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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Apart from a few billboards scattered around town, and some candy and decorations in the discount bins, there is not much left of Easter in our wider community. Like most "events" or "holidays" time has moved on and we are steadily looking forward to the next celebration.

That is not so for the Church. The liturgical Season of Easter continues for the Great Fifty Days, culminating in the Feast of Pentecost. This means that each Sunday we joyously acclaim in our hymns, in the Scriptures, and in our joyous shouts, that the Lord is risen, the tomb is empty, and death is defeated.

In fact, it could be said that each Sunday is a little Easter. Each celebration of the Holy Eucharist is a proclamation of the Lord's death, and our participation in it and the life given through his Resurrection.

This is the heart of the Gospel.

Christ is Risen!

Dave Halt, Rector
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog

The Good News

April 13, 2018



Wednesday April 18 - 5:30 p.m.

Adult Formation and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd meets this week.

The Adult Formation topic for discussion is the Sacraments, and this week's conversation will focus on Holy Baptism.

Breakfast Fellowships

Women's Breakfast will meet this Saturday, 4/14, at 8:30 AM.

Men's Breakfast will meet Saturday, 4/21, at 8 AM.

Quilters' News

The quilters are offering a quilt for a silent/secret auction, that Peggy Blackley pieced and the current quilters have finished. It will make a great gift for Mother's Day, Birthday, or just to have and hold for your own comfort. See it on display in the Parish Hall.

All of the MONEY will go to the THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE for their community activities. The reserve limit on the quilt is \$100.00

BID RULES:

1. Name, telephone number and \$\$\$\$ on bid paper
2. Put bid paper in designated box
3. All bids must be in by May 5, 2018
4. The bids will be opened/winner notified on May 6, 2018

Happy bidding, The Quilters

Outreach Opportunities

Outreach Opportunities For The Months of March and April 2018

Mid Central Community Action's (MCCA) emergency shelter, **Neville House**, provides safe harbor, assists and provides families in crisis situations with individual and group counseling for adults and children, and serves as a community resource providing awareness, advocacy, and education on the issue of domestic violence.

Neville House personnel have suggested the following necessary supplies for the shelter and its residents: women, children and occasionally men.

Personal hygiene items: full size shampoos, conditioners and body wash for men, women and children, along with bath soaps and lotions, towels and washcloths;

Clothing: women's underwear in various sizes, along with brassieres (C-cups plus); men's clothing and underwear in sizes M/L;

Shoes and/or sneakers: in a variety of sizes for men, women and children;

Laundry and Cleaning supplies: Laundry detergent, bath and kitchen cleaning products, paper towels and toilet paper;

Kitchen supplies: non-perishable items, canned soups and meats, and boxed meals for the pantry;

Gift cards and/or monetary gifts*: grocery, and other gift cards help provide fresh produce, dairy and other perishable items for the kitchen, or other resident needs. Monetary and gas cards assist in transporting residents to doctor appointments, job interviews, and/or their children to school/daycare.

Please place supplies in the Outreach baskets in the narthex and the hallway beside the fireplace. We bless and thank each and every one of you for your continued generosity to those in need in our community.

The Outreach Committee

**Please don't leave money or gift cards in the baskets. These should be clearly noted for OUTREACH and placed in the offering plates.*

The Outreach Committee will hold its spring Book/DVD/Bake Sale on Saturday, April 28, from 8 AM to 1 PM. Donations of gently used books, DVDs, CDs, and other recordings are greatly appreciated. Please put donations in the parish hall near the bookcases. If you need help getting items to the church please call Debbie Leighton at 662-7478.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Serving Schedule

15-April

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Julie Bennett

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Lector: Ann Sokan

E.M.: Sarah Halt

Crucifer: Liam Halt

Thurifer: Sarah Halt

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Martha Laken & Linda Stawick

22-April

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Martha Carroll

E.M.: Shelley Carter & Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Susan Long & Shelley Carter

St. Matthew's Schedule beginning April 15th

Coffee Hour follows 10:00 worship in the Parish Hall

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I

Sunday-10:30 a.m.-Rite II

Sunday-11:00 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Monday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Monday-5:30 p.m.-Brownies

Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Tuesday-10:00 a.m.-Quilters

Wednesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Light Supper

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.-Adult Formation & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer and breakfast

Friday -7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Saturday-8:00 a.m.-Men's Breakfast

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

If you have anything you would like added to the schedule or

announcements in the bulletin and news letter please send an email reply to the newsletter, or call the office.

From the Junior Warden

In an effort to improve lighting and provide space for a cry room that allows continued participation in the liturgy for parents, we will be removing several of the panels separating the narthex from the nave. This will be done before the Feast of Pentecost.

This is an experiment to see if their removal and replacement with glass is feasible in terms of glare, light, and general appearance.

After these are removed, please share your opinions with either a Warden or member of the Mission Leadership Team.

Readings for April 15, 2018

Hymns: #203, #417, #328, #334

The First Lesson

Acts 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Psalm 4

Cum invocarem

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?"

3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
5 Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Lord.
6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.
7 You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

The Epistle

1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Gospel

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are

witnesses of these things.

Birthdays & Anniversaries April 15 - 21

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Sue Jones

Morgan Kimmerling

Collect for Sunday, April 15th

O God, whose blessed Son did manifest himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open, we pray thee, the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; through the same thy Son Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

