Christ Church

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

"Growing by God's Grace as a Family of Faith, Fellowship, and Ministry"



The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 | 10:30am

"We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Jesus
as we worship joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually."

Welcome to Christ Church

Christ Church gladly welcomes all people. Our clergy, staff, and parishioners are delighted to assist you in learning more about our worship and our community. Restrooms are located in the Parish House to the left of the church. Ushers are available to assist you as needed. If this is your first time visiting with us today, please complete a visitor card *(located in the pew)* and place it in the offering plate. Clipboards containing materials for children are available in the Narthex.

Nursery care is provided next door in the Parish House; however, all children are welcome in our services.

Christ Church is an active and vibrant parish in the heart of Downtown Macon since its founding in 1825. We are a forward-looking parish that values our heritage, liturgy, and outreach to the greater community. To learn more please visit us online via our website at www.christchurchmacon.com. The Parish Office is open from 9a–4p Monday through Thursday. You can reach us by calling (478) 745-0427.

We Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Christ Church welcomes all people and no matter where you are on your faith journey, you have a place here. We hope to see you soon.

Upcoming Services

Compline
Sunday, November 8
6:30 pm in the Church

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, November 15
8 am & 10:30 am in the Church

Compline
Sunday, November 15
6:30 pm in the Church

Holy Eucharist at Carlyle Place
Thursday, November 19
10:30 am in the Lower Level Activity Room

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King
Sunday, November 22
8 am & 10:30 am in the Church

Holy Eucharist & Healing
Every Wednesday
Noon in the Church

Compline
Every Wednesday
8:45 pm on Facebook

The Entrance Rite

Opening Voluntary: Adagio (from Sonata No. 1) Feliz Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

The People stand.
Hymn in Procession: Judge eternal throned in splendor Hymnal, 596

The Opening Acclamation Book of Common Prayer, p. 355
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity BCP, p. 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.

The Gloria Hymnal, S 280

The Liturgy of the Word

Salutation and Collect of the Day
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray:
O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

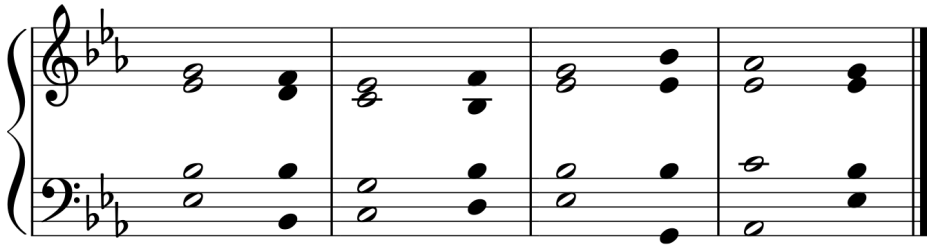
The People sit.
The First Lesson Wisdom 6:12–20
A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon.

> Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will

soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought. The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction, and concern for instruction is love of her, and love of her is the keeping of her laws, and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality, and immortality brings one near to God; so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: Psalm 70



1 Be pleased, O God, to de/liver me; *
O Lord, make haste to / help me.

2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogether dis/mayed; *
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be dis/graced.

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn / back, *
because they are a/shamed.

4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in / you; *
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the / Lord!"

5 But as for me, I am poor and / needy; *
come to me speedily, O / God.

6 You are my helper and my de/liverer; *
O Lord, do not / tarry.

The Epistle 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself,

with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The People stand.
Hymn at the Sequence: Jerusalem, my happy home Hymnal, 620

The People remain standing.
The Holy Gospel Matthew 25:1–14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The People sit.
The Sermon The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

The People stand.
The Nicene Creed BCP, p. 358

The People kneel.
The Prayers of the People

Intercessor: Alleluia! Let us join the countless throngs who sing God's praises, praying, "We bless you, O Lord; *your praise is ever in our mouth*."

God of the Church at rest, you love us and call us your children: we praise

you for the faith and witness of all the saints. May their prayers and presence continue to strengthen us. It is with their triumphant voices that we join our own prayers and praises. Alleluia! Please and your own prayers of praise and thanksgiving either silently or aloud.

