

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
Year C

February 23, 2025



CHRIST CHURCH
EPISCOPAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1733





Welcome to Christ Church! Today's service follows the form for Holy Eucharist Rite II, beginning on page 355 of the red *Book of Common Prayer* ("BCP"). The music may be found in the blue *Hymnal 1982*; numbers beginning with "S-" are service music, located at the front of the hymnal.

Our celebrant this morning is the Rev. Samantha K. McKean,
and our preacher is the Rev. Cathy Zappa.



CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL
SAVANNAH

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
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Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Entrance Rite

Prelude *Two Spirituals* Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

Processional Hymnal 390

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *Lobe den Herren*

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

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

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

Collect for Purity BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise Hymnal S-236

Benedictus es, Domine John Rutter (b. 1945)

Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Word of God

First Lesson

Genesis 45:3–11, 15

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.



And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to

Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not

delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' ”

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 37:1–12, 41–42 *Noli aemulari* **BCP 633**

Sung by the choir.

chant: Maxine Thevenot (b. 20th c.)

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the Lord and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the Lord, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the Lord *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The Lord will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.

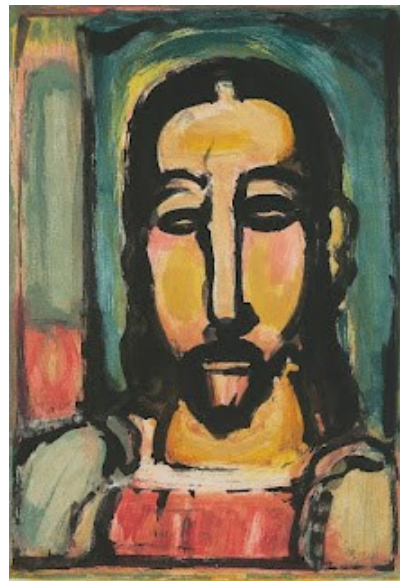
Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:35–38,42–50

Reader A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

Someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the



spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Lord, make us servants of your peace

Hymnal 593

Dickinson College

Holy Gospel

Luke 6:27–38

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your

reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon The Reverend Cathy Zappa, *Interim Rector*

Nicene Creed BCP 358

Prayers of the People, Form IV BCP 388

Confession and Absolution BCP 360

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem *Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren*

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Sung in German. Let nothing afflict thee with grief;
be calm, as God ordains,
and so may my will be contented.

Why take thought for the morrow?
The one God who gives thee
what is thine watches over all.

In all thy doings be steadfast
and true. What God decrees
is best, and this it is acknowledged. Amen.

(Paul Fleming, 1609–1640; tr. anon.)

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*
Sanctus & Benedictus

BCP 367

Hymnal S-128

William Mathias (1934–1992)

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem, *Pascha nostrum*
from *New Plainsong Mass*

Hymnal S-154

David Hurd (b. 1950)

All Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You may stand or kneel at the altar rail, or receive from the floor station to the left of the chancel stairs. Please let an usher know if you need to receive from your pew. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. To receive a blessing, you may cross your arms over your chest.

Hymns at Communion

Hymnal 674

"Forgive our sins as we forgive"

Detroit

Nearer, my God, to thee

Bethany



1. Near - er, my God, to thee, near - er to thee!
2. Though like the wan - der - er, the sun gone down,
3. There let the way ap - pear, steps un to heaven;
4. Then, with my wak - ing thoughts bright with thy praise,



E'en though it be a cross that rais - eth me,
dark - ness be o - ver me, my rest a stone;
all that thou send - est me, in mer - cy given;
out of my ston - y griefs Beth - el I'll raise;



still all my song shall be, near - er, my God, to thee;
yet in my dreams I'd be near - er, my God, to thee;
an - gels to beck - on me near - er, my God, to thee;
so by my woes to be near - er, my God, to thee;

Refrain



near - er, my God, to thee, near - er to thee!

| | |
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| Postcommunion Prayer | BCP 366 |
| The Blessing | |
| Closing Hymn | Hymnal 680 |
| <i>O God, our help in ages past</i> | <i>St. Anne</i> |
| Dismissal | |
| Postlude “Toccato” from <i>Suite No. 1</i> | Florence B. Price (1887–1953) |

Art Credit: page 4— Brotherly Love and Bonds, Yoram Raanan. 1972.

Art Credit: page 7— Face of Christ, Georges Rouault. 1938.



Prayers of the People*

For Heidi Josefina Nunez, Othel Newman, Tyler Mazey, Jay Jones, Shaun Bragg, Rod Davis, Comer Immel, Kay Zambetti

For the Birthdays of Will Young, Rod Davis, Morgan Kuhn, Virginia Maxwell, Julia Mikell, Bill Wallace, Don Furtado, Kev Jackson Jr., Hanks Young, Pam Benton, Margaret Northup, 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, David Crampton, Kristen Stovall, Mercy Wright, Joey Stolba, Serenity Lewis, Susan Huennekens

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

For Those Who Have Died and the Comfort of Their Families: James Kelly Wallace, Rachel Thornton Windsor, Alden Morris Maier, Anna Simmons

*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 Malcolm and Frances Maclean by their children John and Nancy.

