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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings



I admit to having a special love for good religious imagery. A good image communicates timeless truth and leads us to awe, silence and prayer. I love our architecture and aesthetic at St. Matthew's because it is not only good "art", but it "works"

One of the great things about our pilgrimage was the opportunity to engage with the different eras of Iconography. Some "worked" and some did not. I was moved by 10th Century frescoes and massive contemporary Icon screens with ornate wood carving. Each proclaimed the Gospel in a unique way. Each was an invitation to prayer and reflection.

One of my favorites was St. Luke's Monastery where the main Iconography was done in mosaic. Here the church is dedicated to the Dormition of the Theotokos and Mary is depicted regularly in the icons. Each of the two small towers (one on the Gospel side and

The Good News

June 21, 2019



Grubby Sunday

The Mission Leadership Team invites you to participate in "Grubby Sunday" this Sunday, **June 23**.

Wear your grubby clothes to church for the 10AM service that day and help us do a bit of late spring cleaning during coffee hour.

Many hands make light work.

Fun Summer Fellowship

Sunday, June 30th will be the next gathering sponsored by the Parish Mission Council. Following the 10 AM service, enjoy a fabulous BBQ pulled pork luncheon. Please bring a dish to pass. Meat, buns, condiments, table service and drinks are provided. Come enjoy fellowship and great food. Event held rain or shine. Sign up sheet available outside the Parish Hall.

Weather permitting the 10AM service will be held outdoors. The 7:30 service will still be held, but we encourage everyone to attend the later service if possible. If not, please come back for the fellowship!

Outreach Opportunities

Items of the Month

During the months of May and June the Outreach Committee will be collecting items for St. Vincent dePaul food pantry. St. Vincent's provides assistance to the homeless and working poor of our communities. We at St. Matthew's can actively help by contributing items like those listed here:

one on the Epistle side) just before the apse contains an icon of Mary with the infant Jesus. They are the same icon, almost. The colors are the same the content is almost the same, the main difference is in the hands. On the left tower she holds Christ in the left hand and points to him with her right. On the right tower is a mirror image. In the apse Mary holds Christ in her lap with her right hand holding his shoulder and her left hand pointing towards him at foot level and towards the altar. The harmony is beautiful.

But what to make of it? There are multiple levels of meaning, but the one that I took away is that Mary is always pointing to Christ as if to say, "Here is the one you seek." No matter where you turn she was there pointing out the Way, not herself.

Here is an important point for all of us who call upon the name of Jesus, our lives are to not to point to ourselves but to Him.

Dave+
309-660-8515

canned vegetables
peanut butter
tuna fish, and other canned meats
rice and cereals, especially cereals individually wrapped in packets
beans, both dry and canned
water and fruit juice
baby diapers and baby wipes

Contributions may be placed in baskets in the narthex or the hall.

Thank you from volunteers at the pantry, as they are very grateful.

Thanks

A belated big thank you from the Outreach Committee to everyone who helped make the Spring Book/DVD/Bake Sale a huge success. More than \$1200 was raised. Special thanks to everyone who helped with set-up and returning the parish hall to its normal state.

Midweek Activities

Midweek services and Bible study will resume on 3 July.

Fr. Dave needs help with a topic for the study. Share your thoughts with him.

The Daily Devotional Reading

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

Worship Serving Schedule

23-June 2019

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Kathryn Morris

10:00

Acolyte: Jack Pitts

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: John Stoffer

E.M.: Bob Kohlhasse

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Martha Lakin & Linda Stawick

30-June 2019

7:30



Ministry Links



St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson
Lector: Bill Johns
E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00
Acolyte: Alley Roberson
Crucifer: Brad Bauman
Thurifer: Emily Lavikoff
Lector: Jim Cooper
E.M.: Emily Lavikoff & Robin Levine
Monday Counter: Roy Laws
Coffee Hour: Valerie & Rex Schaeffer

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of June 23

Coffee hour follows 10AM worship in Parish Hall

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II

11:15 a.m.-"Grubby Sunday" in-house work project

6:00 p.m.-MLT meeting

Monday-5:00 p.m.-WMFY classes

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

10:30 a.m.--Quilters depart for Mackinaw

6:00 p.m.-Zumba

Wednesday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer

2:00 p.m.-Private Music Lessons

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Holy Eucharist & breakfast

2:00 p.m.-Private Music Lessons

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

Saturday-8:00 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 June 23, 2019

Hymns: #390, #610, #377, #575, #529

Old Testament

Isaiah 65:1-9

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"

to a nation that did not call on my name.

I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,

following their own devices;

a people who provoke me

to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;
who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;
who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."
These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.
See, it is written before me:
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their laps
their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the Lord;
because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.
Thus says the Lord:
As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"
so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.
I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

Psalm 22:18-27

Deus, Deus meus

18 Be not far away, O Lord; *
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
19 Save me from the sword, *
my life from the power of the dog.
20 Save me from the lion's mouth, *
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; *
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.
24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship
him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to
the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.

The Epistle

Galatians 3:23-29

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

The Gospel

Luke 8:26-39

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me" -- for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had

been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Birthdays & Anniversaries June 23 - 30

Anniversaries

Patty & Jack Pitts

Birthdays

Christian Pitts

Sarah Pitts

Jennifer Jordan

Josephine Brooks

Liz Gordon

Dedications for this week:

Collect for 2nd Sunday after Pentecost, June 23rd

O Lord, we beseech thee, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name, for thou never failest to help and govern those whom thou hast set upon the sure foundation of thy loving-kindness; 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

