

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



Weekly ePistle

April 17, 2019

New and Notable...

MAUNDY THURSDAY AGAPE MEAL

All are invited – even if you didn't sign-up – to come to the Agape Meal at 7pm Thursday evening. This promises to be a new and wonderful experience of the Eucharistic feast which we share week after week. If you can, bring a salad, loaf of bread, and wine. But even if you can't, come anyway! (See Bill's article about Maundy Thursday below.)

EASTER MORNING

Please bring a small plate of something sweet or savory to share at Coffee Hour on Sunday morning. Oh, and something for the grocery cart, the contents of which have now been taken to the TLS food pantry. It's time to fill it up again!



Holy Week

St. Paul's † 2019

Maundy Thursday

Agape Meal followed by the
Stripping of the Altar
April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross, April 19, Noon
Good Friday Liturgy – Adoration of the Cross and
Mass of the Pre-sanctified Gifts - April 19, 7:00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil

St. Ann's Episcopal Church
503 W. Jackson, Woodstock
April 21 at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Day

Festival Eucharist of the Resurrection
April 22, 10:00 a.m.

Thoughts from Lori

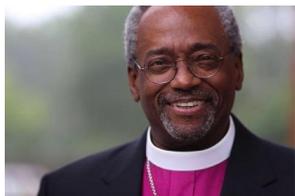
I don't know about you, but I was completely absorbed as I watched news updates on the fire in Paris on Monday. Bill and I were there in 2013 for a family wedding and waited in a long line to get into Notre Dame Cathedral, and it was well worth it! In fact, we paid the extra fee to see the sacristy with its sacred vessels and vestments. All of it – the nave, the statuary, the art, stained glass, flying buttresses – all of it was glorious.

Watching the famed spire tumble in flames was a terrible reminder of the impermanence of all earthly things. So now it is with these thoughts in mind that we enter into the last days of Holy Week, remembering the words of Ash Wednesday: Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return. And yet, even as the world pledges to rebuild the great cathedral, we have the pledge of the Resurrection. On Maundy Thursday, we will recall the Last Supper and Jesus' new commandment: that we love one another as he has loved us.

On Good Friday, we will walk the Stations of the Cross at noon, and at 7pm, hear the Solemn Collects and partake of the Mass of Pre-sanctified Gifts. Then we are invited to The Great Easter Vigil at St. Ann's, Woodstock, at 8pm the evening of the 20th. Easter morning promises to be a glorious celebration of the Resurrection here at St. Paul's. These

events, especially Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Eve are really one service! Together they are known as the Triduum. I invite you to experience this as preparation for the Easter Feast.
May God bless us with joy and wonder in it all!

Faithfully,
Lori+



Presiding Bishop Curry: Easter Message

“In the moments of despair, in the moments of the worst darkness, God had done something incredible,” Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop and Primate Michael B. Curry said in his Easter 2019 Message. “God had raised Jesus from the dead.”

The video is available [here](#).



The Rev. Bill McLemore and his children's message on Palm Sunday

In case you missed it...



THE AGAPE MEAL

by Bill McLemore

Maundy Thursday, April 18th, 7:00 P.M., Bill McLemore will be the “Abba-Father” for an Agape Meal which is loosely tied to the Jewish Passover. We know that on this night we commemorate the abbreviated Passover that Jesus had with his disciples (“Last Supper”).

The Passover was a special meal, lead by the father or grandfather that celebrated God’s salvation of Israel. It is a special dinner which included scripture readings, prayers, songs, and sharing wine and bread.

The whole service will be in the Parish Hall with everyone seated at one table. I am

asking everyone to bring a salad and bread to share. Wine, if desired, may also be brought to have with the meal. The radish was a part of the Passover menu so a few of these might garnish some salads.

The atmosphere will be relaxed, informal, and “family” oriented. Please make plans to come and share in this Agape Meal. Those who wish may join the Altar Guild to strip the Holy Table for Good Friday afterwards.

