



# The Hillside Messenger

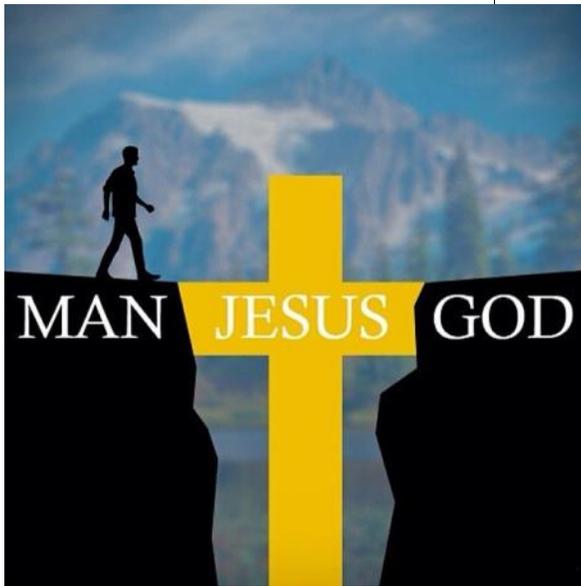
## A Message from the Rector: Drawing Closer to God through Lent

**In** our Lord's farewell discourses to His disciples as recorded in the *Gospel according to St. John 14:5*, St. Thomas asks the question, "Lord, we know not whither Thou goest; and how can we know the way?" To this, the Lord replies, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" (*St. John 14:6*, KJV). The Christian Way is a journey to God the Father through the Son in the power of and by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the way of life in contrast to the way of death. The beginning of the Christian Way is marked by the sacrament of Holy Baptism. At baptism, a person turns from sin, avows belief in God the Blessed Trinity, and receives Jesus Christ as Lord (*St. John 1:12*);

in the case of the very young, these vows are taken on his behalf by his parents and godparents, and he affirms them himself during the sacrament of Confirmation. In effect, then, Christians, by receiving Christ as Lord and vowing to follow

Since this is the case, one might ask, how can Lent, being a liturgical season, and historical tradition of the Church, assist the Christian on this journey?

Lent is a season when God recalls the faithful to the heart of the Christian faith and way of life. He does this through the Church and its readings, prayers, and special services, as well as through the devout but willing exercise of spiritual discipline by the faithful as part of their whole worship. The call to prayer and fasting or abstinence is not a call to a discipline that is empty of meaning, but one that is rich in import and value for all who undertake it, since we shall find that it exercises us in prayer and in the practice of our faith. It helps us by strengthening us also "to



Him for the rest of their lives on earth, have begun their journey to God and to the fullness of His eternal kingdom. To be in union with Christ through baptism is to be already in Him Who is the way, the truth, and the life.

*(Continues on page 2)*

### Inside this Issue:

Martha's List: Community and Congregational Outreach	4
Our Chapel Family Prayer List	5
Parish Postings	6
Upcoming Events	6

## Drawing Closer to God through Lent

(Continued from page 1)

follow the blessed steps of Christ's most holy life" (Collect for the Second Sunday after Easter, p. 171, *Book of Common Prayer*, 1928).

In Lent, the faithful are given the grace-filled opportunity to reflect on the heart of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. "Am I really following the way that is the Lord Jesus Christ?" one may ask. Someone may answer, "I am, since I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and that is all I need to do. I am saved by faith and grace alone." It is indeed true that we are saved by faith and grace alone (*Ephesians* 2:8-9), but it is also true that after first coming to faith and receiving God's forgiveness and free gift of righteousness, we are called to do what is right. St. John writes: "Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous" (*I St. John* 3:7, KJV). In accord with this the words of Article XII of The Thirty-nine Articles of Religion remind us:

Albeit that Good Works, which are the fruits of Faith, and follow after Justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgment; yet are

they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and do spring out necessarily of a true and lively Faith; insomuch that by them a lively Faith may be as evidently known as a tree discerned by the fruit.

Article XII. *Of Good Works*, p. 605, *Book of Common Prayer*, 1928

The English Reformers did not dismiss good works as valueless, but through this Article underlined their importance as a sign and fruit of a living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ just as our Lord indicated in *St. Matthew* 7:17a: "Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit" (KJV).

Following the way of life means entering by the narrow gate of faith in Christ and walking the hard road of obedience to His call (*St. Matthew* 7:13-14). During Lent, the Church gives us the time to examine ourselves to see that we are really walking in the way of life and that we have genuinely returned to Jesus Christ, the "Shepherd and Bishop of our souls" (*I St. Peter* 2:25c).

Through the disciplines of prayer, meditation, reading and reflection on passages of the Bible, and by every other means God chooses to

speak to us, including silent contemplation of Him, we arrive at a deeper knowledge of Christ Who is the Truth, as well as a clearer perception of the truth about our own lives from His perspective. It is easy enough either to join in the discussions of people around us when they speak their mind about what is wrong with politics, national life, and the world, or to let waves of differing opinions wash over us, identifying here and there with a few that appeal to us. But it is much harder to let the Holy Spirit draw our attention to wrong opinions, thoughts, words, and actions in our own lives, attitudes and patterns of thinking that conflict with the values and norms of God's kingdom as expressed in the Bible.

