



# Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church

## The Sunday News

March 22, 2015

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### COLLECT FOR THE DAY – THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT – YEAR B

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### LESSONS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT – YEAR B

*Jeremiah 31:31-34*

“The days are surely coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,” says the Lord. “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” says the Lord: “I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” says the Lord; “for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.”

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

*Hebrews 5:5-10*

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

*John 12:20-33*

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Psalm 51:1-13**

1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
2. Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
3. For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
4. Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
5. And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
6. Indeed, I have been wicked from y birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
7. For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
8. Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
9. Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
10. Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
11. Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
12. Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
13. Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

**The Vestry**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Jan Krumel – <i>Parish Life</i>           | 664-6256 |
| Pete Sale – <i>Outreach</i>               | 928-7835 |
| Laurie Smith – <i>Communications</i>      | 360-4438 |
| Mark Stehle – <i>Building and Grounds</i> | 360-4694 |
| John Syme – <i>Worship Support</i>        | 770-8317 |

**Staff**

The Rev. Mark S. Forbes, *Rector*  
The Rev. Dr. Sally Brower, *Assisting Rector*  
Beryl Frey, *Parish Administrator*  
Julie Lynch, *Financial Secretary*  
Mark Fowler, *Youth Director*  
Stacey Fox, *Children's Director*  
Jayne Sprinkle, *Music Director*

**Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church**

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**Office Hours**

9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

**COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

*Celebrant:* Living God, be strongly present with \_\_\_\_\_ as she delivers communion to \_\_\_\_\_.

*People:* **May hearts be kindled, bodies restored, and hope enlivened. Our prayers go with you.**

### THIS WEEK AT SAINT PATRICK'S

|                     |            |                        |            |
|---------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|
| Sunday, March 22    | 9:30 a.m.  | Lectionary Bible Study | Youth Room |
|                     | Noon       | Lenten Series          | Sanctuary  |
|                     | Noon       | Youth Meeting          | Youth Room |
| Monday, March 23    | 6:30 p.m.  | Vestry Meeting         | Sanctuary  |
|                     | 6:30 p.m.  | EFM                    | Sanctuary  |
| Tuesday, March 24   | 6:00 p.m.  | Centering Prayer       | Sanctuary  |
|                     | 7:30 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal        | Choir Room |
| Wednesday, March 25 | 9:30 a.m.  | Midweek Eucharist      | Sanctuary  |
|                     | 10:00 a.m. | Centering Prayer       | Sanctuary  |
|                     | 11:40 a.m. | Preschool Chapel       | Sanctuary  |

#### Welcome to our Visitors and Newcomers

We are happy to have you with us. This service is part of our ongoing life of worship, learning and service. We are here to deepen our relationship with God and with one another, and to explore how to live our lives more fully and compassionately. Please know that you are invited to participate in all aspects of our worship, most importantly by sharing with us in our common meal at God's Table.

We invite you to continue the journey with us; ask questions, attend our educational offerings, participate in the activities of this community. We invite you to return again next week for Eucharist at 8:30 or 10:30 a.m. Please be aware that we offer a nursery for children ages three and under. The nursery is located just down the hallway in the education wing.

#### Those persons serving our community this morning:

**8:30** - Acolyte/Lector/LEM: Steve Messick

**10:30 a.m.** - Chalice Bearers: Bob Millikin, Greg Smith; Lectors: Mark McCulloh, Heather Griffin; Psalm and POP: John Syme; Acolyte Leader: Jon Ramsey; Altar Guild: Colleen Mulcahy, Jon Ramsey; Lay Minister of Healing: Jane Pope; Ushers: Charlie and Jean Wollbrinck, Ron and Sigrid Gimla; Greeters: Carol Miller, Eileen and Tony Kenter; Counters: Jim Sabine, Julie Lynch; Coffee Hour Team: Gaby and Ray Fulton; Nursery Volunteer: Judy Willingham; Children's Chapel: Ann Hales.

#### ALTAR GREENERY GIVEN BY JUDY WILLINGHAM

The greens on the pedestal in front of the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Judy Willingham. They are given in loving memory of loved ones.

