miguel, Justin Jordon

**For the Birthdays of** Claire Davis, Joe Gussler, Carter Hubbard III, 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:** C. Duncan Beard

\*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 memory of Scott Frederick Miller, by his family; and in thanksgiving for all those hosting our neighborhood parties this evening.



## **This Week at Christ Church**

### **Sunday, September 15 - The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum/Children's Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

5:30 p.m. Neighborhood Parties

### **Monday through Friday, September 16–20**

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Docent Tours

### **Wednesday, September 18**

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

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

5:15 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### **Saturday, September 21**

10:00 a.m. Adult Choir Retreat

## **Next Sunday at Christ Church**

### **Sunday, September 22 - The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum/Children's Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

## **This Sunday**

### **Adult Forum, September 8–November 17**

*"From There to Here: 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 last week. It will continue through November 17 in the Parish House, led by Interim Rector, the Rev. 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 children 4 and younger, and a children's bible study will be held across the hall for older children.

### **Children's Sunday School**

*Parish House, Second Floor, 9:30 a.m.*

While the grown-ups are in Adult Forum, kids will be engaged in their own spiritual formation! All children in pre-K and up are invited to the second floor

of the Parish House for a time of learning, praying, and growing together. In addition to Children's Chapel during the 10:30 a.m., these interactive Sunday School sessions are a wonderful way to deepen kids' faith. The class is led by Claire and Stephen Rilee.

### **Bibles for Christ Church Kids**

*Ages 3rd to 5th Grade*

*September 8–November 17, 10:30 a.m., Children's Chapel*

All 3rd–5th graders are encouraged to take part in this fall's "Bibles for Christ Church Kids" program! Each Sunday during Children's Chapel, participants will engage deeply with scripture, asking questions, learning new skills, and responding each week to the story of God's love. On November 17th, these students will be presented with a Bible as a gift from Christ Church as they participate in a special rite marking this stage of their faith journey.

### **Neighborhood Parties**

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

A party is coming to your neighborhood! This afternoon, 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. For more information, please ask one of the clergy.

## **Coming Up**

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

*Wednesday, September 18*

Twice per month, we offer a free half-hour concert immediately following the Wednesday noon Eucharist in the church, featuring musicians from all over the region. A freewill offering is taken to support Emmaus House's mission. This week's performance features pianist Cameron Fuhrman.

### **Choral Evensong for St. Michael and All Angels**

*Sunday, September 29, 4:00 p.m.*

Offered by the parish choir, this introspective liturgy is sung almost entirely by the choir, allowing the congregation to relax, reflect, and recharge surrounded by beautiful music in this sacred space. Evensong is a uniquely Episcopal tradition observed by churches and cathedrals around the world.

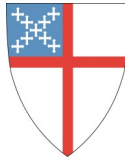
## Baptisms at Christ Church: October 6

Many will recall the joyful torrent of baptisms we experienced throughout this past spring and into the summer! We've had eleven baptisms in the year 2024, a powerful testimony to the work of new life that God is doing in our midst. In response to the growing numbers of baptisms taking place at Christ Church, we are moving to what is actually the more traditional model for baptisms recommended by the Book of Common Prayer: instead of scheduling individual days for baptism throughout the year, Christ Church will offer specific days of baptism that are especially fitting for the occasion. All who are interested in receiving the sacrament of baptism are invited to take part on these days. The next baptisms at Christ Church will take place on October 6 (transferred Feast of St. Francis of Assisi), November 3 (Sunday after All Saints' Day), and January 12 (the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord). If you are interested, please reach out to one of our clergy.

## Photos from September 8, 2024

*The Rev. Cathy Zappa, Welcome!*





## CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

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

The Reverend 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](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.