Intercessor: We bless you, O Lord;
People: Your praise is ever in our mouths.

Intercessor: God of the pilgrim Church, you love us and call us your children: give your Church a hunger and a thirst for righteousness. Continue to nurture us by the example and fellowship of those saints who have journeyed before us.

Silence

Intercessor: We bless you, O Lord;
People: Your praise is ever in our mouths.

Intercessor: God of all people, you love us and call us your children: In a world of violence and war, you bless the peacemakers. Make us instruments of healing and peace.

Silence

Intercessor: We bless you, O Lord;
People: Your praise is ever in our mouths.

Intercessor: God of creation, you love us and call us your children: you have given this earth to the meek. May our steps be gentle and leave a small footprint on our earth. As it has been handed on to us, may we carefully preserve this creation for future generations.

Silence

Intercessor: We bless you, O Lord;
People: Your praise is ever in our mouths.

Intercessor: God of the city, you love us and call us your children: bless the poor with good things. Visit our impoverished neighborhoods with hope, mercy, and relief. Give us hearts for the poor in our region.

Silence

Intercessor: We bless you, O Lord;
People: Your praise is ever in our mouths.

Intercessor: God of the mournful and suffering, you love us and call us your children: comfort and heal those in need. Hear them in their affliction and save them from their troubles. We pray especially for Anderson, Anne, Al, Bailey, Becca, Bill, Bob, Bonnie, Brenda, Christy, Claire, Dennis, Ed, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Ellen, George, Gibson, Gracie Marie, Griffin, Hadley, Helen, Jason, Jaime, JB, John, Kristie, Lee, Libby, Lowe, Margaret, Matthew, Nancy, Pat, Patricia,

Pete, Phil, Pud, Rodney, Sammy, Tommy, Tony, Trisha, William, and Wright. We pray for all those serving in the military, especially: Alivia, Austin, Cameron, Donald, Georgia, Joe, Lorraine, Sam, and Theodore. We pray for all those who have died, especially Lt. Col. Peter L. Horne, Jr., Janet Palmer Horne, Kay Consales Horne, and Gene Horne, for whom the altar flowers are given today in loving memory, and to the glory of God.

Silence

Intercessor: We bless you, O Lord;
People: Your praise is ever in our mouths.

Intercessor: Gracious God, we give thanks for the men and women who serve our country in the military, past and present, for their courageous service and sacrifice to our country and its people to secure the blessings of life, liberty, and justice for all. May our remembrance be a timely reminder that our freedom was purchased at high cost, and should not be taken for granted. Give us resolve to labor in faithful service to you until all share the benefits of freedom, justice, and peace.
People: Amen.

The Celebrant will conclude with a suitable Collect.

The People remain kneeling.
The Confession & Absolution of Sin BCP, p. 360

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.

The People stand.
The Peace

The People sit.
Welcome & Parish Announcements

The Holy Communion

We come together as the Body of Christ, we partake in the Body of Christ, to go out into the world to be the Body of Christ. All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you do not wish to partake, you are invited to receive a blessing by crossing your arms at the altar rail. If you are unable to come to the altar, please notify an usher and the elements will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer for healing, please remain at the rail after receiving Communion with your hands in an attitude of prayer and our prayer ministers will pray with you and anoint you with oil for healing.

The Offertory

The People stand.

Anthem at the Offertory: "Draw us in the Spirit's Tether" Harold Friedell (1905–1958)

Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Touch we now your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather
in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver
break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
so now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will serve thee faithfully.

Hymn at the Presentation: Praise God from whom all blessings flow Hymnal, 380 v. 3

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B BCP, p. 367

Sanctus and Benedictus: Holy, holy, holy Lord Hymnal, S 125

The People kneel.
Words of Institution BCP, p. 368

Memorial Acclamation BCP, p. 368

The Great Amen BCP, p. 369

The Lord's Prayer BCP, p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover Hymnal, S 155

Invitation to Holy Communion

During Communion, please observe a holy and respectful silence to allow for private prayer.

Hymn during Communion: Father, we thank thee who hast planted Hymnal, 302

Please join the choir in singing the Communion hymn.