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### LENTEN STUDY TOPIC AND EXPANSION



In today's session, Richard Rohr encourages a religious paradigm that goes beyond moral legalism to one that embraces transformative sacred experience. Please also note that we expanded the original series offering by adding an additional session on Sunday, April 12th, which is the Sunday after Easter. That session with Richard Rohr will fittingly focus on an enlarged theological perspective of the cosmic Christ.

## **RECTOR'S SABBATICAL REINSTATED**

After renewed deliberation and discernment and with the encouragement of parishioners and vestry, our Reverend Mark Forbes has decided to take his 2015 sabbatical on his originally planned dates. He will begin his sabbatical on Easter Monday, April 6th of this year. The three-month sabbatical period will conclude on July 6th and will be followed by his regular one-month vacation period. We look forward to Mark's return to St. Patrick's on Monday, August 3rd, and to Sunday worship on August 9th. As we send Mark forth into this sabbatical time of renewal, we are most grateful that Reverend Sally Brower will assume his normal duties. Please pray for Mark as he undertakes his sabbatical journey and for Sally as she assumes the leadership of our church's spiritual life during that time.



## **EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS BEING ACCEPTED**

It is our tradition at Saint Patrick's to adorn our worship space with beautiful, fragrant flowers at Easter. Donations for Sanctuary flowers are welcome from individuals or families in celebration, or as a memorial. The suggested donation is \$15 a plant with \$5 added for each additional name. Your gift will be noted in the Easter bulletins provided the necessary information is received in the church office by Wednesday, April 1st. Donation forms are in the Narthex.

## **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

Inspiring and cultivating sacred connections with God and one another  
as we embrace diversity of spiritual thought, practice and being.

*Inspire-Connect-Embrace-Share*

## **PULSE OF VISION AND MISSION**

We are called to be a spiritually vibrant community that fosters diverse opportunities for spiritual education. At this time we give thanks to God for our Lenten Study Series, facilitated by our clergy that provides a transformative opportunity to "Embrace an Alternative Orthodoxy" as Richard Rohr highlights the legacy of St. Francis.

## THE SEASON OF LENT: WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

### ***Why is the seating configuration different for Lent?***

Lent is typically a time to reflect upon our separation from God, to reflect honestly upon the gulf of sin which separates us from the presence of God. This seating arrangement symbolizes the separation. The altar, symbolic of God's presence, no longer sits in our midst, but is now spatially separated from the congregation. Also, we no longer witness to the incarnate Christ by looking into one another's faces. Rather, we are now all facing forward, looking across the spatial separation to God's altar.

### ***Why a silent procession during Lent?***

Focusing on the reality of sin, the traditional tone of Lent is a bit somber. But only for Monday through Saturday. On Sundays we break the tone and celebrate the Easter event in which we know that sin ultimately holds no sway in God's kingdom. Due to modern culture, however, most of us do not experience the Monday through Saturday Lenten tone. By processing in silence and beginning with the Ten Commandments, we seek to capture a bit of this lost essence.

### ***Why the Ten Commandments?***

Reciting the Ten Commandments is a ritual recognition of our shortcomings. In sum, we are deficient in loving God and neighbor with the fullness of our hearts. We do not engage this ritual to illicit guilt, nor to incite us to strive harder (though we should). Rather, we engage this ritual to encourage us to repent--that is, to turn prayerfully to God and acknowledge our dependence on Him for the cleansing of sin, sin being all that which separates us from full love of God and people.

### ***Why is the altar draped in purple?***

The altar, lectern, and clergy stoles change color according to the church season. Purple is the traditional color reminding us of our call to repentance--to return our focus to God and away from all those things which distract us from keeping our hearts centered in God. In doing so, we prepare ourselves for the interior blooming of faith, the Easter experience.

### ***Why are we veiling the processional cross during Lent?***

The cross symbolizes resurrection, our destined awakening into the fullness of God's glory. Separated from God by sin, the veil reminds us that the power of Christ's resurrection has not yet been fully realized. But take heart....Easter will come!