

**Rector's
Ramblings**

I like music. I was reminded this week of how eclectic my taste is, and how it has changed over the years as I spent time going through boxes of CDs to digitize or discard. Since I no longer have a CD player, some of these haven't been played in years, and some I forgot I had in the collection. Yet, all at one time or another played an important part of the soundtrack of my life.

I wonder if you can track emotional and spiritual development in the choice of music that is playing in an individual's soundtrack? I wonder what it would say about me? Would it show what I valued, or even my strongest priorities? Does the music with which I fill my days have an effect on my mood, my behavior, and on my relationships?

I wonder what happens to us when we fill our days with the soundtrack of beauty and grace? What happens if we fill our days with the soundtrack of discord?

Of course, it is not simply music that creates the soundtrack of our lives. After

**Corrected Information in This Newsletter**

It is with apologies that this is re-sent. I must have sprung on the mind and marched right past February. Thank you for your forbearance.

Dave

Wednesday Evening

Our Wednesday Evening study will focus on "The History of the Episcopal Church" starting this Wednesday. Our topic for this week will be "Parties & Particularity".

The Eucharist will be a commemoration of The Rev. Absalom Jones (1818). Fr. Jones was the first African-American ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests in The Episcopal Church.

Eucharist is celebrated at 5:30. Study begins at 6.

Chili and Soup Cook-off/Trivia Night

Come join the fun on Saturday, February 8 for our 2nd annual chili/soup cook off! Please bring your favorite chili or soup. No need to bring a whole pot - only about 12 servings. If you'd rather, bring any accompaniments (crackers, bread, muffins, etc.) or a dessert, or just come for the fun and some good eats!

all, the Grammys have a category for the spoken word. What is in the spoken, and unspoken, soundtrack of our lives? How does that reflect, and effect, our moods, attitudes, and relationships.

St. Paul tells us to keep in mind whatever is "just, whatever is pure, what ever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise" (Philippians 4.8).

May these things be your personal soundtrack.

See you Sunday!

Dave+
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield

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

Find us on Instagram--stmattsbldm
Twitter--@BloomingtonSt

There will be a trivia contest so come and have lots of fun on Saturday, February 8 at 6PM!

Tuesday Quilters

Tuesday, February 11th, luncheon out - please meet at Jim's Steakhouse. Go directly to Jim's rather than gathering at church.

Breakfast Fellowships

Women's Breakfast meets tomorrow, 8 February, at 8:30AM in the Parish Hall.

Men's Breakfast meets on 15 February at 8AM in the Parish Hall.

Evensong

Will be celebrated on Sunday at 5:30.

Theology Uncorked

Meets this Sunday at 6PM.

Mission Leadership Team

Will meet on Sunday the 16th at 6PM.

Shrove Tuesday

The traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on 25 February. We will begin serving at 5:00 and go until 6:30. Please invite others to join us in this last feast before Lent.

Ash Wednesday

Spoken Rite I service will be celebrated at 7AM.

Sung Rite II service will be celebrated at 7 PM.

2019 Giving Statements

Your annual giving statements are printed and available in the hallway outside the parish hall. Please help us avoid the high cost of postage by remembering to collect your statement before tax season gets in full swing.

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
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

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

9-February 2020

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Chris Bennett

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

10:00

Acolyte: Shelley Carter

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Sandy Kohlhase

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Pam Laws

Coffee Hour: Valerie & Rex Schaeffer

16-February 2020

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

10:00

Acolyte: Harlan Noel

Crucifer: Christian Pitts

Thurifer: John Stoffer

Lector: Shelley Carter

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Julie & Jim Cooper

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of February 9

Coffee Hour fellowship follows worship in the Parish Hall.

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II
5:30 p.m.-Evensong
6:00 p.m.-Theology Uncorked
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.-Morning Prayer & breakfast
9:00 a.m.-Moms in Prayer *
2:00 p.m.-Private Music Lessons *
Friday-
Saturday-8:00 a.m.-Men's breakfast

*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 February 9, 2020

Hymns: #381, #488, #505, #543

Old Testament

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

"Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today

will not make your voice heard on high.
Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

Psalm 112:1-10

Beatus vir

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *

and have great delight in his commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;

they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

10 The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"- these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what

human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

The Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Anniversaries
Kathie & Loren Dyson

Birthdays
Donna Dyson
June Gault
Jarod Roberson

Dedications for this week:

5th Sunday after Epiphany, February 9th

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins and give us, we beseech thee, the liberty of that abundant life which thou hast manifested to us in thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

