



# The Hillside Messenger

## A Message from the Rector: Led by the Holy Spirit

A hallmark of being children of God is that we are led by the Holy Spirit (*Romans 8:14*), Who directs and empowers us to mortify in our lives everything that rebels against God's authority and tries to draw us away from Him (*Romans 8:13*). Though empowered and directed by God to discard all the ways of the flesh, the carnal nature of man, God expects each of us to take responsibility and initiative in dealing with evil strongholds in our minds and besetting sins, for, among the examples provided in Holy Scripture of determination to resist sin, St. Paul's resolve to destroy every disobedient thought comes clearly to mind:

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal,

but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to

the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (*Ephesians 6:12*, KJV). These are spiritual beings with various levels of authority in Satan's kingdom, many of whom are the actual rulers in this sinful world.

Rather than submitting to the influence of these demonic rulers, we must first of all take control of our own minds, ensuring that there are no evil ideas or thoughts taking dominion of our lives. We must cast down, or overthrow,

every thought or imagination, no matter how important or exalted it seems to us, if it contradicts the word and the law of God as revealed to us in the Bible, and we must bring every thought into the constraint of obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ. These strong ex-

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the obedience of Christ;  
*II Corinthians 10:4-5*, KJV

The warfare to which St. Paul refers here is spiritual warfare, in which Christians engage daily, for their fight is not with human beings but "against principalities, against powers, against

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## Led by the Holy Spirit

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pressions that St. Paul uses of the way in which we must all deal with our thoughts, reasonings, and imaginations ought to bring home to us the message of how determined and resolved we should be to obey the Lord Jesus Christ in every area of our lives. Just as it is necessary for an old home sometimes to be rewired if old circuits or switches have become dangerous,

so each of us needs to take responsibility for rewiring our minds, our thoughts, our reasoning, our habits, and our attitudes, so that the life of the Holy Spirit and the mind of Christ may be discernible from the way we live and relate to others. In another passage, St. Paul issues this call from God to renew our minds as we offer ourselves wholly to Him:

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is

your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**Romans 12:1-2, KJV**

This process of renewing the mind is both a

the command to be transformed by the renewing of one's mind. Conformity to the world or to this present age and transformation by the renewing of the mind are mutually exclusive. The purpose of this transformation through the renewal of one's mind is to discern and know by experience the good, acceptable, perfect will of God.

Now how must the faithful be transformed?

The same Greek word used in **Romans 12:2** for "be ye transformed" is used in **St. Matthew 17:2** and **St. Mark 9:2** for the Transfiguration of Jesus. Whereas Jesus' transfiguration was visible to the apostles Peter, James, and John, the



**Be TRANSFORMED**  
by the renewing of your mind.

transformation commanded here is not something physically visible, but rather the evidence of the changed life of a true disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. What the Lord is commanding the faithful to do here is to allow the Holy Spirit to renew their minds so thoroughly with the Word of God and with prayer, that their lives are utterly transformed, so that they may

part of the offering of the faithful of their bodies to God as a living sacrifice and a result of it. For the mind and the reason, if withheld from the worship of God, easily become conformed in some way to this world, or conditioned by the prevailing cultures and ideologies of this world in some respect, or subject to the persuasion of others. The command not to be conformed to this world is in line with

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## Led by the Holy Spirit

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find out and know the will of God. The key, then, to this transformation is the renewal of the mind. However, this is not a process that can be taken lightly or experienced superficially. It is not indoctrination or the filling of the mind with human ideologies or political opinions. All our thoughts, reasonings, ideas, attitudes, and opinions now become subject to the Holy Spirit and to the revelation of His purpose, law, and will in the Bible. For example, xenophobia, though popular in some political circles in the USA and in other nations of the world, is not advocated in the Bible. In fact, the virtue of hospitality is commanded (for example, *Romans 12:13*; *Hebrews 13:2*), and hospitality is basically showing love to a guest or stranger whom one does not know. Even in the Old Testament this virtue is prized, and we read that Abraham practiced it (*Genesis 18:1-8*). In *Deuteronomy 10* it is recorded that God “loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing” (*Deuteronomy 10:18b*, NKJV). Therefore the Lord directs the Israelites to love the stranger

(*Deuteronomy 10:19*). Similarly, God commands His people to love the poor by giving generously to them (*Deuteronomy 15:7-11*).

Again, the idea today that the homeless have no right to live anywhere near one’s backyard is not an idea that emerges from the word of God, but one that arises from the fear that one’s property will lose value if the homeless are provided with low-cost housing anywhere

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**Lord Jesus,  
by Your Holy Spirit  
keep my mind firmly set  
where You want it  
to be focused today.  
Amen.**

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near it. The idea that the homeless have no right to live anywhere near us is not a Biblical one at all, but one of the ideas that fortify the aspirations of the home-owning middle class.