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, February 23 - Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30 a.m. Episcopal 101

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Christ Church Concert Series, *Britten: The Canticles*

Monday-Friday, February 24-28

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Docent Tours

Monday, February 24

5:30 p.m. In the Spirit, *Faith and Politics*

Wednesday, February 26

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

5:15 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 27

5:00 p.m. Bible Study in the Choir Room

Next Sunday at Christ Church

Sunday, March 2 - Last Sunday after the Epiphany

and Bishop's Visitation

9:30 a.m. Episcopal 101

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Confirmation and Baptism

7:00 p.m. Benefit Concert, *I Cantori: Emmaus House Fundraiser*

Ash Wednesday at Christ Church

Wednesday, March 5 - Ash Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Liturgy

6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Choir

This Sunday

Eucharistic Visitation

Today, we commission our Eucharistic Visitors. In the Episcopal Church, Eucharistic Visitation is a ministry that allows members who

are unable to attend church to receive communion or spend time with a Eucharistic Visitor. Eucharistic Visitors are lay people who are specially trained in this ministry.

Please let Rev. Patti or Rev. Cathy know if you or someone you know would like to receive a visit. We would love see you. Visiting is a mutual blessing!

Foundations of Confirmation

Today, after Church

February 23, March 23, April 27, May 18

All 6th and 7th grade students are invited to join us for a series of fun sessions to begin preparing for Confirmation classes. During five monthly sessions we will build a group identity and lay a spiritually substantive foundation for the official Confirmation classes (which will start in Fall 2025). Each session will include lunch, plays, and games—laughs are required. For more information please contact John at john.audette@ccesavannah.org.

Britten: The Canticles

Sunday, February 23, 4:00 p.m.

“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time.”

—Thomas Merton

Put your busy life on hold for a brief time and immerse yourself in the beauty and poignancy of Benjamin Britten's Canticles. These works for singers and piano cut straight to the heart of what it means to be human, with all its beauty and imperfection. In the intimate setting of Christ Church, let go of your to-do list and reconnect with what makes you, *you*. This concert features internationally known singers Roger Isaacs, *countertenor*, and Andrew Bearden Brown, *tenor*, who are both in-demand soloists and chamber singers throughout the U.S. and abroad. Accompanied by George Fergus, *piano*, and Elizabeth Crafton, *horn*.

Coming Up

Bishop's Visitation

Sunday, March 2

The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue, the Episcopal Bishop of Georgia, will make his visitation to Christ Church on Sunday, March 2. One child will be baptized on this day, and adult members from our congregation will receive the rites of confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation. Prior to the 10:30 a.m. service, Bishop Logue will lead our 9:30 a.m. Sunday Forum in the choir room. If you are interested in confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation, or if you would like to learn more, please reach out to the Rev. Cathy Zappa or the Rev. Samantha McKean. Join us for this day of celebration!

Pancake Brunch and Spatula Race

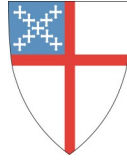
Sunday, March 2, 2025, after the service

In preparation for Lent, and in celebration of the Bishop's visit and the people he will be confirming, receiving, and reaffirming, please join us for a reception brunch on March 2. We will have mini pancakes, egg bites, hash browns, berries and cream, and cupcakes, and for the children there will be a spatula relay race around the fountain in Johnson Square. This will be a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and fun.

Choral Benefit Concert: I Cantori chamber choir

Sunday, March 2, 7:00 p.m.

Savannah chamber choir *I Cantori* led by Dr. Robert Harris presents a concert of choral music at Christ Church next Sunday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m. The concert will feature the premier performance of a choral work by Savannah musician Brian Dean. This concert is open to the public at no charge, and a freewill collection will be taken to support the work of Emmaus House Soup Kitchen.



CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

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

The Reverend Cathy Zappa, *Interim Rector*

The Reverend Samantha K. McKean, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Patricia Rhoads Davis, *Deacon*

The Reverend Dr. Bertice Berry, *Deacon*

George H. Fergus, *Director of Music*

John Audette, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*

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

Washington C. Dender, *Senior Warden*; Paul H. Threlkeld, *Junior Warden*;

Lindsey A. Eberle, *Clerk of the Vestry*; Stephen R. Rilee, *Treasurer*;

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

Patton Dugas; William C. Gruver;

Elizabeth L. Macfadyen; Rosemary W. Mackey;

Richard C. Nelson; Paul D. Reddick; Sarah B. Smith;

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.