Christ Episcopal Church





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September 1, 2024 10:00 a.m.

It is appropriate for Christ Church's families and friends, to arrive at church early so we can calm down, be silent, and pray in preparation for the sacred acts that are about to happen. Please respect the wishes of those who come early for worship by staying as quiet as you can. Thank you, grace and peace, Fr. Hal



Welcome to Christ Church!

September 1, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Eucharist, Rite II

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Duchado Toconta en Ducias to the Living Co	hy Michoel Dyulthoudt
Prelude – Toccata on Praise to the Living Go	2
Opening Hymn – <i>Praise to the Living God</i>	Hymn 372
Opening Salutation	BCP 355
Collect for Purity	BCP 355
Gloria	Hymnal S280
The Collect of the Day	BCP 233
The Lessons	(See Insert)
Gospel Hymn – <i>Take My Life and Let it Be</i>	Hymn 707
The Sermon	Fr. Hal Weidman
The Nicene Creed	BCP 358
Prayers of the People (Form IV)	BCP 388
Confession & Absolution	BCP 360
The Peace	BCP 360
Announcements – Please Be Seated	
Offertory – Our Father	by Benjamin Harlan
Doxology	Hymn 380 vs. 3
THE LITURGY OF THE HOLY COMMUNION	
Eucharistic Prayer B	BCP 367
Sanctus	Hymn S129
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Fraction Anthem	Hymn S154
The Communion	BCP 602
Communion Hymn – Before Thy Throne, O	God We Kneel Hymn 304
Oh Master Let Me Wal	
The Prayer of Thanksgiving	BCP 365
The Blessing	
Hymn – Lift Up Your Heads	Hymn 436
Dismissal	BCP 366
Postlude – Hallelujah, Amen	By G.F. Handel, from Judas Maccabaeus,
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First Lesson:

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So 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. ²You 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. ⁶You 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!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹But 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—

Psalm: 15

BCP p. 599

² Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, * who speaks the truth from his heart.

¹ Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *

who may abide upon your holy hill?

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.

Second Lesson:

James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every 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. ¹⁸In 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.¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore 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. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But 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. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion 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.

Gospel: Mark

7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and 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.) ⁵So 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?" ⁶He 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; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." ²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Remember in Your Prayers: Mimi Allen, Justin Allen, Connie Flowers, Greg Greneker, Louise Harden, Peter Ingeman, Jason LaFleur, Leigh Long, Doug Mayer, Marge McCartney, Mindy Meeker, Ed Mistick, Gnann Moser, Ray Murphy, Emily Paulk, Sally Querin, Della Richards, Richard Rigby, Rocky, James Smith, Gary Thomas, Anne Turner, Julie Van Ham, Eliza Waddell, Michelle Weidman, Tami Tyson Windell, Gordon Zeese, pray for the family of The Rev. Canon Bob Carter, and Michane James

We are keeping those in need of prayer on the list for 1 month. We ask you to renew the need for continued prayer by calling the office. - Fr. Hal

SERVING THIS WEEK

- Eucharistic Ministers: Phyllis Holland, John McRae. Mike Tanner
 - Lectors: Katherine Mayer, Phyllis Holland, Pat Denmark
 - Acolytes: Molly Stevenson,, Erica Thieme, Holland
- Altar Guild: Sandra Fletcher, Sallie Honeycutt, Amber Tanner, Robin Coleman
 - Ushers: Stephen Sandbach, Tanner Darby, Delrick Bradley
 - Greeter: Nikki Yarbrough
 - Audio/Visual Crew: Julius Ariail, Larry Wisenbaker

Special Notes

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

A real community has a listening heart. Our community takes its inspiration from one of humankind's greatest listeners, Jesus of Nazareth. He was the most paradoxical human, a person of deep and clear conviction who nevertheless had room for others. The late Henri Houwen, a great spiritual teacher, once said, "someone filled with ideas, concepts and opinions cannot be a good host. There is prejudices, worries, jealousies, there is little room for a stranger." In this place, we are not perfect. But we work and pray always that we will have room for one another, and for any seeker and stranger who comes here. Welcome to a house with inner space. Grace and peace, Hal; Paster and Priest.

LIVING HOPE – A STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS FOR THE EPISCOPAL

DIOCESE OF GEORGIA. Christ Church is the Listening Session on Saturday,

September 7th. The *Lay* session is from 9a - 11a and the *Clergy* session is 11:30a - 1p. Everyone is Welcome!

The questions below I adapted from the diocese of ND's Listening Sessions in process towards possibly replacing a resigned diocesan staff and revamping how it does ministry. As part of learning who they were; where they wanted to go and who they wanted to continue being, or something like that, there were listening sessions held across the 19 parishes of the diocese. I have adapted some of the questions as appropriate for where GA is or so I think we are... While reading these questions I hope they will help you begin to think about the diocese for our listening session on September 7th. I invite you to think and pray about them."