The People kneel.
The Post-Communion Prayer BCP, p. 366

The Blessing

The People stand.
Hymn in Procession: Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates Hymnal, 436

The Dismissal

Closing Voluntary: *Fugue in C Major,* BWV 547 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Assisting in Worship

Celebrant, Gospeler, & Preacher
The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

Verger
Sheri Pyles

Acolytes
Kathryn Sumrall, *crucifer*
Charlie Sumrall, *clergy cross*
Maren McNeill, *torch*
Arbour Hair, *torch*

Lay Eucharistic Ministers
Will Horkan
Blair Sumrall

Altar Guild
Nan Harper
Katherine Hudson
Sally Hatcher

Flower Guild
Gwen Wilson

Healing Prayer Minister
David Cline

Ushers & Greeters
Bobby & Elizabeth Schorr
Jack & Katie Harper
Chris & Evan Hair
Amanda & Boone Smith

Vestry Welcomer
Chris Hair

Audio/Visual Technicians
David Knapp

The Christ Church Choir

Weekly Calendar

Parish Office Hours | Monday—Thursday 9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm | Closed Friday

Sunday, November 8: The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Holy Eucharist (Spoken) — *Church*
9:30 am Children's Sunday School— *Parish House*
9:30 am Youth Sunday School — *Youth Suite*
9:30 am Adult Discussion of Sunday's Scriptures — *Great Hall*
9:30 am Bishop's Podcast Discussion Group — *Parlor*
9:30 am Christ Church Choir — *Church*
10:30 am Holy Eucharist (With music) — *Church*
11:30 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*
12 pm Stewardship Luncheon — *Great Hall*
5 pm Sunday Evening Supper — *Great Hall*
5:30 pm Alpha Course — *Cloister Room*
5:30 pm Adult Bible Study — *Youth Sunday School Room*
5:30 pm EYC — *Youth Suite*
5:30 pm Knitting Group — *Parlor*
5:30 pm Choir School of Macon — *Choir Room*
6:30 pm Compline — *Church*

Wednesday, November 11

9 am Women's Bible Study — *Parlor*
10:45 am Wise Women's Bible Study — *Cloister Room*
12 pm Holy Eucharist & Healing — *Church*
8:45 pm Compline — *Facebook*

Thursday, November 12

7:10 am Men's Bible Study — *Cloister Room*
6 pm Christ Church Choir — *Choir Room*

Friday, November 13

Parish office is closed

Saturday, November 14

11:30 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*
5 pm Young Family Supper Club — *Home of Samuel & Sarah Adams*

Sunday, November 15: The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Holy Eucharist & Baptism (Spoken) — *Church*
9:30 am Children's Sunday School— *Parish House*
9:30 am Youth Sunday School — *Youth Suite*
9:30 am Adult Discussion of Sunday's Scriptures — *Great Hall*
9:30 am Bishop's Podcast Discussion Group — *Parlor*
9:30 am Christ Church Choir — *Church*
10:30 am Holy Eucharist & Baptism (With music) — *Church*
Lemonade on the Lawn — *Cloister Garden*
11:30 am Weekend Lunch — *Jones Chapel*
5 pm Friendsgiving Potluck Supper — *Great Hall*
5:30 pm Alpha Course — *Cloister Room*
5:30 pm Adult Bible Study — *Youth Sunday School Room*
5:30 pm EYC — *Youth Suite*
5:30 pm Knitting Group — *Parlor*
5:30 pm Choir School of Macon — *Choir Room*
6:30 pm Compline — *Church*

Parish Announcements

(Please send announcements to communications@christchurchmacon.com)

Tonight's Sunday Evening Supper Menu: Lasagna, Salad, & Garlic Bread

Stewardship Luncheon

TODAY the 10:30 am service

Today, we conclude our 2027 Annual Giving Campaign with a Stewardship Luncheon in the Great Hall following the 10:30 am service. This will be a time for fellowship and thanksgiving for all of God's blessings on this parish and for the Stewardship Committee to address the congregation and announce the results of the campaign. Please submit all pledges before the luncheon so they can have accurate numbers. These pledges are extremely important for our staff and vestry as they craft the budget for the coming year.

