

Rector's Ramblings

During Lent we will be celebrating all services on Sunday according to Rite I. If you attend primarily at 10AM, please pay close attention to the page numbers of the Book of Common Prayer during services as the responses are slightly different than what we are used to giving.

In some Parishes it is customary to make this change to the liturgy in Lent as Rite I is viewed as being the "penitential" version of the Holy Eucharist. I think part of this is due to it being kept in the "traditional" or "Elizabethan" version of English.

However, as I have studied the differences between Rite I and Rite II, I am continually impressed that Rite I, while reinforcing the need for mercy, proclaims the mercy of God towards us in a significantly clearer manner than Rite II. If we listen to the words of the liturgy in Rite I we will hear the Gospel promise proclaimed clearly. We will hear in the "comfy words" that follow confession that, yes, we have sinned, but



From the Jr. Warden

I would like to make a friendly challenge to my fellow members of St. Matthew's. I would like each of you to bring someone new, a friend, relative, co-worker, to something at St. Matthew's. It can be a Sunday morning worship service, Wednesday night adult formation, Evensong, morning prayer, theology uncorked, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, or any other activity here. We have the good news; let's share it with the people we care about.

Gary Ploense
Junior Warden

Confessions

There is an old saying about Episcopalians and confession, "All may, some should, none must".

For those desiring to make a confession during Lent, opportunity will be given from 4-5:30P and 6-6:30P on Fridays.

Lenten Series

Our Lenten series will take place on Wednesday evenings

God is faithful and forgives our sin and that he loved the World enough to send his Son, and that the Son promises rest for our souls. We will proclaim in the Prayer of Humble Access that the "property" of God is always to have mercy.

Of course, as a language person, I am also a big fan of "Thee/Thy/Thine/Thou". Not because they are archaic forms, but due to their meaning. Often these archaic forms are confused for being impersonal and formal when compared to our modern "you". However, in the time of the first Book of Common Prayer "thou" was the intimate and familiar form of the second person singular pronoun. When we use it to reference the Persons of the Holy Trinity, we are really claiming an intimate connection with God.

I have always found Rite I to be gentle liturgy and encourage thee to enter into it in the spirit in which it is meant.

Praying thou has an Holy Lent.

Dave+
309-660-8515

beginning with Eucharist at 5:30. At 6PM we will be reading, and praying, together through sayings of the Desert Fathers and Mothers on the life of prayer, spiritual disciplines, and forgiveness. We will end each evening with Compline.

This Wednesday is an Ember Day (days for which we specially pray for the increase of the ministry and the clergy), and we will have a Votive Eucharist for the Ministry.

Breakfast Fellowships

There will be no Women's Breakfast in March, and Men's Breakfast meets on the 21st at 8AM (location TBD).

Bridal Shower

A potluck bridal brunch/shower for Sarah Halt will be held in the Parish Hall on March 14th at 10AM. RSVPs can be made at this [link](#).

Outreach Opportunities

ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

HEARTLAND HEADSTART PANTRY DRIVE

Heartland Head Start works to educate children and empower families. The goal of our family work is to help our families be as independent as possible. When families are trying to move from dependence on Government help to independence, we try to fill in the gaps as they grow. For example; As family income increases government help decreases, leaving the family still in need. We provide what we can so that their paychecks go farther while they are making this transition. Our families use Snap cards (that diminish with rising paychecks) and food pantries. We try to make available items that cannot be obtained at these sources, often coming out of the pockets of our staff members. This is where I ask for your help. We try to maintain a small pantry of non- food items for our families, I am asking St. Matthew's outreach committee to hold a drive for our family pantry. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Patty Pitts

Heartland Head Start Home Educator

Shampoo
Soap/bodywash
Deodorant
Children's bath products

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield

[Rector's Blog \(new\)](#)

Find us on Instagram--stmattsblm

Twitter--@BloomingtonSt

Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Toilet paper
Paper towels
Diapers (all sizes) (NO NEWBORNS)
Baby wipes
Laundry detergent
Dryer sheets
Cleaning supplies
Hand soap
Dish soap
Kitchen garbage bags
Gas card
Wall mart gift cards

Book/DVD/Bake Sale

The spring Book/DVD/Bake sale will be on Saturday, March 21, 8 AM -1 PM. Please bring donations to the parish hall and place near the bookshelves. Bake sale items can be brought to the church on Thursday or Friday, March 19-20 or on the morning of the sale. Sale set-up will be Friday, March 20, 3-6 PM. Any amount of time you can help is much appreciated by the Outreach Committee. Any questions call Debbie Leighton at 662-7478.

Advent Time

Advent is enrolled in year 3 of a 5 year course to become a doctor. He is the son of Bishop Elias in Tanzania. In US dollars, his tuition would be \$2,273 per year. Room & Board is an additional \$1826 annually. Anyone wishing to help Advent with his education can make checks to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church; putting Outreach-Education in the memo line. God Bless, and we thank you

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

1-March 2020

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Kathryn Morris

10:00

Acolyte: Liam Halt

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Thurifer: Emily Lavikoff

Lector: Harlan Noel

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Susan & Eric Teoro

8-March 2020

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Jack Pitts

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Karyn Smith

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Susan & Jeffrey Clark

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of March 1

Coffee Hour fellowship follows worship in the Parish Hall.

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m.-Holy Eucharist

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

Monday-9:00 a.m.-B-N Community Co-operative *

11:00 a.m.-Private Music Lessons *

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

10:00 a.m.-Quilters

Wednesday-1:30 p.m.-Private Music Lessons *

5:30 p.m.-Mid-week Holy Eucharist

6:00 p.m.-Adult Study

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

9:00 a.m.-Moms in Prayer *

2:00 p.m.-Private Music Lessons *

Friday-5:30 p.m-Stations of the Cross

Saturday-9:00 a.m.-B-N Community Co-operative Meeting *

2:00 p.m.-Private Music Lessons *

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

** Authorized Group--St. Matthew's guests*

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 March 1, 2020

Hymns: #142, #448, #688

Old Testament

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Psalm 32

Beati quorum

1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!

2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *

and in whose spirit there is no guile!

3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.

4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in
time of trouble; *

when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *

you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should
go; *

I will guide you with my eye.

10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no
understanding;*

who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

The Epistle

Romans 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of

grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Birthdays & Anniversaries March 1 - 7

Anniversaries

Dede & Doug Dyson

Birthdays

Heather Mather

Jane Shadid

George Dyson

Roger Hunt
Matt Matsuda

Dedications for this week:

First Sunday in Lent, March 1st

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan: Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations; and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

