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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

In last Sunday's homily I used the quote from Jaroslav Pelikan that, "Tradition is the living faith of the dead, traditionalism is the dead faith of the living." He went on to say, "And, I suppose, I should add, it is traditionalism that gives tradition such a bad name." (The Vindication of Tradition).

What underlies the quote is not the outward expression of the faith, but the inner reality of the Tradition as passed down and experienced by each succeeding generation. A core part of that tradition, or what St. Paul refers to as "of first importance" (1 Cor. 15.3) is Christ crucified for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, buried, raised in accordance with the scriptures, and appearing to those who followed him. This is our living faith passed on to us by those who have gone before.

The purpose of the each individual church, and individual in the church, is to have a living experience of that faith and to pass it on to the next generation. Everything we do as a church is to be compared with this Gospel and tested by it.

The Good News

February 15, 2019



Our Current Officers and Leadership

Mission Leadership Team

Sr. Warden: Jim Cooper

Jr. Warden: Gary Ploense

Treasurer: Rex Schaeffer

Elected 2019:

Shelley Brenneman-Carter

Roy Laws

Justin Brooks

Continuing:

Roger Hollis

Jeff Clark

Kathryn Morris

Delegates to Synod

Jim Cooper

Gary Ploense

Susan Long

2018 Contribution Statements

Your giving statements are printed and available for pick-up. If at all possible, please collect these from the glass-top cabinet in the main hallway. It saves the church 55 cents per envelope in postage, which goes a long way in effective stewardship. **We will mail any remaining statements after this week.**

Bible Study and Midweek Eucharist

The regularly scheduled Eucharist and Bible Study resumes this Wednesday. Eucharist at 5:30PM and Bible Study at 6PM. It is perfectly acceptable to bring your dinner with you to Bible

This is why we have liturgy, not for the sake of its own beauty, but in how it proclaims the gospel of Christ crucified, died, buried, resurrected, and appearing.

This Sunday, as you worship with the Body of Christ, listen for the Tradition, the Gospel, and note how and where the living faith is proclaimed in what we do together.

Blessings,

Dave+
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

Study.

Shrove Tuesday

The Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, March 5. The men of the church will gather between 4 and 5 to prep and begin cooking. Dinner will be served beginning at 5 and ending at 6:30.

A freewill donation will be accepted to offset the cost of the meal, and any funds raised above expenses will go towards defraying the cost of our parish fellowship events.

Please come out and bring your family and friends!

Fellowship Breakfasts

Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, the 16th, at 8:00 a.m.

All members and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend and enjoy the fellowship at these casual and friendly events.

Bob Cooper's 90th Birthday Open House

Everyone is invited, Sunday February 17th, 3-5 p.m.

His family is holding an open house in:

Luther Oaks Dining Room
601 Lutz Road

Please come and enjoy cake and fellowship with Bob, but birthday cards are the only gift they request.

Pre-Lenten Retreat

Fr. Dave and Deacon Tim will be attending the Diocesan clergy pre-Lenten retreat the 25th-27th of February.

Outreach Opportunities

The January-February Outreach program is non-perishable foods for the Salvation Army. Please bring canned goods and nutritious boxed foods to share.

Outreach-Education

Advent Chakupewa, son of Bishop Elias, is continuing school to become a doctor. His tuition is annually \$2273 + \$1836 for room & board, but this is far more than his family and community can provide. St. Matthew's hopes to continue his support in this valuable ministry. If you wish to participate,

please make funds available to St. Matthew's with the notation:
Outreach-Education.

*"...I have nothing to offer to those who raised their funds and
prayers than to pray for them, Amen."*

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

10-February 2019

7:30

Greeter: Dede & Doug Dyson

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt

Crucifer: Christian Pitts

Lector: Sandy Kohlhase

E.M.: Jack Pitts & Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Teresa Shorn

17-February 2019

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Kathryn Morris

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Thurifer: John Stoffer

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Shelley Carter

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Chrissy & John Stoffer

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of February 17th

Coffee hour follows 10AM worship in Parish Hall

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II

10:40 a.m.--Sunday School for Children

1:00 p.m.-Green Scouts

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

Monday-5:00 p.m.-WMFY classes
Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
10:00 a.m.--Quilters
4:30 p.m.-WMFY monthly all levels
6:00 p.m.-Zumba
Wednesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
5:30 p.m.-Holy Eucharist
6:00 p.m.-Adult Bible Study
Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer & breakfast
Friday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer
Saturday-7:30 a.m.-Zumba

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 February 17, 2019

Hymns: #440, #635, #558

Old Testament

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.
They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse--

who can understand it?

I the Lord test the mind

and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *

nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment
comes, *

nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

The New Testament

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

Birthdays & Anniversaries February 17 - 23

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Bob Cooper

Ron Gordon

Lynn Gray

Dedications for this week:

*The Memorial lamp is lit in loving memory of
Mary Fran Dyson and Patricia Ann Solomon
by Kathie & Loren Dyson*

Collect for the 6th Sunday after Epiphany, February 17th

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in thee;
Mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness
of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant
us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we
may please thee both in will and deed; 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

