



# Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church

## The Sunday News

March 1, 2015

---

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

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
*Amen.*

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

*Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.” God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

*Romans 4:13-25*

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

*Mark 8:31-38*

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

**Psalm 22:22-30**

22. Praise the Lord, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
23. For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
but when they cry to him he hears them.
24. My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who  
worship him.
25. The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"
26. All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to  
the Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
27. For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
he rules over the nations.
28. To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down  
in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
29. My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
30. They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

**The Vestry**

Jeff Haas – *Financial Stewardship* 980-333-5396  
Jan Krumel – *Parish Life* 664-6256  
Pete Sale – *Outreach* 658-9741  
Laurie Smith – *Communications* 928-7835  
Mark Stehle – *Building and Grounds* 360-4694  
John Syme – *Worship Support* 895-3403

**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**

**Post Office Box 1491**

**Mooresville, NC 28115**

Phone: (704) 663-5659

Fax: (704) 662-7050

Email: stpats3466@windstream.net

Website: www.saint-patricks.org

**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 1	9:30 a.m.	Lectionary Bible Study	Youth Room
	Noon	Youth Meeting	Youth Room
Monday, March 2	10:00 a.m.	ECW Meeting	Library
	6:30 p.m.	EFM	Rector's Office
Tuesday, March 3	6:30 p.m.	Centering Prayer	Sanctuary
	7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Wednesday, March 4	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: Jon Missert

**10:30 a.m.** - Chalice Bearers: Brent Brower, Joan Konen; Lectors: Heather Griffin, Bob Gourley; Psalm and POP: Brent Brower; Acolyte Leader: Pat Patterson; Altar Guild: John and Rita Azali, David and Rosemary Bramigk; Lay Minister of Healing: Pam Ferdinands; Ushers: Bob and Peggy Smith, Charles and Jan Lamm; Greeters: Carolyn and Don Rogers; Counters: Rita Azali, Julie Lynch; Coffee Hour Team: Mark and Ginny Stehle; Nursery: Eileen Kenter; Children's Chapel: Kristen Forbes.

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OVERCOMING OUR FINANCIAL BOULDER



As you know, we had a significant gap to meet the 2015 financial need projections of our church and it is with thankful hearts we can celebrate that thanks to your generous pledges that gap has been bridged. That said, our Ministries, whose budgets were already cutback, are still really in need of some additional funding. We are therefore still open for additional pledges through March 1st. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider a further pledge and thereby help our Ministries.

### ADULT LENTEN STUDY: EMBRACING AN ALTERNATIVE ORTHODOXY

Especially with a new pope who takes his name after Saint Francis of Assisi, there is a renewed interest in Franciscan spirituality. Based on video teachings by acclaimed author Fr. Richard Rohr, and with discussion facilitated by our Rector, we will explore what makes Franciscan spirituality so unique and special. Participants should be prepared to have some traditional religious ideas stretched, and may find such stretching unsettling. With this said, however, Lent is the perfect time for stretching our religious imaginations and thereby receiving the resultant growth that accompanies such endeavors. The offering will begin on Sunday, March 1st and continue meeting weekly for a total of four classes, the last class being held Sunday, March 23rd. Participants need not attend each class; however, the more one attends, the fuller the learning experience. Each gathering will begin following the 10:30am service (approx. 11:45am), and will last one hour. No registration required.





**SOLAS LEIGHIS CONCERT SERIES TO PRESENT KIM ROBERTSON - MARCH 15**  
Kim Robertson will perform at Saint Patrick's on Sunday, March 15th at 7:00 pm. An acclaimed Celtic harpist, Kim is a composer, performer and recording artist. Her performances feature lyrical, heart-touching music, played with delicacy, grace and skill. Invite a friend and come enjoy this beautiful music. If you are planning to attend, please bring a finger food for the reception. For more details, visit our website at [www.saint-patricks.org](http://www.saint-patricks.org).

### **ALTAR GREENERY NEEDED DURING LENT**

Altar Greenery is needed for four Sundays in Lent (March 1, 8, 15 and 22). If you would like to donate an arrangement in memory or honor of a loved one, or to celebrate a special date, please sign up via our website at [www.saint-patricks.org](http://www.saint-patricks.org).



### **YOUTH TO HOLD YARD SALE IN MARCH**



Saint Patrick's Youth will hold a Yard Sale on Saturday, March 14th. They are asking for you to save items that you no longer need and consider donating to the sale. Donations will be accepted beginning Sunday, March 8th after the 10:30 a.m. service, as storage space that is available now is limited. Please contact Mark Fowler with any questions.

### **PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR VESTRY RETREAT**

Please pray for our Vestry as they retreat to Kanuga to assimilate the new members and profit from the knowledge of those who are rolling off. Please also pray for them as they consider our governing documents, mission and vision, financial matters, outreach, and our desire for intentional God-centeredness.



### **Prayers for Outgoing and Incoming Vestry Members**

*Celebrant and People:*

*Gracious God, we give you thanks for the ministries of Pete, Barbara and Georgia. As members of our vestry, they have served your people with diligence and compassion. In our gratitude, we ask that you bless them, keep them, and guide them as they move forward from this ministry. May their lives forever be filled with your grace. Amen.*

*Celebrant and People:*

*God of wisdom, we give you thanks for Jeff, Jan, John and Judy. They have opened their hearts to discern and heed your call to vestry leadership. Enlighten them with your grace, and guide them with your spirit of counsel, that they may lead us into the fulfillment of your vision. May their ministries be blessed. Amen.*

## **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**

This week we give thanks for generosity of our St. Patrick's congregation which has removed our financial boulder for 2015 and empowers us to move forward with implementing our Vision and Mission.

## **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!