Young Family Supper Club

Saturday, November 14 at 5:00 pm

Sarah and Samuel Adams are hosting our Fall Young Family Supper Club Saturday, November 14 beginning 5 pm. This is an opportunity for our young families and families with children to get to know one another and spend some time in fellowship. Kids are welcome! RSVP using the QR code on the right.

Sunday Evening Friendsgiving Potluck

Sunday, November 15 at 5:00 pm

Our evening meal for Sunday Evenings at Christ Church on Sunday, November 15 will be a "Friendsgiving" Thanksgiving potluck! The church will provide turkey and everyone else is asked to bring their favorite Thanksgiving side or dessert. We will eat at 5:00 in the Great Hall as normal, then proceed with our usual Sunday evening activities. Scan the QR code for a sign up list so you can let us know what you are bringing. If you don't have anything to bring, don't worry! Just bring yourself.

Thanksgiving Week Schedule

On Sunday, November 22, the Feast of Christ the King, we will have 8 am and 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, but will not have Sunday School or Sunday Evening programming. There will be no Bible studies, Wednesday Holy Eucharist and Healing, or choir rehearsal on November 25 or 26. The parish office will close at 12 pm on Wednesday, November 25 and be closed for the rest of the week. On Sunday, November 29, the First Sunday of Advent, we will have an all-ages Sunday school in the Great Hall at 9:30 am and will have regular Sunday Evening programming beginning at 5 pm.

New Grief Course Beginning in January

Sheri Pyles will be facilitating a new grief course called *Walking the Mourner's Path* beginning in January. Contact Sheri or Cynthia if you are interested in joining.

Journey into Advent

Sunday, November 29 at 9:30 am

Join us in the Great Hall at 9:30 am on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29, for an all-ages Sunday school to begin the Advent season. The children will be making Advent wreaths and the Flower Guild will be there to teach the adults about making Advent arrangements with seasonal greenery. Please bring a vase for your arrangement. While some greenery will be available for wreathes and arrangements, everyone is strongly encouraged to bring greenery from your own homes so there is enough to go around and to personalize your arrangements.

St. Nicholas Service & Supper

Wednesday, December 2 at 5:30 pm

Join us as we celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas. We will be gathering in Jones Chapel for a brief service and lesson about St. Nicholas of Myra. Rumor has it that St. Nicholas himself might show up and good little girls and boys should leave their shoes on the chapel steps just in case. After the service, there will be dinner, crafts, and games in the Great Hall.

Advent Lessons & Carols

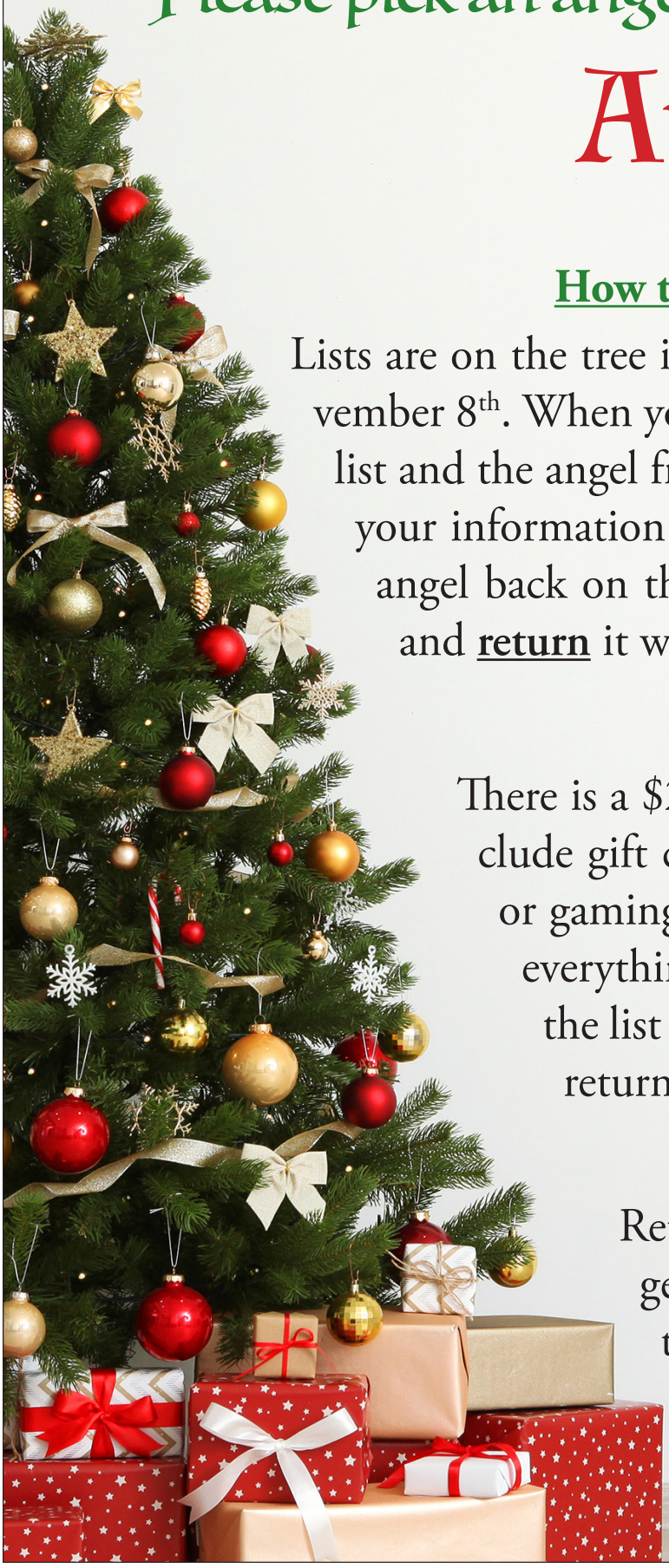
Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 pm