Renewing our minds with the word of God by the illumination of the Holy Spirit will help us to discern whether opinions, ideas, and attitudes that we may have held for many years really agree

with God’s will or not. The fundamental truth of being led by the Holy Spirit in all aspects of our lives is vital to our Christian development. It is crucial that the counsels and commands of God’s word direct the way we view and treat all other people, including fellow Christians of different denominations. This is essential to our growth as a church community. We cannot grow as a church if to others we simply

appear no different from unbelievers who do not fashion their lives according to God’s will. The finest and greatest virtue we can show in our lives is love for God and for all mankind (*Deuteronomy 6:5*; *Leviticus 19:18*; *St. Matthew 22:34-40*; *I Corinthians 13*; *I St. John 4:7*).

This love includes a fundamental graciousness to people of all ages, races, religions, and cultures as well as those with opinions different from our own. If we learn to embrace all people with the hospitable love that the Lord Jesus Christ has shown to each of us, then, I believe, the Holy Spirit will cause our church to grow.

– The Reverend  
Christopher Parrish

## Our Chapel Family Prayer List

**O** God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that Thou wouldest be pleased to make Thy ways known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for Thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by Thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians

may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to Thy fatherly goodness:

Archbishop  
Foley Beach;  
Bishop  
Bill Ilgenfritz;

Canon  
Michael Penfield;  
Father Chris Parrish;  
Deacon Peter Vogel; and  
Deacon Linda Bracken;

also all those who serve as Thy ministers in governing our nation and state, particularly:

President  
Donald Trump; and

Governor  
Gavin Newsom;

as well as all those who are any ways afflicted, or

distressed, in mind, body, or estate; especially those for whom our prayers are desired:

the soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, police officers, firefighters, and pilots who protect us every day;

our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters throughout the world;

all refugees;

Jim and Edna Davis;

Estelle Wilson;

Joya de Rossett;

Sharon De Souza;

Debbie;

Scott;

Brittany;

James and Tanya Theiler;

Dale Quinn;

Lisa;

Ben;

Marion;

Max;

Dan and Kendra Pack;

Ernst Hernandez;

the Stanko family;

Yoshihiko and Hideko Ikegami;

Elizabeth Ann and her husband;

Stephen;

Lori Anderson;

Ali Hemphill;

Lori Hemphill;

Pennel Magaw;

Tracy Magaw;

Lourdes Fernandes;

Mary Frances Reeves;

Maryanne Sanchez;

Kaitlyn Lindstedt;

Pamela;

Debbie Battersby;

Claudia;

Brenda Terry;

Elise;

Thomas and MaryAlice Dunbar;

Mrs. Kitt;

Jon Carter;

Marilyn;

Frank Capone;

Bill Zahrt;

Father

Robert Herrell;

Bishop Bill Ilgenfritz;

safety on the highways

for all who commute, especially

during rush hour;

the life

and continuing longevity of St. Luke's

Chapel in the Hills; and

for all those

who are in our hearts,

that it may please Thee to

comfort and relieve them, according to their several

necessities; giving them

patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue

out of all their afflictions. And this we

beg for Jesus

Christ's

sake. Amen.

*Please note:* This prayer list was current as of May 26th. Please contact Father Parrish to make corrections.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Romans 8:26 NKJV

## A Reminder

**O**ur Lord is a God of order, so it is meet and right for us to conduct ourselves in a respectful and orderly fashion in His house. Because our Chapel is a former one-room schoolhouse, we have limited space to move about. Following this process when we are called to the Lord's Table for Holy Communion keeps us from congesting the Aisle and Chancel:

1. Starting from the first pew in front, communicants sitting on the Epistle side of the Chapel should go to the Altar Rail first. At the first step to the Altar Rail, each person will break off and go left or right toward the flags. This will allow the Altar Rail to

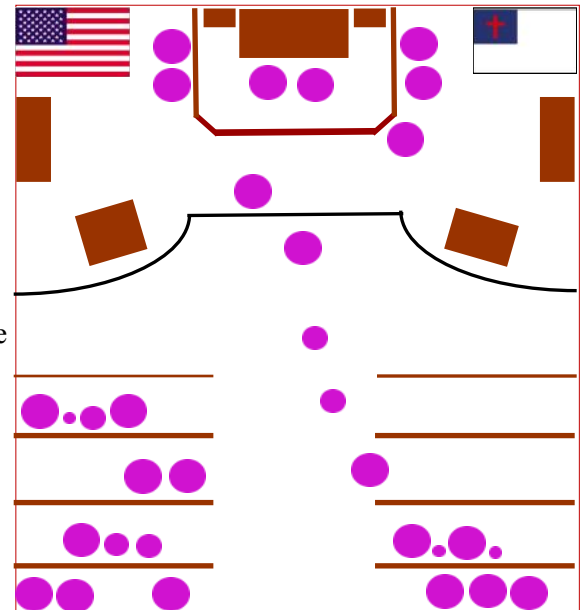
be filled from the outside in, towards the center, so that everyone can avoid tripping and stepping over the legs and feet of those who are kneeling. It will also allow those in the pews to better gauge how many people can fit at the Altar Rail at one time.

2. After the first group has communed and the blessing is given to depart, they will leave the Altar in the same order as they came forward.
3. Once the Altar Rail is full, the process of coming to the rail pauses. Those who have not yet communed remain in the pews until the blessing for the

previous group of communicants is given and they have returned to their seats. This will avoid crowding in the aisle and ensure a safe return for everyone into the pews.