All are welcome. Please join us!



We are in need of Coffee Hour Volunteers! If you can help out once a month, it would be greatly appreciated. This is an easy way to serve St. Paul's. Coffee is provided. There's a sign up sheet next to the kitchen. Call the office if you have any questions!

The usual fare...

On the Calendar...

Maundy Thursday/Agape Meal—April 18, 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday—Stations of the Cross, April 19, Noon
Good Friday Liturgy—Adoration of the Cross, April 19, 7:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil at St. Ann's - April 21, 8:00 p.m.
Easter Day— April 22, 10:00 a.m.
Vestry - Thursday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.

Lessons and Hymns for Easter Day, April 21, 2019

(Year C)

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

The First Lesson: Isaiah 65:17-25. God is rejoicing in Jerusalem. **The Second Lesson:** Acts 10:34-43. The Book of Acts tells the story of the early church, and here we have a sermon by Peter on the death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. **The Epistle.** I Corinthians 15:19-26. The Apostle Paul tells of the spiritual importance of the resurrection of Jesus affirming that we “all will be made alive in Christ.” **The Gospel:** Luke 24:1-12. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James and other women discover the empty tomb and inform the apostles and Peter, disbelieving, had to run to the tomb to check for himself.

THE HYMNS: (Note: Easter is the **FIRST** holy day observed by early Christians. Thus, many of the hymns are very ancient. They regarded this day as the most holy and joyous time of the whole year. The music is best sung with spirit, movement, and happy hearts!

ProceSSIONAL: No. 179. "Welcome Happy Morning." This hymn, along with other Easter music, is the creation of the Italian-born poet, Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (c540-600). It was translated into English by the prolific British hymn writer, the Rev. John Ellerton (1826-1893). The music was composed by Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900) and is given the name, "Fortunatus," in honor of the author.

Sequence: "Celtic Alleluia." This was written and composed by Fintan O'Carroll, born July 31, 1922 in Wexford, England. On completion of his secondary school studies, he took up a position as a clerk in the national railway. He won first prize in a traditional music competition, aged 12, playing violin, and went on to study violin at home, taking lessons as the opportunity arose. His heart was in music, and he left his railway position in 1967 after 27 years of service, whereupon he completed his degree at Trinity to gain his Bachelor of Music degree.

Presentation: No. 180. "He is risen, He is risen." Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), the wife of a Bishop of the Church of Ireland, wrote this hymn in the late 1800's. She was a prolific poet and wrote nearly 400 hymns and poems. The hymn not only relates the joy of the resurrection, but calls for witness to it: "Tell it out with joyful voice." Joachim Neander (1650-1680) is the composer of the tune, "Unser Herrscher."

Communion: "Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God's holy name." This hymn is a 1991 paraphrase of Psalm 103 from the Taize Community in France. It was founded by Brother Roger Schutz, with the goal of "building a life together in which the gospel of reconciliation would be a concretely lived reality." During the war he helped people in difficulty and hosted German refugees. In 1942, the Gestapo threatened to arrest Brother Roger, who fled to Switzerland until the end of the war.

Recessional: No. 207. "Jesus Christ is Risen Today." This classic hymn for Easter dates back to a 14th century Bohemian carol. Over the years, it has been continuously altered and the fourth and final verse was written by Charles Wesley. The tune, "Easter Hymn," is from the English, "Lyrica Davidica," published in London in 1708.

Servants for April 21st

Bill and Patrice Braun - *Ushers*

Michelle Wiejaczka - *Lector*

Barb Moriarty, Jeffrey Zabor - *Eucharistic Ministers*

Rick Carlstedt - *Vestry Person of the Day*

Bella Pecoraro - *Children's Crucifer*

From the studio of William P. McLemore



"I am afraid our new priest
is losing his mind... Sunday he said that the day before
Good Friday is Monday Thursday!"

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