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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Liturgical Dialogue

During the Liturgy there are several places where dialogue occurs between the Clergy and the People. Where the dialogue occurs mark important moments of transition in the service and are essential for the continuation. However, there are also moments that over the course of time have come to be understood as dialogue between Clergy and People that are not. In order to attempt to "un-muddy" these waters I offer the following.

1. Places of dialogue: The Salutation before the Collect of the Day, The Gospel Acclamation, The Invitation to Confession, The Peace, The Offertory, The Sursum Corda (Lift up your hearts!), The Invitation to Communion, and The Dismissal. Each of these contain various levels of direct address and may include a response. This is most often communicated by the clergy turning to the people, and may be marked by a gesture of open arms.

Of these the Salutation, Peace, and Sursum Corda (Lift up your hearts!) have responses that are essential to the service. The Salutation and Sursum Corda with the call "The Lord be with your" and response "And also with you", serve as an asking and receiving of permission by the Celebrant to continue to offer the Collect and the Holy Eucharist with the support of the people. The peace functions as a statement after the confession and absolution, that the clergy and people have been reconciled so that the liturgy may continue in accordance with Jesus'

The Good News

October 5, 2018



Coffee of the Week

The results are in and we have two winners. We will be purchasing Breakfast Blend and Ethiopia Sidamo for future Coffee Hours. Thank you for all your opinions and support of this move to Direct Trade Coffee.

Sunday Evensong & Pet Blessing

at 5:30 PM. All are invited. In honor of a belated St. Francis' Day the Blessing of Animals will take place within the Evensong. Yes, animals are welcome in the Church.

Annual Stewardship Packets

The annual packets will continue to be distributed this week. After this Sunday and remaining packets will be mailed.

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 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.

command to be reconciled before offering our gifts at the altar.

The Gospel Acclamation and Dismissal are unique in that the instruction/invitation are given by the clergy, but the response is directed to God.

2. "Muddy" places. These include the Opening Acclamation (Blessed be God...), The Words of Institution (This is my Body, This is my Blood), The Memorial Acclamation (Christ has died...), the introduction to the Lord's Prayer, and the Fraction (Christ our Passover...). These are not actually dialogues between the clergy and people, but are liturgical responses in the midst of prayers. The Opening Acclamation for example, has the celebrant starting the prayer and the congregation finishing it, but it is directed to God not to the clergy or the people.

The other three are essential to the continuation of the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, and are directed to God, as well. I know some clergy really like to make the Holy Eucharist "meaningful" by making eye contact and gesturing with the chalice or paten during the Words of Institution, but that is highly inappropriate, as the words are words of prayer to God and not conversation to the congregation. Besides, it is not my (i.e. the clergy's body and blood) that is being offered but Christ's.

The same holds true at the Memorial Acclamation. There is not a pause in the prayer to give instructions to the congregation to now repeat the mystery of faith, but a continuation of the Eucharistic Prayer with all voices directed to God in prayer together. To think of it otherwise disrupts the integrity of the entire prayer.

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.

Fall Book/DVD/Bake Sale

The Outreach Committee's fall Book/DVD/Bake Sale will be Saturday, October 27, 8 AM to 1 PM. Please bring your donations of books, DVDs, VHS and other recordings to the parish hall near the bookshelves or backdoor under the coat-rack. Jigsaw puzzles are also welcome. If you need help getting your donations to church, please call Debbie Leighton at 662-7478. Bake sale items will be accepted Thursday, October 25 through Saturday, October 27.

The Daily Devotional Reading

Thus, at the Lord's Prayer, the celebrant is making a statement to God that because of the work of Christ we are bold to pray in the words he taught us.

And at the Fraction the priest is not saying "look everyone the bread is broken" so please respond accordingly. The priest is actually continuing in the vein of the Eucharistic Prayer and giving thanks for the sacrifice of Christ and the gift of the Eucharist, to which the gathered respond to God with thanksgiving and commitment.

Of course, these moments may be instructive for participation in the Eucharist and making our response, but that is a secondary function to their liturgical and prayerful nature.

I hope that understanding each of our roles in the liturgy and how it functions, enhances not just our appreciation, but our participation in the work (liturgy) that God has given us.

In Christ,

Dave Halt, Rector
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

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

Worship Serving Schedule

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 Kohlhasse & Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Gary Ploense

Coffee Hour: Cris Embree & Gary Ploense

14-October

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Julie Bennett

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Ann Sokan

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Phyllis & Dave Halt

St. Matthew's Schedule beginning October 7th

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

Saturday-8:30 a.m.-Women's breakfast

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 October 7, 2018

Hymns: #480, #448

Old Testament

Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Psalm 8

Domine, Dominus noster

1 O Lord our Governor, *

how exalted is your Name in all the world!

2 Out of the mouths of infants and children *

your majesty is praised above the heavens.

3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, *

to quell the enemy and the avenger.

4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, *

the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? *

the son of man that you should seek him out?

6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; *

you adorn him with glory and honor;

7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; *

you put all things under his feet:

8 All sheep and oxen, *

even the wild beasts of the field,

9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, *

and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
10 O Lord our Governor, *
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

The Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

The Gospel

Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Birthdays & Anniversaries October 7 - 13

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Kia Griffin

Robert Wolfe

Fr. Dave Halt

Dedications for this week:

The Altar flowers have been donated in the memory of

Steve Waldron

and in honor of his birthday, by his family

Collect for Sunday, October 7th

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son 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

