



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
McHenry, IL



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## Weekly ePistle

March 6, 2019

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*New and Notable.*

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### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Tonight at 7:00 pm

Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

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### Thoughts from Bill

#### THE TEST

The Gospel reading for the upcoming First Sunday in Lent tells the story of the devil tempting Jesus in the wilderness. After several deeply theological promises which Jesus refused in every case, He tells the devil, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

This is a central part of the Lord's Prayer. In the familiar form, it is "And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil." In the more contemporary form, it is "Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil."

Lent is a time of testing and God is hoping we come up with the right answers. Jesus said on one occasion, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." (John 8/32 NRSV)

Jesus gave true answers to the devil's temptations, having to do with wealth, power, and immortality. All of these imprison us emotionally, spiritually, and physically. We desperately need to find God's freedom in Jesus Christ that truly sets us free from the snares of Satan.

Which of these temptations of the devil to Jesus, imprisons you? Wealth? Power? Immortality? Let's take this forty days and forty nights to truly grow emotionally, spiritually, and physically. Yes, Lord, "Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil."

*The Rev. William P. McLemore  
Priest Associate, Retired*

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*In case you missed it...*

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### **St. Paul's Offers Labyrinth Walks During Lent**

St. Paul's will hold weekly labyrinth walks twice daily on Thursdays starting March 14th to members of our community during Lent. St. Paul parishioners will act as docents to members of the community as they walk the labyrinth. There is no cost to walk the Labyrinth. Hours are 11am-1pm and 5pm-7:30pm.

The labyrinth is a spiritual tool that has many applications in various settings. It reduces stress, quiets the mind and opens the heart. It is a walking meditation, a path of prayer, and a blue-print where psyche meets Spirit, says the Reverend Dr. Lauren Artress, Creator of The Labyrinth Project and President of Veriditas.

A labyrinth is not the same as a maze. With a labyrinth there are no decisions to be made, no tricks, no dead ends, and its whole is always visible. A maze, on the other hand, is a puzzle with many possible routes. Mazes are meant to disorient the seeker. A labyrinth has only one path that leads the seeker into the center and back out again. Each walk is a different experience for each person. Labyrinths have been in existence since before Christ. For more information about labyrinths please go to: [www.veriditas.org](http://www.veriditas.org).

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*The usual fare...*

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## ***On the Calendar...***

### **Labyrinth Hours -**

Thursdays, 11am-1pm, 5:00pm-7:30pm starting March 14

**Vestry** - Thursday, March 21, 6:30 pm

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### **Lessons and Hymns for this Sunday, March 10, 2019**

First Sunday in Lent (Year C)

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

#### **THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

**The Old Testament:** Deuteronomy 26:1-11. Moses leads the people to the promised land. **Psalm 91:1-2,9-16.** "He who dwells in the sheer of the Most High, abides under the shadow of the Almighty." **The Epistle:** Romans 10:8b-13. Paul insists that there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." **The Gospel:** Luke 4:1-13. This tells of the temptation of Jesus by the devil.

#### **THE HYMNS:**

**Processional:** No. 150. "Forty days and forty nights." This is one of the three Lenten poems by George Hunt Smyttan published in the "Penny Post VI" (1856). The original version had nine stanzas and our hymnal includes the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th of the nine, though greatly altered over the years. The tune called "Heinlein" in the 1940 Hymnal is "Aus der Tiefe rufe ich". In our new 1982 Hymnal, the actual melody is attributed to Martin Herbst (1654-1681) and later harmonized by William Monk (1823-1889).

**Sequence:** No. 635. "If thou but trust in God to guide thee." This hymn is new to the Episcopal 1982 Hymnal (though almost four centuries old). It was written and composed by Georg Neumark (16 March 1621 - 8 July 1681), a German poet and composer of hymns. In 1640 he began law studies, but fearing the tumult of war, he took a position as tutor instead. This particular hymn was written for himself as much as anyone else as he feared war so much: "God will give thee strength whate'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days."

**Presentation:** No. 706. "In your mercy Lord." Born in Aldersgate, London in 1789, the son of a bookseller, Josiah Conder (1789-1855) helped in his father's store and self-educated himself there. When he was six, a severe case of smallpox blinded him in his right eye. The hymn may reflect his own conversion process as it describes vividly what happens when a person moves from being self-centered to Christ-centered. The words were adapted for this hymnal by the Rev. Dr. Charles Philip Price (1920-1999), the late Professor of Systematic Theology at Virginia Seminary. The tune, "Halton Holgate," was composed by William Boyce (1711-1779), one of the most significant English composers of the 18th century.

**Communion:** "Let the broken ones be healed." This short song will be used for our communion hymn during Lent. It was written by the Rev. Michael Hudson in his "Songs for the Cycle," (c) 2004.

**Recessional:** No. 149. "Eternal Lord of love." This hymn was written by Thomas Henry Cain, born 1931, and is based upon the image of the church as a people on a journey towards the God of glory. The tune is the Old 124th composed or adapted by Louis Bourgeois for the Geneva Psalter of 1551.

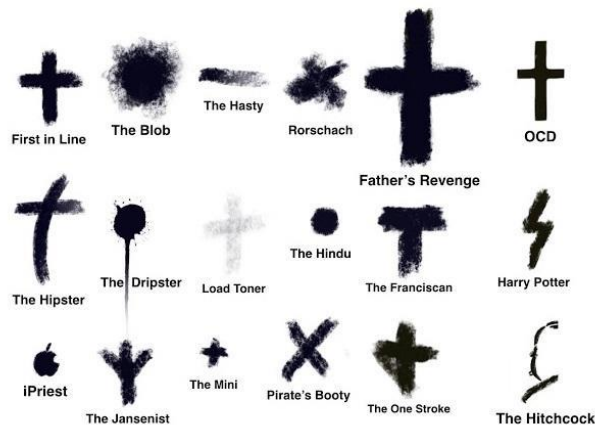
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## Servants for March 10th

Bill Lang, Don Jaworski- *Ushers*  
Rick Carlstedt - *Intercessor*  
Judy Robel - *Eucharistic Minister*  
Pam Dietmeyer - *Vestry Person of the Day*  
Angie Lang - *Children's Crucifer*  
Beth Lukas, Nan Patnaude - *Altar Guild, Flower Guild*

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## *A Guide to Ashes*



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*Episcopal Cafe*  
*Lectionary Calendar*  
*Forward Day by Day*

**Vestry Minutes**  
*November 2018*  
*December 2018*  
*January 2019*

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