

The CATHEDRAL TIMES

The weekly newsletter of the Cathedral of St. Philip · Serving Atlanta and the World · July 19, 2026

ALL CREATION WITH EAGER LONGING

by the Rev. Dr. Thee Smith, *Priest Associate*

My friend used to tease me, “Why does an African American like you hang out with a Jew like me? Don’t you have enough troubles?” She wasn’t serious, of course. The humor gave us a chance to relish our connection. We joked that I was compounding my own problems by consorting with a Jew ‘while also being Black.’

However, in the 1980s in Berkeley, California, she could freely enjoy cataloging our differences: “I’m a Jewish, feminist, Marxist atheist, and you’re a Black, male, Christian theologian—ha!” she would chortle. “Ricky” was the nickname of Erica Sherover-Marcuse (1938-1988). She was a recent widow when we met, having married the Jewish émigré and leftist philosopher, Herbert Marcuse (1898-1979). I was a graduate student while she was editing her dissertation for publication.

The book, published in 1986, bore a title that still fascinates me, “Emancipation and Consciousness.” It even footnotes my related comment about African American religion and emancipation. More poignantly, Ricky autographed my copy with this memorable declaration: “For Thee, dear friend and colleague, in spite of and because of our differing perspectives.”

Ricky’s choice for the book’s jacket cover remains iconic for me: Jules Breton’s striking 1884 painting, “The Song of the Lark” (pictured above). A peasant woman holds a sickle loosely at her side. She hearkens to the song of a lark, barely visible above the sun rising on another workday in the fields. Still, we can imagine the lark’s song as it carries the woman into another world—and carries us along with her as we share a moment of freedom from the conditions and constraints of any given time and place.

Here we have a compelling example of how art can be religious or spiritual, whether or not it displays traditional symbols or content. Admittedly, the book’s content is about secular forms of emancipation and humanist forms of consciousness. My friend’s interests were not theological, faith-based, or spiritual. Nonetheless, just as our friendship bridged our differences and celebrated our diversity, I continue to draw on that friendship to affirm my own faith-based forms of emancipation and consciousness.

In particular, I apply her title theme and iconic book cover to affirm our shared humanity and our Christian declarations. Universal emancipation and shared consciousness are especially evident in this Sunday’s selection from St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans (8:19-25). Here the apostle extends to “the creation itself” our Christian revelation of resurrected life: resurrection as freedom from decay, death, and destruction.

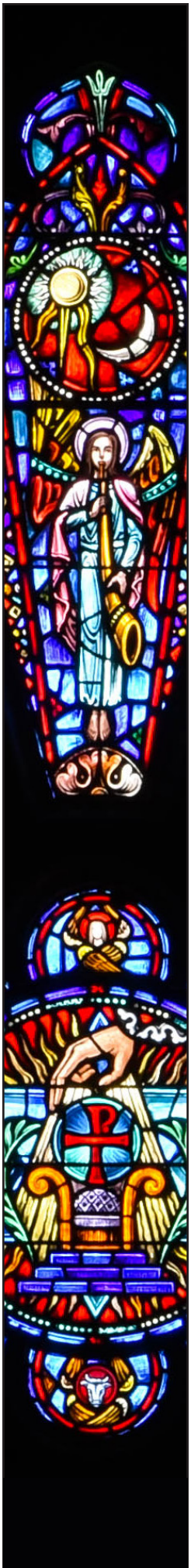
For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God . . . in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God . . .

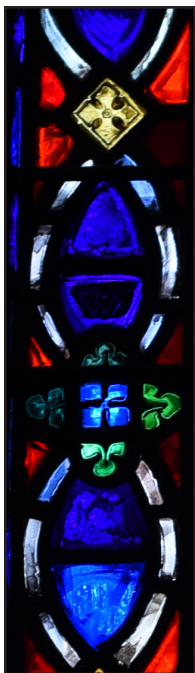
Moreover, the verses that follow affirm our distinctively Christian focus on bodily redemption—as in Jesus’ resurrection.

And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved . . . But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Thus, as disciples of Christ we join all creation in waiting for freedom from our shared bondage to degeneration and decay. At the same time, we hold fast to the Christian vision of the “redemption of our bodies,” even as we already receive the “first fruits of the Spirit”: hope “for what we do not see” and the patience to wait for it.

Thanks be to God!





