

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
McHenry, IL



Weekly ePistle

May 22, 2019

New and Notable...

Thoughts from Bill

Lydia's Invitation

The first reading this Sunday is a passage from the Book of Acts. It tells the story of St. Paul's visit to Philippi and his speaking to a group of women who were gathered there. One of the women was named Lydia and she was a fabric dealer and described as a "worshiper of God." She was greatly moved by Paul's witness to Jesus and she and her whole household were baptized. She further asks Paul and his followers to stay at her home in Thyratira—which they did.

The Christian faith is an experience of relationship. The words of Paul were important but more than this there was the building of trust and love through hospitality. Even to this day, the followers of Jesus value, most of all, the sharing of God's son's gifts of social contact in the breaking of bread and the drinking of wine. Jesus, at the Last Supper, gave these gifts to those who were gathered at the table with Him. He told them to do this supper often in remembrance of his death and resurrection—his amazing gift of love and sacrifice.

Lydia invited Paul into her home and they shared the wonderful news of God in Christ. This is the work of the church today, to continue to invite Jesus into our lives and share in the Good News with our brothers and sisters of the faith. For Our Lord's invitation is as valid today as it was to Lydia so many years ago: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30 NRSV)

Faithfully,
Bill+

Words from the Wardens

Reminder!

We are looking forward to seeing everyone this Sunday, 5/26 at 10:00 for Lori's last celebration of the Eucharist with us, and later at 4:00 for the Farewell Party for Bill and Lori. It is not too late to sign up to attend and to bring a dish to share. Please join us! In addition to the party on 5/26, here are some other important upcoming dates:

Sunday, 6/2/19

We will be welcoming the Rev. Clarence Langdon to celebrate with us at the 10:00 service. Please extend a warm welcome to him.

We will be holding an informal Parish Meeting after the service during coffee hour. This will be an opportunity for you to bring questions, concerns, and ideas to the Wardens and Vestry. As stated last week, we need to have input from everyone as we begin the process of moving forward. Please make every effort to join us on this first step of our journey.

Sunday, 6/9/19

Pentecost – Wear Red!!

The Rev. Andrea Mysen, from Bishop Lee's staff, will be celebrating with us and meeting with the Vestry following coffee hour. Your input from the 6/2/19 informal Parish Meeting will be discussed with Andrea to help guide us going forward.

As always, Jeff, Beth and your Vestry are always available to talk – please reach out to us throughout this journey as we build an even stronger version of St. Paul's.

Jeff Zabor, Senior Warden
Beth Lukas, Junior Warden

St. Paul's is Alive & Well!!

In case you missed it...



"The Holy Mowers"

A new group has formed at St. Paul's! Parishioners have graciously volunteered to take over the mowing and caretaking of the grounds. If you wish to help out, please let Jeff Zabor know at 77boater@gmail.com. There will be a rotating schedule.

The Bishop has announced the ordination of

Deborah Lynn Lang

to the Sacred Order of Deacons
on Saturday, July 6th at
eleven o'clock in the morning at
St. James Cathedral
65 E. Huron, Chicago.

Additional details to follow.

Mark your Calendar!

Farewell BBQ in celebration of
Lori & Bill's ministries at St. Paul's
Sunday, May 26 at 4pm in the Parish Hall
Sign up sheets are available in the narthex!

Vestry - Thursday, May 23, 6:30 pm
Pentecost - June 9 ~ **Wear red!**
Annual Parish Picnic - Sunday, August 18, 4:00 pm
Flea Market / Craft Show - Saturday, August 24

The usual fare...

Lessons and Hymns for May 26, 2019

(The Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C)
by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

First Lesson: Acts 16:9-15. Paul, having a vision from a man of Macedonia asking him to come, travels there and begins missionary work in that area. **The Psalm:** Psalm 67. "The earth has brought forth her increase; may God, our own God, give us his blessing." **Second Lesson:** Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5). John is carried to a great high mountain from whence he can see Jerusalem and the "river of the water of life." **The Gospel:** John 14:23-39 or John 5:1-9. The first Gospel reading has Jesus promising to send the Holy Spirit. In the second reading, Jesus heals a man who has been ill for 38 years.

THE HYMNS:

Processional: No. 191. "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts and voices heaven-ward raise." This hymn is one of two Easter hymns in Christopher Wordsworth's "Hymns for Sundays and Holy Days" published in 1862. Bishop Wordsworth was the primate for the Diocese of Lincoln in England and the nephew of the poet with the same name. He was born October 30, 1807 and died March 21, 1885 shortly after he resigned his episcopate. The tune, "Lux Eoi," was composed by Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900) around 1874.

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. 512. "Come gracious Spirit." Simon Browne (1680-1732) patterned this hymn on one by Isaac Watts. It portrays the Holy Spirit as a guide and leader for life: "Lead us to Christ, the living way, nor let us from his precepts stray." The tune, "Mendon," is a melody from "Methodist Harmonist", 1821, which has been adapted and harmonized by Dr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

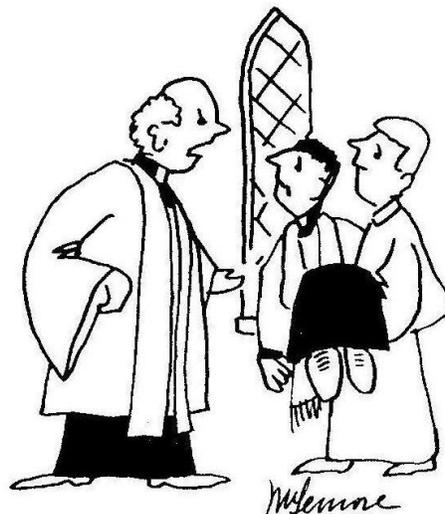
Communion: No. 178. "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the Risen Lord." This hymn was written by Donald Fishel born in 1950, a graduate of the University of Michigan, and a consummate musician. In a biographical sketch he writes that after college, "I then embarked on a career in music publishing and 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. 535. "Ye Servants of God." Charles Wesley, the son of Samuel Wesley, was born at Epworth, Dec. 18, 1708. He was educated at Westminster School and afterwards at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated M.A. In 1735, he took Orders and immediately proceeded with his brother John to Georgia, both being employed as missionaries of the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel of the Church of England. He returned to England in 1736. For many years he engaged with his brother in preaching the Gospel. He died March 29, 1788. This great hymn calls forth our outreach, sharing Christ with others—a prominent aspect of the Epiphany season. The spirited tune is from a 1765 melody in a German Catholic hymnal.

Servants for May 26th

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

From the studio of William P. McLemore



"I said, 'Bring me the cruet'...
not the curate!"

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