

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



Weekly ePistle
April 24, 2019

New and Notable...



Thoughts from Bill

Those Who Haven't Seen

Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29 NRSV)

Belief for the people of Jesus' day was always a matter of trust. Trust isn't hard when you are part of a family and have regular contact with those you love and care about. Thomas was part of Jesus' family of the disciples. How could he trust the Risen Lord Jesus Christ? Because Jesus showed him his wounds.

We can't touch the person of Jesus. Jesus knew this would be a problem for those who came after he rose from the dead and ascended to heaven. So just before his betrayal and crucifixion, he met with his disciples and had a Passover meal of bread and wine. He said that the bread and wine would be the way they could "touch" him: "This is my Body given for you; this is my Blood shed for you."

How well do we trust Jesus? More than two thousand years have passed since Our Lord walked this earth. But his promise continues in the presence of his body and his blood at our recreation of the supper he had with his disciples. It is as if Christ's words echo to us as we receive the sacred gifts of bread and wine (Body and Blood).

“Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Faithfully,
Bill +



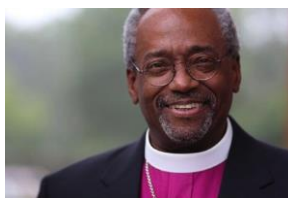
The Rev. Bill McLemore and his children's message on Easter Sunday



Saturday, August 24th
9:00 - 3:00 pm

Mark your calendars for our next flea market! We'll have vendors both outside and inside, so if you'd like to reserve a space, give Lisa a call in the office. There will be baked goods for sale, and possibly a raffle! There are many volunteer opportunities as well. Stay tuned!

In case you missed it...



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 usual fare...

On the Calendar...

Vestry - Thursday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.

Men's Breakfast — May 4, 8:00 a.m.

Flea Market / Craft Show - Saturday, August 24

Lessons and Hymns for April 28, 2019

(The Second Sunday of Easter, Year C)

by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

The First Reading: Acts 5:27-32. The High Priest warns the apostles about continuing to teach of Jesus, but Peter and the disciples insist they have a higher call to witness to Christ. **The Second Reading:** Revelation 1:4-8. John sends a message to the seven churches that to God in Christ be "glory and dominion forever and ever." **The Gospel:** John 20:19-31. Jesus appears to the disciples when Thomas is not there, and later Thomas doubts their story, but Jesus appears again, shows himself to Thomas, and Thomas believes in the Risen Lord.

THE HYMNS:

Processional: No. 180. "He Is Risen." Cecil Frances Alexander, 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. Joachim Neander is the composer of the tune, "Unser Herrscher."

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. 193. "That Easter Day with Joy was Bright." Tradition says that this hymn was written by Saint Ambrose and dates in Latin back to the 5th century. The appearance of Jesus to Thomas is referred to, "His risen flesh with radiance glowed; his wounded hands and feet he showed; those scars their solemn witness gave that Christ was risen from the grave." The tune, "Puer Nobis," was adapted from a 15th century melody by Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

Communion: No. 178. "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the Risen Lord." This hymn was written by Donald Fishel, born in 1950, a graduate of the University of Michigan, and a consummate musician. In a biographical sketch he writes that after college, "I then embarked on a career in music publishing and began writing the Christian songs for which I am best known. My songs *Alleluia No. 1* and *The Light of Christ* can be found in the hymnals of the Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches." The tune name is the "Alleluia No. 1" and was composed by him and arranged by Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928) the wife of the Rev. William Graham Pulkingham an Episcopal priest who lived from 1926-1993.

Recessional: No. 492. "Sing Ye Faithful, Sing with Gladness." The author of this hymn is John Ellerton, born in London, December 16, 1826 and educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. Although an Anglican priest, he is better known as a hymnologist, hymn-writer, and translator. The 1940 Hymnal has 7 of his hymns and this one is new to the current 1982 Hymnal. The tune, "Finnian" was composed by Christopher Dearnley (1930-2000), British organist and composer. The National Cathedral sung this hymn this past Sunday and can be heard on YouTube by entering the first line in a Google search which will produce the link to the music.

Servants for April 28th

Jim and Beth Lukas - *Ushers*
Jim Lukas - *Lector*
Barb Moriarty - *Intercessor*
Pam Dietmeyer - *Eucharistic Minister*
Barb Moriarty - *Vestry Person of the Day*
Ryan Bell - *Children's Crucifer*
Marilyn Bell, Marilyn Reihansperger - *Altar Guild*
Marilyn Bell, Kathy Biggerstaff - *Flower Guild*
Patrice and Bill Braun - *Coffee Hour*

From the studio of William P. McLemore



"Oh no... Not angel food cake again!"

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