This SUNDAY

JULY 19, 2026 • The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 11, Year A

Isaiah 44:6-8 / Psalm 86:11-17 / Romans 8:12-25 / Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

8:45 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.: IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

CATHEDRALATL.ORG / THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP APP / FACEBOOK / YOUTUBE

7:45 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST, MIKELL CHAPEL

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Canon Salmoon Bashir

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST, CATHEDRAL

Celebrant: The Rev. Canon Ashley Carr

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Salmoon Bashir

Cantoris (Cathedral Choir):

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924), *Almighty God, your Word is cast like seed upon the ground*

David Hurd (b. 1950), *Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes*

11:15 A.M. LA SANTA EUCARISTÍA (SPANISH), MIKELL CHAPEL

Officiant and Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval

SPIRITUALITY

LABYRINTH WALK AND TAIZÉ

Monday, July 20

7 p.m., Good Faith Chapel

Start your summer with a contemplative Third Monday of June. We'll begin in the Good Faith Chapel for an hour of walking the sacred labyrinth path starting at 7:00 pm. Or come a few minutes early for a brief introduction if you are new to the labyrinth.

Then, come to Mikell Chapel at 8 p.m. for Taizé Prayers for Peace. Originating in Taizé, France, this simple service of scripture, music, silence, and candlelight will bring a beautiful and prayerful close to your Monday.

The facilitated Labyrinth walk and Taizé service take place every third Monday at the Cathedral. Come to one, or both – and bring a friend! Centering Prayer takes place on the other Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Good Faith Chapel. Questions? Contact Jeannie Mahood, jmahood@cathedralATL.org or 404-365-1031.

BOTTLED WATER DRIVE

Sunday, July 12–Sunday, August 16

Did you know that asphalt can reach 150°F in the summer? That kind of heat makes being outside in the city unbearably hot. Help us keep our neighbors cool by donating cases of bottled water to Crossroads Community Ministries for them to distribute through their street outreach teams! We'll collect water in the Atrium starting Sunday, July 12 through Homecoming Sunday, August 16.

WORSHIP

CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE

Wednesday, July 22

6 p.m., Good Faith Chapel

On July 22, the Cathedral will host a contemplative service of Evening Prayer honoring the life and ministry of St. Mary Magdalene. Known as the “Apostle to the Apostles,” Mary was entrusted to bring the news of Jesus’ resurrection to the other disciples and to share her experience of meeting the risen Christ outside the tomb.

We will gather in the Good Faith Chapel at 6 p.m. If you would like, wear red, and feel free to bring a friend. Afterwards, on the patio outside the chapel, we will enjoy fellowship over spice cakes and tea. Have questions? Please contact the Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener, julia.mitchener@cathedralATL.org.

Adult EDUCATION

Summer of Hope, 10:10 a.m., Child Hall

Join us in Child Hall on Sunday mornings for the second annual “Summer of Hope.” This speaker series sponsored by the Outreach Ministry will focus on the Cathedral’s many new and continuing ministries offering relationship, encouragement, advocacy, support, joy, and purpose in partnership with our most vulnerable neighbors.

This Sunday, July 19 our presenter will be Soyini Coke, Director of J2! (Joy to Infinity). J2! is a youth program inspired by a longstanding tradition of artistic excellence and community engagement. Their programming gives students the opportunity to explore, create, and thrive through the arts.

PRAYER *List*

FOR THOSE WITH IMMEDIATE NEEDS: George Atkins, Jr. • Marion Bunch

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING:

LONG TERM PRAYERS: Randy Allen • R. Huntley Allen • Lucy Baker • Benjamin Bao • Ann & Frank Blackistone, Jr. • Larry Boggs • Jeff Bonnell • Lawrence Booker • Stacy Boyd • The Bryant Family • Don Cameron • Alex Cann • The Crossley Family • Rita Daly • Jerri Darnell • Jean Davis • Laura Demo-Anderson • Debbie Dewees • Sharon Douglas • Janet Harrison Estes • Max Ferguson • Phoebe Forio • Brad Foresythe • Susan Gavalis • Jenny Ham • Heather Huber • Melanie Johnson • Bennie King • Karen Klein • Lisa Krysiak • Bonnie Lamberth • Charles Lane • Jill Mahaffey • Barbara Maples • Tommy Mason • Marlene Matthews-Muniz • Clyde May • Wynetta McNeill • Floyd McRae • Sally Menning • Glenn Miller • Millicent Miller • Graham Mulling • Jim Myrick • Charlie Neal • Leo Ortiz • Lori Hegwood Owens • Marian Palmore • Patti Parker • Patricia Payne-White • Brenda Pruitt • Rubye Reid • Lorraine Reynolds • Barbara Rice • Lisa Rowe • Lisa Staats • Louis “Skip” Schueddig • Taylor Shailendra • Roberta Shields • Bronnie Smith • Fair Sutherlin • Richard Swanson • Tommy Truesdale • Art Vinson • Jim Wilson