Walnut Street Music, the Christ Church Choristers, and the Christ Church Choir will offer a service of Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 pm. Lessons and Carols is a beloved service of music and scripture for the Advent season in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. **NOTE:** This service will begin at 5:30 pm, which is a change from the previously announced time **AND** the city's Christmas parade will be that afternoon at 4:00 pm, so downtown roads may still be closed. Plan an alternate route via Riverside Dr. or the Interstate.





Ministry of the Month: November



Please pick an angel from the

Angel Tree

How to pick an "Angel"

Lists are on the tree in the Parish House beginning November 8th. When you make your selection, **remove** the list and the angel from the tree, **fill out** the angel with your information and the list number and **place** the angel back on the tree, then **take** the list with you and **return** it with the gifts.

What to Bring

There is a $200 limit per list. Please do not include gift cards, bicycles, computers, laptops, or gaming systems. You **DO NOT** need to buy everything on the wish list. You may share the list with another person, just be sure to return all the gifts together.

How to Return

Return labeled, unwrapped gifts together, with the list enclosed, either to the Parish House or Harrold House by Sunday, December 6th.

Vestry

Jed Hill, *Senior Warden*
Rob Wilkin, *Junior Warden*
Steve Welsh, *Treasurer*
Chris Hair, *Clerk*

William Baxley
Jan Beeland
Margaret Boltja
Christine Hoskins

Keri Jones
Molly Muse
Jeff Powers
Nancy Wilkerson

Clergy & Staff

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*
The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright, *Bishop of Atlanta*
The Rev. Cynthia C. Knapp, *Rector*
The Rev. Harriette J. Simmons, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Dr. John F. McCard, *Priest Associate*
Hope Westervelt, *Director of Youth Ministries*
Rachel Horkan, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Jonathan A. Poe, *Director of Music & Liturgy*
Lacey Chaney, *Associate for Children's Music*
Nidia Svare, *Parish Administrator*
Timothy Hoskins, *Director of Communications*
Laurel Eady, *Parish Bookkeeper*
Hal Brickle, *Director of Weekend Lunch Ministry*
Robert Hubbard, *Sexton*
Markisha Carter, *Assistant Sexton*

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Fill out a visitor card:

Office hours: M-Th 9-12 & 1-4
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Macon, Georgia 31201

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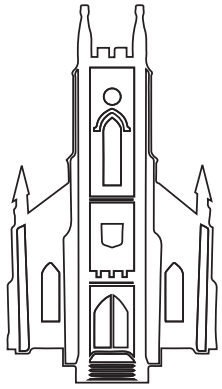

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