4. Then the congregants sitting on the Gospel side do the same as the Epistle side has done. Communicants awaiting their turn at the Lord's Table should wait in their pews, not in the aisle.

– Julia McNeely



## Parish Postings

The Vestry will meet on Sunday, June 30th, immediately following the worship service. The meeting is open to all who wish to attend.



**O**ur Spring Community Missions Project is to collect funds with which to make a donation to North Valley Community Foundation. NVCF makes grants to 501c3 organizations working to bring relief to those affected by the devastating Camp Fire. For more information, please visit [www.NVCF.org](http://www.NVCF.org)

Please note your donation to this cause by writing *NVCF* on your check memo line or offer-tory envelope. Thank you!



## *Upcoming Events*

### **Sunday, June 2nd**

The Sunday after Ascension

*Bible Study: **St. John***

9:15 AM

*Holy Communion  
with Healing Service*

10:00 AM

### **Sunday, June 9th**

Pentecost,  
*commonly called Whitsunday*

*Bible Study: **St. John***

9:15 AM

*Holy Communion*  
10:00 AM

*Holy Communion*  
12:00 PM

### **Wednesday, June 12th**

Ember Day

### **Friday, June 14th**

Ember Day

### **Saturday, June 15th**

Ember Day

### **Sunday, June 16th**

Trinity Sunday

Fathers' Day

*Bible Study: **St. John***

9:15 AM

*Holy Communion*  
10:00 AM

### **Sunday, June 23rd**

The First Sunday after Trinity

*Bible Study: **St. John***

9:15 AM

*Office of Morning Prayer*  
10:00 AM

*Holy Communion*  
12:00 PM

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## *Upcoming Events*

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### **Sunday, June 30th**

The Second Sunday after Trinity

*Bible Study: **St. John***

9:15 AM

*Holy Communion*

10:00 AM

*Vestry Meeting*

immediately following the worship service

### **Thursday, July 4th**

Independence Day

### **Sunday, July 7th**

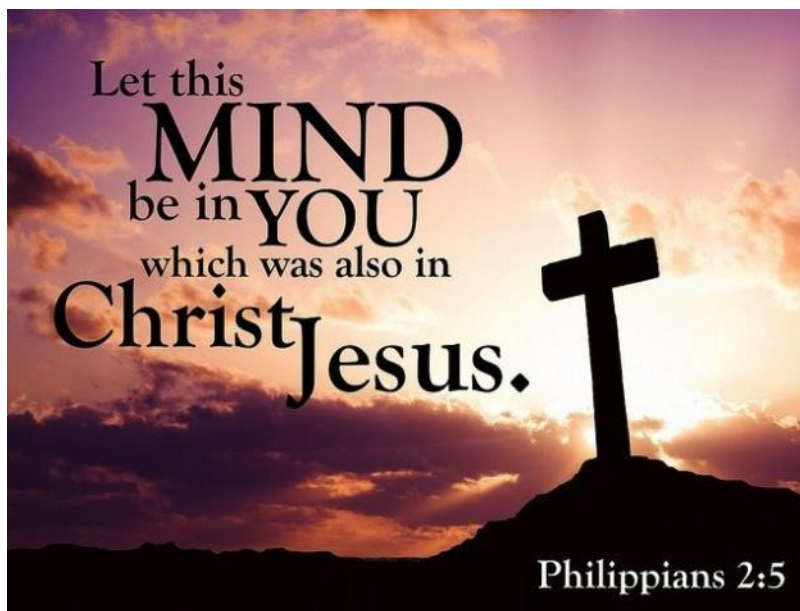
The Third Sunday after Trinity

*Bible Study: **St. John***

9:15 AM

*Holy Communion  
with Healing Service*

10:00 AM





# The Hillside Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF  
ST. LUKE'S CHAPEL IN THE HILLS  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

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A PARISH OF  
THE CONVOCATION OF THE WEST,  
PART OF THE  
MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF  
ALL SAINTS IN  
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH  
IN NORTH AMERICA

26140 Duval Way  
Los Altos Hills, California  
94022-4413

Office phone:  
650-941-6524

Rector's cellular:  
669-245-9701

E-mail:  
ChristopherParrish7@gmail.com

Website:  
[www.StLukesChapel.church](http://www.StLukesChapel.church)

«AddressBlock»

## Worship Schedule

# St.

Luke's Chapel in the Hills is a traditional Anglican parish which uses the 1928 edition *Book of Common Prayer*. We invite you to join us for worship soon!

***"A place  
where the Bible is taught."***



*Biblical in teaching.  
Liturgical in worship.  
Loving in practice.*

### **First, third, and fifth Sundays of each month**

Holy Communion  
(with Healing Service on First Sunday)  
10:00 AM

### **Second and fourth Sundays each month**

Office of Daily Morning Prayer  
10:00 AM

Said Holy Communion  
noon

Please note that both services on Feast Days occurring on these Sundays will be Holy Communion.