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Frank Adams • Josephine Rose Adams • Frank Armstrong • Alexander Collins Astrop • Savannah Biven • Walter Boleman • Brenda Bootle • Marianna Bortner • Jason Brady • Trip Bray • Dennis and Robin Bridges • Saint Legend Brown • Beverly Brownlee • Geneveive Brownlee • Anne Bumbak • Grace Burnias • Lila Jo Callaway • Anna Clifford • Andrea Cody • Sally Coleman • Beatrice “Bea” Comstock • Linda Connelly • Inaam Copt • Ava Corroon • Barbara Daniel • Henry “Hank” Diversi • Marty Dunn • Nancy Ehringer • Mary Kent Ellis • Mercy Elyon • Marilyn Epstein • Elaine Escher • Martha Flory • Pete Fonash • JT Foster • Kyle Garcia • Laura Gardner • Ann George • Emily Giesen • Alexis Grace • Peter Grandell • Nikki Greenaway • Thomas E. Glynn • Dub Gulley • Ted Hackett • Nicholas Hadden • McKee Hamilton • Josh Hargraves • Victoria Leigh Hartness • Shirley Helmke • Keith Hinze • Lisa Hoybach • Jane Hunnicutt • Cherish Huntley • Wayne Huerth • Beth Ingle • William Irwin • Richard Jacobson • Dilini Jayawardena • Rhett Jayne • Farley Jenkins, Sr. • Margaret Maples Jones • Woody Jones • Delores and Lee Josephs • Patricia Kasm • Christopher Keltz • Mary Weston Klein • Gary Laney • Doris Little • Pete Livezey • Henry Long • Lauren Makhlof • Dawn and David Mayers • Stephen McCain • Hailey McKeefry • Barry Miller • Iris Miller • Jon Moravec • Larry Mortimer • Tom Myer • Augusta Horsey Nash • Fred Neuschel • Linus Nickel • Ramona O’Neill • Jeff Pace • Alfredo Paniagua • Stephen Pararo • Anna Lilia Diaz Parra • Jacquelin Bennett Phillips • Kevin Race • Paul Reeves • Hugh Ripp • Charlie Roberts • Mr. and Mrs. William Rowe • Einar Sagstuen • Don Saliers • Ernest Sandoval • Krista Sandoval • Patricia Schooley • Pam Shannon • Lelia Sinclair • Alice Smith-Mather • Michael and Kathryn Snider • Laura Snyder • Doug Stapp • Izzy Straus • Dan Sullivan • Jan Swanson • Ted Tarantino • Pierson Thames • Cliff Thompson • Pamela Tubbs • Charles Vaughan • Angel Vega • Leopoldo Velita • Pat Volpicella • Dan Walls • Ron Winston • Cutler Woodfin • Sylvia Wright • Gordy Grayson Wyatt • Hollis Youngner

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Christopher Balogun-Lynch • Lucy Draper • Harold Ham • Jessica Keller Martin • Bob Foltz Morrison • Wilhelmina Eburn Ronnie-Decker • Linda Jessica Ryan-Coker

BIRTHS: May Caroline Coan, daughter of Virginia and Fletcher Coan • Bennett Hanson Simon, son of Alex and Kenzie Simon

The CATHEDRAL *of* ST. PHILIP

The Very Rev. Samuel G. Candler, *Dean*

Dale Adelman, Ph.D., *Canon for Music*

The Rev. Canon Salmoon Bashir,

Canon for Liturgy and Ecumenism

The Rev. Canon David E. Boyd III, *Canon for Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Canon Ashley Carr, *Canon for Parish Life*

The Rev. Canon George M. Maxwell, Jr., *Vicar*

The Rev. Canon Julia B. Mitchener, *Canon for Mission*

The Rev. Deacon Linda Rosengren

The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval,

Deacon for Hispanic Ministries and Pastoral Care

The Rev. Theophus “Thee” Smith, Ph.D., *Priest Associate*

Haven Long, *Senior Warden*

Mary Hall Perrin, *Junior Warden*

CATHEDRAL TIMES SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

FOR THE **SUNDAY, JULY 26** ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JULY 15**. FOR THE **SUNDAY, AUGUST 2**, ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JULY 22**.

