

Contents

This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

I was finishing a final paper this week, and ran across the following quote that sums up our Christian lives. I hope that it comforts and challenges you as it does me.

"When the living God--I AM THAT I AM--enters the heart, the joy thereof is full of Light. He is quiet. He is gentle. I can address Him as 'Thou' and in His 'I' and in my 'Thou' all Being is contained--both God and this world. He is self-existing; He is loving; He is humble. And at the same time He is infinitely powerful. His eyes see and penetrate all that is. 'Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him' [Heb. 4.13]. Every moment of my life, my every heartbeat, are all permanently in his hands. My personal being, both temporal and eternal, is entirely from Him, down to the last detail; save for my sins, about which He knows but in which He has no part. **When I am in Him, then 'I am', also. But apart from Him, I die.** When His Spirit descends on me, I love Him with something existing outside me. But even from my experience I know that this life proceeds from Him. Through His coming within me, therefore through union with Him in the very Act of Being, I live as He does. **He is my life: His life is mine.** In the hours when He dwells with me, I know the He is Love. A strange, especial love, however, which could in no way come to the mind or heart of man if his reflecting springs from himself as he is now, in his fallen state.

The Good News

August 17, 2018



Christian Formation

Will resume on September 5th. We will meet for Eucharist at 5:30 with study to follow. Our topic for the fall is "Paul's Greatest Hits". We will follow a seminar format that includes a study guide published before each session.

Confirmation/Inquirers Class (Time change, by request)

St. Matthew's is offering a Confirmation/Inquirers class for anyone interested in the Theology and History of the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church. Sessions will begin on Sunday, September 9 at **11:15AM** and run through the Fall Quarter.

Theology Uncorked

Will meet at 6PM on 9 September.

Outreach Opportunities

During the months of August and September, the Outreach Committee will be collecting school supplies for needy children at Oakland School. Items are needed for Grades K-5. Some examples of school supplies include:

- #2 pencils (sharpened)
- erasers
- regular sized crayons
- Elmer's glue (bottles or sticks)
- boxes of facial tissues
- backpacks without wheels

A list of many other items is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please put your school supplies in

God's love is kenotic (self-emptying). He revealed the Secret of His Being when He commanded us to love God to the point of hating oneself [cf. Luke 14.26-27 & 33]. He reveals the secret to us not through abstract philosophy but *existentially*--that is, by so including us in His Being that it becomes ours. Thus, precisely, is how we live this gift."
--Archimandrite Sophrony, "We Shall See Him as He Is", pg. 209.

In Christ,

Dave Halt, Rector
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

the baskets in the hallway between the Sanctuary and the parish hall.

In addition, we continue to collect "Boxtops for Education," The PTO newsletter for Oakland School reads: "Simply save the boxtops from General Mills products." Collection boxes are in the narthex and attached to the bulletin board outside the church office. Thank you for helping the Outreach Committee with these important projects.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:
[Good News Daily](#)

Serving Schedule

19-August

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham
Lector: Chris Bennett
E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt
Crucifer: Brad Bauman
Lector: Shelley Carter
E.M.: Emily Lavikoff
Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis
Coffee Hour: Debbie Leighton & Patty Pitts

26-August

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson
Lector: Julie Bennett
E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Christian Pitts
Crucifer: Brad Bauman
Lector: Cris Embree
E.M.: Jack Pitts
Monday Counter: Susan Clark
Coffee Hour: Valarie Jones & Dianne Wunderle

St. Matthew's Schedule beginning August 19th

Coffee hour follows 10:00 worship in the Parish Hall
Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I

Sunday-10:00 a.m.-Rite II
Sunday-11:00 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary
Monday-7:00 p.m.-M.L.T. meeting
Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Holy Eucharist and breakfast
Friday -7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

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.

Readings for August 19, 2018

Hymns: #488, #552, #555, #341, #410

Old Testament

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.

She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.

She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,

"You that are simple, turn in here!"

To those without sense she says,

"Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight."

Psalm 34:9-14

Benedicam Dominum

9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

11 Come, children, and listen to me; *
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who among you loves life *
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

13 Keep your tongue from evil-speaking *
and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good; *
seek peace and pursue it.

The Epistle

Ephesians 5:15-20

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise,
making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do

not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel

John 6:51-58

Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

Birthdays & Anniversaries August 19 - 25

Anniversaries

Birthdays

John Stoffer
Kathryn Morris

Lamp Dedications for this week:

Collect for Sunday, August 19th

Almighty God, who hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contact Information

