

## Contents

This Week's Readings

### Rector's Ramblings

#### Pray for me.

As Christians we are asked to do this regularly. Sometimes it comes with a specific request or a specific need. Other times it remains just as it was spoken. In all times we should honor the request, and as quickly as possible. We need to stop what we are doing and pray for the one making the request. I know that is not easy, but it is too easy to agree and then move on to the next thing while the prayer goes unsaid. All of us in those moments need to stop and pray.

But how do we pray and for what? Some of us are very good at extemporaneous prayers that are powerful or poetic. Others have use memorized prayers and phrases. Others pray in silence. All are good prayers. It is not the content, but the character of simply praying that is important and shows the love we have for another. In that love we commend each other to the mercy of God.

And that is what prayer is, asking for God to show mercy. If you need a prayer to pray with someone, or for someone, it is sufficient to simply pray, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon your servant \_\_\_\_." For God knows what mercy is needed in the moment and will be received. An anonymous saint is reported to have said, regarding prayer for others, that "The grace of God is like water, which when it comes into a field, is absorbed by the roots and gives to each tree whatever it is able to produce."

Pray for me, as I pray for you.

## The Good News

September 28, 2018



#### Coffee of the Week

Last week's service of the House Blend was seen as adequate, but not the best. This week we will feature a Breakfast Blend.

Still in the lead is for regular service is the Ethiopian Sidamo followed closely by the Kenya AA. Again, all coffee served in the month of September will be direct trade from Hemisphere Coffee Roasters.

If you would like individual 1lb packages, please let the office know.

#### Sunday Evensong

at 5:30 PM. All are invited.

#### Annual Stewardship Packets

We thank Karyn for her message to us last week on the Prodigal Son and the Elder Brother.

The annual packets will be distributed this week.

#### Deanery Meeting

Our delegates to Synod are reminded that our Deanery Meeting to view the Diocesan Budget will be held this Sunday at Trinity Church, Lincoln. The meeting begins at 2PM.

Of course, anyone interested in attending is invited.

#### Christian Formation

continues this week... We 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

In Christ,

Dave Halt, Rector  
309-660-8515



## Ministry Links



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

published before each session.

### **Children's Formation**

We offer Sunday School following our second service. Immediately after receiving Communion, the children will proceed to their classroom for a 50 minute session. Keep in mind, this isn't your mother's Sunday School! Our curriculum will help the children explore the Mass readings more deeply, but we will play together and pray together, too. In time, the older children will be able to coordinate their own prayer services-developing the habit of prayer, along with meditation and a lot of fun.

### **Spiritual Pilgrimage**

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Danville is hosting a Spiritual Pilgrimage to honor Our Lady of Walsingham on 14 October at 3:30 PM. The event will include a Solemn Vespers with Homily (The Rt. Rev. Tony Clavier) and a reception to follow.

We will arrange a car pool for anyone interested in attending and plan on leaving at 1:30 that afternoon. Please let the office know by 6 October if you wish to attend.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham was one of the most important pilgrimage sites in England during the Middle Ages, and is said to have rivaled the grave of St. Thomas Becket at Canterbury as the most beloved shrine in England.

More of the story of the Walsingham shrine can be found [here](#).

### **Theology Uncorked Date Change in October**

Will meet at 6PM on 21 October.

### **Outreach Opportunities**

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed school supplies for Oakland School. The teachers appreciate your generosity. Outreach will continue to collect and distribute supplies until the end of September. However, anyone can drop-off supplies to the school office throughout the year. Lists of needed items are on the bulletin board and near the drop-off boxes in the hallway. In addition, "Boxtops for Education" can be taken to the school or placed in the collection boxes in the narthex or on the bulletin board. If placed in the church boxes, they will be taken to the school periodically by someone from

the Outreach Committee.

Again, thank you for giving school supplies so that children can learn.

### **The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

### **Serving Schedule**

30-September

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Mona Johnstone

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Chris Bennett

Crucifer: Liam Halt

Thurifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Jim Cooper

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Valarie & Rex Schaeffer

7-October

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Chris Bennett

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Christian Pitts

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Thurifer: John Stoffer

Lector: Brad Bauman

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase & Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Gary Ploense

Coffee Hour: Cris Embree & Gary Ploense

### **St. Matthew's Schedule beginning September 30th**

*Coffee hour follows 10:00 worship in the Parish Hall*

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II (& Children's Sunday School after HE)

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

1:00 p.m.-Green Scouts

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

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

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Holy Eucharist followed by Adult Formation

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

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

6:00 p.m.-Girl Scouts

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

*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 September 30, 2018**

Hymns: #509, #444, #366, #587, #580

Old Testament

Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once-if I have found favor in your sight-and do not let me see my misery."

So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent,

and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!"

Psalm 19:7-14

*Caeli enarrant*

7 The law of the Lord is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*

the testimony of the Lord is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*

the commandment of the Lord is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean  
and endures for ever; \*

the judgments of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*

sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*

then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Epistle

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for

three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Gospel

Mark 9:38-50

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries September 30 - October 6**

### *Anniversaries*

Sue & Bill Jones

### *Birthdays*

Roger Thomas

Char Wald

Julie Bennett

Jeffrey Clark

Chgarles Gordon

Kelly Gray

Caroline Leighton

**Lamp Dedications for this week:**

### **Collect for Sunday, September 30th**

O God, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running to obtain thy promises, may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit one God, for ever.and ever Amen.

### **Contact Information**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