TO RECEIVE THE TIMES BY EMAIL:

CONTACT LIZ AULL, LAULL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

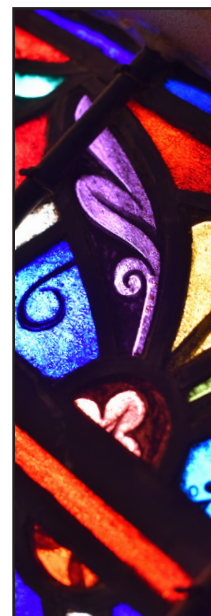
TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST:

CONTACT DAN MURPHY,
DMURPHY@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

404-365-1000 | cathedralATL.org
pastoral care emergency line:
404-365-1003



CATHEDRALATL



MUSIC

MUSIC STAFF TRANSITIONS

This month we give special thanks for Nolan Anthony as he concluded his Organ & Church Music Internship with us by playing services on Sunday morning, July 11. Nolan came to us last summer after completing a Master of Music degree in organ performance at the North Carolina School of the Arts, and we have been truly blessed both by his flawless organ playing and his unfailingly good-natured presence among us.

We also welcome Carolyn Hoff, who will take up that post as Organ Scholar. She will share service-playing duties with Chase Loomer, assist with our Chorister program, and help with the broad range of responsibilities inherent in church music ministry. Carolyn grew up at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, K Street, in Washington D.C., as a chorister under the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) training scheme we employ at the Cathedral of St. Philip, and she concluded a Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance and music theory at the Cleveland Institute of Music last month.

Please join us as we wish Nolan godspeed and welcome Carolyn to our midst!

—Dale Adelman, *Canon for Music*

ORGAN RECITAL FEATURING NATHANIEL GUMBS

Wednesday, July 22, 7:30 p.m.

Concert organist Nathaniel Gumbs will perform at the Cathedral on Wednesday, July 22, as part of the Atlanta Summer Organ Festival. Gumbs serves as Director of Music at The Riverside Church in New York City and maintains a vibrant performing career, appearing at many distinguished venues in the U.S.A. and abroad. Consistently gathering new followers, Dr. Gumbs presents his concert programs with energy and always makes a compelling connection with his audiences through his own vitality and music that inspires. The recital is presented by Delbert Lowell Jacks in memory of Thomas Ruben Jones, and the Friends of Cathedral Music at the Cathedral of St. Philip. Suggested donation \$15 at the door.



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STEWARDSHIP

WHY I GIVE

by Melody Palmore

As a chair of this year's stewardship campaign, I am writing to share my experience at this wonderful, sacred place and to invite you to join me in pledging in 2026.

Cathedrals, and our Cathedral in particular, aim to give continuous witness to things unseen and eternal, and offer continuous and reverent worship to God. The Cathedral establishes and sustains the life of the community, dedicated to the service and worship of God.

I believe that each one of us has been placed in the Christian community for a reason. We all have our gifts, and with these gifts our specific duties and responsibilities, that God has entrusted us with, to ensure that we uphold the Body of Christ.

Stewardship is a form of thanksgiving. How I understand God's love is that he loved me and gave his life for me. I, in turn, want to give to him in return. The more I give, the more I have been blessed. In many ways, the vulnerability of giving, stepping out in faith, exposes an area within my heart that is now open to receive unanticipated blessings.

My family and I chose the Cathedral as our Christian home almost 36 years ago, for fellowship and to continue to learn more about how we can do what is right and merciful, and how to walk humbly with our God. This church is involved in many ministries, ministries of love, and I believe they are directed by God, for God. I want to support them and urge you to join me in supporting them as well.

Can you join me in pledging to the Cathedral? Please visit cathedralATL.org/giving or contact David Rocchio by phone at 404-365-1033 or email at drocchio@cathedralATL.org.



PARISH BBQ

CathedralATL.org/ParishBBQ

August 23

5:30 p.m.