1. How (or which ministry, organization, bishop, canon, etc) has the diocese (GA) influenced you the most?

2. What words describe GA's identity?

- 3. What are the #1 or #2 primary aspects of GA that you value most?
- 4. What are the #1 or #2 primary aspects of GA that you value least?

THURSDAY MORNING EUCHARIST

A lot of interest has been expressed in bringing back our Thursday morning Eucharists. The first one is September 12th at 7am in the nave. All Valdosta area episcopal Churches are involved in this service. The group will go to breakfast afterwards. We hope to see you there.

GARDEN GUILD SPECIAL PROJECT: TODAY! Is the last day to purchase your

ticket for your Hog-n-Bones prepared Boston Butts. Pick up will be at Hog-n-Bones with a call 24 hours in advance. See Pat Demark in Parish Hall after church to purchase your ticket today. Ticket purchase is to *support the restoration expenses to the Sara Oliver Camillia Garden. Volunteers are Welcome.*

FOYER GROUPS ARE FORMING: Today is the last day for signing up for the Foyer

Groups. The purpose of these groups is to get to know one another better, and to meet new people in the church. The groups can meet in different houses, or restaurants, and any night of the week they decide on. If you are interested in joining one of these groups, a sign-up sheet has been placed on the Parish Hall Bulletin Board or you may call Peggy in the church office at 229-242-5115or email or text Jeani Synyard – jsynyard@bellsouth.net or 229-834-6004.

GRACE CAFÉ IS OPEN ONCE AGAIN FOR THE FALL SEMESTER

Our full team of interns is off to a great start in demonstrating the grace of God through food, fellowship, and ministry by serving wellover 300 visitors since the beginning of the semester.

While we are open to students, we are compelled to have members of our parish engage and share have them be a part of the work our interns are doing. Therefore, all members of our parish are invited to join our Compline sessions on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM at Grace Café.

Our upcoming event is College Football Saturday. This is going to be on August 31st from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Grace Café – right before our Blazers play their opening game of the season. Once again, members of our parish are invited.

This week we would like to express our deepest gratitude to the following:

- To the parish for the donation of watermelons, for the Café's watermelon social.
- To Bruce, Connie Flowers, Pat Denmark, and Shanya Garnett for donating food pantry items.
- To Stefani and Tom Carroll, Laura and Carl Copeland and Peggy Baer for donating furniture to spruce up two bedrooms at Tomberlin House.
- To Tyler and Austin Salinas and Blake Yarbrough for donating Miscellaneous items for the interns and Café.
- To Nikki and Bobby Yarbrough for hosting our very successful intern retreat at their home on Lake Blackshear.

Our team of interns has finally been reached capacity. Along with our interns from last semester (Javan, Rasheed, Polly, Federico, Zion, Tyson, Tobey, and Cassidy) we have four new wonderful individuals who are Sofia, D'Avion, Sole and Madison. Please feel free to speak with them when you see them!

We would also like to commend Cassidy, Tobey and Madison who have been diligently assisting in the nursery on Sundays and other days when needed. This semester Rasheed is working closely with Steve Honeycutt when facilities need attention. Sofia is spending two hours per week in the office helping Peggy with special projects. Madison shares her skills with the preschool daily, volunteering about five hours per week. Since the semester has started, we have made two purchases from Second Harvest – where we get most of the coffee, snacks, and canned foods that we serve at the cafe. Our most recent purchase was for 382 lbs of food which totaled \$53. Thank you for your continued support of the College Ministry.

The Week Ahead:

September 1st – 8a Holy Eucharist 9:15a – Christian Education (Adults) 9:45a - Nursery 10a – Holy Eucharist 11:15a – Coffee Hour 6p – Vespers – Zoom August 27th – 6p – College Ministry August 28th – 7p- Choir August 17th 10a – Altar Guild

OUR MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL

The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia <u>All Christ Church Families & Friends are Ministers.</u> Hal Weidman, Pastor & Priest Nancy Sartin, Deacon Peggy Baer, Administrative Assistant Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper Michelle Weidman, Director of Christian Education Jeri-Lyn Flowers, Director of College Ministry Elise Sandbach, Director of Preschool & PMO Issa Young, Choir Director Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist Nancy Lutsko, Verger

Regular Church Services

Sunday8:00aEucharist Rite I9:45aNursery10:00aEucharist Rite II6:00pVespers $(1^{st} \& 3^{rd} - Sanctuary)$ $(2^{nd} and 4^{th} - Zoom)$

The 10:00 service is livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook

www.facebook.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA www.youtube.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA



The church office is located at 103 East College Street. Mailing address: 1521 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31602 Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM – 2 PM e-mail address: Church Office - <u>office@christchurchvaldosta.org</u> Church website: <u>www.christchurchvaldosta.org</u> Phone: 229-242-5115 FAX: 229-242-5115