

Choral Evensong for Eastertide

May 18, 2025

4:00 p.m.



**CHRIST CHURCH
EPISCOPAL**

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1733





Welcome to Choral Evensong! Today's service traces its origins to the ancient monastic cycle of prayer in the Christian Church. Known as the "Daily Office," the *Book of Common Prayer* re-shaped the original six services into two: Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, or Evensong. The texts of Evensong are drawn almost entirely from the Bible, and the service is led in large part by the choir, offering prayer and praise to God on the congregation's behalf. You are invited to pray, reflect, and join in those parts of the service which are indicated in your service bulletin.



CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL
SAVANNAH

THE MOTHER CHURCH OF GEORGIA
ESTABLISHED 1733

Choral Evensong for Eastertide

Organ Voluntary *Prelude on 'Ubi Caritas'* Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

Hymn at the Procession Hymnal 205
Good Christians all, rejoice and sing *Gelobt sei Gott*

Opening Sentences

Preces

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips:
Choir and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
Cantor O God, make speed to save us:
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.
Cantor Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost:
Choir as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.
Cantor Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

The congregation may be seated.

Psalm 84 *Quam dilecta!*

BCP 707

Sung by the choir.

chant: C. Hubert H. Parry (1848–1918)

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
 my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she
 may lay her young; *
 by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
 they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
 and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
 than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
 he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
 from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
 happy are they who put their trust in you!
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son *
 and to the Holy Ghost:
 As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, *
 world without end. Amen.

The First Lesson

2 Thessalonians 2:13–17

Reader A reading from the Second Letter to the Thessalonians.

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Magnificat

BCP 65

from *Evening Service in B-flat* Charles V. Stanford (1852–1924)
Sung by the choir.

The Second Lesson

Matthew 7:7–14

Reader A reading from the Book of Matthew.

Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.

Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Nunc dimittis

from *Evening Service in B-flat*

Sung by the choir.

BCP 66

C. V. Stanford

Please stand as able.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Cantor The Lord be with you.
Choir and with thy spirit.
Cantor Let us pray.
Choir Lord have mercy upon us;
 Christ have mercy upon us;
 Lord have mercy upon us.

Officiant and People

**Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed by thy Name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.**

Cantor O Lord, show thy mercy upon us:
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Cantor O Lord, save the State:
Choir and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Cantor Endue thy ministers with righteousness:
Choir and make thy chosen people joyful.
Cantor O Lord, save thy people:
Choir and bless thine inheritance.
Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord:
Choir For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us dwell in safety.
Cantor O God, make clean our hearts within us:
Choir and take not thy holy Spirit from us.

There follows a series of collects, each with a choral Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

Anthem *Ye choirs of new Jerusalem* C. V. Stanford

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,	Triumphant in his glory now
Your sweetest notes employ,	To him all power is given;
The Paschal victory to hymn,	To him in one communion bow
In strains of holy joy.	All saints in earth and heaven.
For Judah's Lion bursts his chains,	While we his soldiers praise our King,
Crushing the serpent's head;	His mercy we implore,
And cries aloud through death's domains	Within his palace bright to bring,
To wake the imprisoned dead.	And keep us evermore.
Devouring depths of hell their prey	All glory to the Father be,
At his command restore;	All glory to the Son,
His ransomed hosts pursue their way	All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
Where Jesus goes before.	While endless ages run.

Alleluia! Amen.

*(St. Fulbert of Chartres, ca. 970–1028,
trans. R Campbell and others)*

The Valediction of Graduating Choristers

Please stand as able.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

The General Thanksgiving BCP, p. 125

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do
infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to
him from generation to generation in the Church and
in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen.*

(Ephesians 3:20, 21)

Closing Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Hymnal 690

Cwm Rhondda

Organ Voluntary

Prelude on 'Vulpus'

Healey Willan (1880–1968)



Service Leaders

Choir	The Christ Church Choristers The Christ Church Schola
Conductor	George H. Fergus, <i>Director of Music</i>
Organist	Julia Tucker
Lectors	Meg Nelson Lee Griffith
Officiant	The Reverend Cathy Zappa, <i>Interim Rector</i>
Cantor	John Audette, <i>Director of Children & Youth Ministries</i>

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, May 18 - The Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Forum:

The Spiritual Wisdom of the Enneagram, Choir Room

9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School: *Godly Play*, Chapel

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Choral Evensong for Eastertide,
with Valediction of Departing Choristers

Monday–Friday, May 19–23

10:00 a.m. Docent Tours

Wednesday, May 21

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

12:30 p.m. Mid-day Music

7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 22

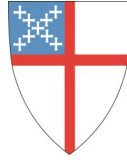
5:00 p.m. Bible Study: *Gospel of Luke*, Choir Room

Next Sunday at Christ Church

Sunday, May 25 - The Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Seersucker Sunday



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.