ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

REPENT MEANS TO TURN AROUND

ΤO

AND SEEK A NEW WAY IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

The Spiritual Practice of Repentance

As we stand in this middle part of Lent, we may find that our souls may be in turmoil. Somehow, God may have raised to the surface of our consciousness some uncomfortable feelings or memories of times when we have not offered our best to someone, even someone we love dearly, or when we have held a grudge for years against someone who hurt us, or when we have felt unable to see or embrace that "something new" God has had in mind for us. For that's what repentance means – the ability to stretch your mind to look at something in a brand new way, from a new perspective, and to, in all instances and all places, work toward healing and reconciliation. If you find yourself in this hard place of Lent, you are not alone. We are in this together. Please know I am always here to walk this journey with you and help you turn your heart and soul toward the healing grace of Jesus. With care, Barbara+



If you would like to read through the service in the BCP, please <u>click here.</u>

If you would like assistance in preparing for a Rite of Reconciliation, please see Mother Barbara. She has some books which will help you understand this in more detail and exercises that will help you uncover that which you would like to discuss or confess during the time together.

If you would like to set up an appointment, please contact <u>Mo.</u> <u>Barbara.</u>

The Rite of Reconciliation BCP Page 447

Our Book of Common Prayer (BCP) offers a service for private conversation with a priest wherein you can share the deepest burdens of your heart, confessing whatever sins or fears or desires of heart which are weighing heavily upon you, hear the counsel of the priest in guiding your life toward the new path Jesus has laid out for you, and then receiving the absolution of the priest in the name of the Church.

This is an intimate, confidential and prayerful experience which is offered to you. Lent is an especially appropriate time for this service, however, it is available year-round. The goal of the service is to provide space and openness of heart to lay these burdens at the foot of the cross, so you can look up and find the risen Christ in your life.

Preparing for Holy Week-ways you can become involved

Palm Sunday March 25th 8 & 10 a.m. services Procession at the 10 a.m. service (line up in the Parish Life Center at 9:45 a.m.)

It would be so much fun to have banners flying in our procession down Prince and Burd Streets. We have some amazing banners – would anyone (child, youth, or adult) like to fly them for us?

If so, please see Mo. Barbara or one of the vergers. It will add to the celebratory feel of the beginning of the service.





Maundy Thursday Service-Foot-washing - 7 p.m. Altar of Repose Vigil - 8 p.m.

The "Maundy" in the Maundy Thursday service recalls Jesus' commandment to love one another as Jesus loves us. He showed this self-giving love to his disciples on the night he was betrayed, as he sat at dinner with them, when he knelt down and washed their feet. This is a moving part of our service, even though it can feel uncomfortable for all involved. If you would like to wash feet, or say prayers for those who are having their feet washed, please see Mo. Barbara. Children, youth, and adults are encouraged into this ministry. It can also be a very meaningful thing to do as a family.

Maundy Thursday Bible Foods Dinner 5 p.m.

Join us for a fabulous feast as Jesus would have had – the main courses (lamb and salmon will be provided by Barbara and Bill) – please bring a side dish to share. This can be nuts, hummus, pita bread, couscous, rice, vegetables, cheeses, olives, dates, figs, and much more. For ideas, please <u>click here.</u>

We would also appreciate help with setting up for this meal and the clean up of the kitchen area after the service. Please see Mo. Barbara to offer your help.



Good Friday Stations of the Cross March 30th 6:30 p.m.

Last year we began coloring our Stations of the Cross posters. We made great progress – but we didn't quite finish them. This year, you have a chance to help out again. Join us at coffee hour and color away – or take home a poster to complete. This is a parish effort, so please come and have fun creating something that will be used during our meaningful walk through Holy Week.



Easter Eve Vigil



This is the most important service of the year for in this time, when we move from darkness into light, we hear ancient stories which are a part of the larger narrative of our salvation by God's actions in our lives of God's people.

March 31st at 6:30 p.m.

We are blessed that we will have two baptisms during the Easter Eve Vigil: Parker Brooks and Ayden Leininger. What a joy that will be! These two wonderful young boys will become the newest members of the Christian Church that evening. Please join us to welcome them warmly into full membership of our parish and into the Body of Christ.

Preparing for Easter Day



Easter flower donations

If you would like to make a donation toward our Easter flowers in memory, thanksgiving, or in honor of anyone, we invite you to put your donation (check or cash) in one of the envelopes you will find in the Sunday bulletins.

If you would prefer, you can email Bette Jo, our Parish Secretary, with the information and mail a check to the church. Please mark "Easter flowers" in the memo line for all checks for this purpose so we can account for your gift appropriately.



Easter Egg Hunt Preparation

To continue the joy of the Easter Day services, we offer an Easter Egg Hunt for our young ones. This is a fabulous tradition that delights everyone. We put a special twist on the hunt – there are some eggs within which are hidden gold coins. When a child finds one of these, they can "vote" with their coin for their favorite local charity that supports children in our area and the church will make a donation in their honor.

If you would like to bring in candy for the Easter eggs, please drop the bags of candy in the Parish Life Center.

If you would like to hide the eggs Easter morning, during the 10 a.m. service, please let Mo. Barbara know.



Many thanks for all you can do to make this a memorable Easter for our little ones (and us, adults too!)

Preparing for this Sunday 4th Sunday in Lent

Preparing your heart

To read the scriptures in advance, please <u>click here.</u>

To engage in lectio divina on the scriptures, please <u>click here.</u>

To read the sermon from last week, please <u>click here.</u>



Worship Ministers

8 a.m. Verger: Mike Stitt Crucifer: Bill Gawors Lector: Donna Harpster Eucharistic Minister: Bill Gawors

10 a.m. Altar Guild: Kathy Smith, Jennifer Romine, Edna Guido Greeters: Andrew Smeltz, Ford Brooks, Parker Brooks Verger: Mike Stitt Acolytes: Sarah Brooks, Petra D'Annibale, Addi Endrusik Lectors: Sue Davis, John Richardson Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Grace Shearer, Steve Nicola Counters: Dave Hutton, Laura Bonanni Coffee Hour: Andrew Smeltz, Lisa Turchi

What's coming up this week?



We will meet on **March 14th** at 5:30 p.m. at Mother Barbara's home. All are welcome for dinner (6-7PM and for the program and discussion (7-8 PM)

Where did Jesus walk on this earth -- AND WHY DOES IT MATTER TO US?

March 14th 5:30 pm. Dinner 7:00 p.m. Presentation & Conversation

During our time together, Mother Barbara will share her photos from the Holy Land as we trace the travels of Jesus from his birth, through his ministry, and to his death. We will also explore why any of this matters to us now. Perhaps there is information in his travel trajectory that actually shapes our path of ministry too?

In this, the church's holy spring, we ask you, O God to renew us. With a gentle breath, blow from our lives the dust of sin, and make us your people again. Lift us from guilt, and shame, and regret, to repair all we've broken, and give us the gift of repentance. With the lengthening days, stretch our hearts, too, to be ready for your risen life; through Christ our Lord. Amen. Abide with me; fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail, and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me. ~ Henry Francis Lyte, The Hymnal 1982



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