Prejudice—whether it be based on race, ethnicity, or economic class—is just one example of thought or behavior that conflicts with the mandates of God's written word. How easy it is to hold fast to prejudice for decades and to refuse to hear the Holy Spirit calling us to lay aside prejudice and love all people impartially. In *Acts* 10, we see how the Holy Spirit used a vision of unclean creatures being let down in a sheet from heaven to show that God, in counting all creatures clean and none un-

(Continues on page 3)

## *Drawing Closer to God through Lent*

*(Continued from page 2)*

clean (that is, ritually defiling), has the same attitude to all human beings and required Jewish Christians to associate freely with Gentiles and share with them the same life-giving Gospel that they had received. This was an example of the Holy Spirit leading His Church into all truth, and the clearing away of prejudice against Gentiles led to the proclamation of the Gospel to people of all nations and races. To this day, the Holy Spirit is still working to change people's attitudes to one another for the good. Let us cooperate with the Holy Spirit in discarding all prejudice from our lives! All around us are people of different nationalities, different social classes, different ages, different

cultures. How can God use us to reach out to them with the saving Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ if we do not show them the love of Christ?

In these and many other ways, the Holy Spirit leads us into the liberating truth of God's kingdom life and its values and norms. All of Lent is an opportunity we have received from God to be led by the Holy Spirit in the way that is the Lord Jesus Christ, a way that leads to the fullness of truth that is the Lord Jesus Himself, so that instead of asking, as the Roman governor Pontius Pilate did, "What is truth?" (*St. John 18:38a*), we shall find that we are growing daily in the knowledge of Christ the truth. As we do so, we shall be growing in the life that the Lord Jesus Christ is, for as we em-

brace more fully the truth of God's word, the truth of the Lord Himself, and the Lord's truth about ourselves, we shall become more effective bearers of Christ's everlasting Gospel, "the sacred and imperishable message of eternal salvation" (*St. Mark 16:8c*, Revised English Bible).

– *The Reverend Christopher Parrish*



## *Martha's List:*

### *Community and Congregational Outreach*

**I** like to think that St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills is an active participant in the community. We have been here for over fifty years, and I feel that we need to be relevant in the Los Altos and Los Altos Hills community. We need to show others what we have to offer as a great partner in the community. We are a close group of people that I feel are family and who are concerned with everyone within the Chapel as well as are our neighbors.

There are two outreach committees I would like to implement. One would be a Community Outreach, and the other would be a Congregational Outreach.

#### **Community Outreach Committee**

This committee would actively outreach in the neighborhood to coordinate different activities to bring awareness of the Chapel's presence in the community and what we have to offer families, couples, and individuals. I hope that we might be able to meet at least once a month to exchange ideas and see how we might be able to implement them.

#### **Congregational Outreach Committee**

This committee would reach out to members of the congregation. Committee members would call on those who have missed a few Sundays or who have not come to church in a bit of

time. It is important that we take the time as members of God's Family to support one another and just check in to say a kind word, asking if they are in need of anything and letting our brothers and sisters know they are being thought of and appreciated. Just to get us started, I would like to start a Telephone Tree as part of this committee.

If you might be able to participate in one or both of these outreach opportunities, please contact Julia McNeely.

— *Julia McNeely*



## 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;

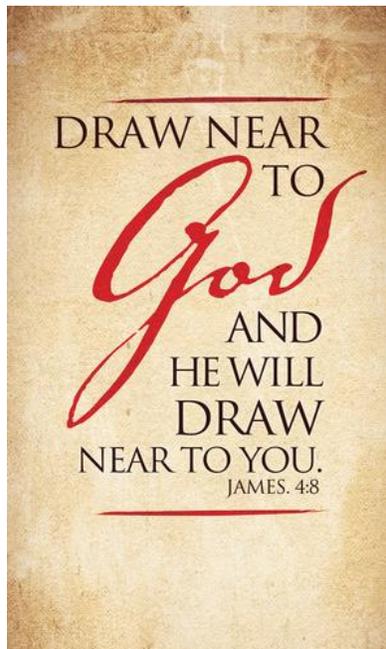
also all those who serve as Thy ministers in governing our nation and state, particularly:

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;  
Dorian;  
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;  
Jon Carter;  
Mrs. Kitt;  
Thomas and Mary Alice  
Dunbar;  
Elise;  
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 February 24th. Please contact Father Parrish to make corrections.

## Parish Postings

Please join us for our annual Pancake Luncheon on Sunday, March 3rd, immediately following the 10:00 AM Holy Communion service.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. A Penitential Office and Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes will be celebrated at 7:00 PM.



Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March

10th, at 2:00 AM.



Choral Evensong, sung by the Choirs of St. Andrew's Academy - Lake Almanor and Canterbury Christian School - Los Altos, will be held at St. Paul's Anglican Church (101 El Monte Avenue in Los Altos) on Friday, March 15th, at 7:00 PM. All are welcome!



The Vestry will meet on Sunday, March 17th, immediately following the

worship service. The 2019 Vestry is:

Clark Patteson  
*Senior Warden*

Jana Baldwin  
*Junior Warden*

Mark Cameron  
*Secretary*

Elodia Boreham  
*Treasurer*

Ray Boreham

Tony Brown

Bill Zahrt

Patsy Zahrt



Ushers are needed for our 10:00 AM service on Sundays. If you would like to sign up for this ministry, contact Father Parrish. Thank you!

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, March 3rd**

Quinquagesima

*Holy Communion with Healing Service*

10:00 AM

*Pancake Luncheon*

immediately following the worship service

**Wednesday, March 6th**

Ash Wednesday

*A Penitential Office*

*with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes*

7:00 PM

**Sunday, March 10th**

The First Sunday in Lent

Daylight Savings Time begins

*(Continues on page 7)*

## Upcoming Events

(Continued from page 6)

*Bible Study: St. John 3*  
9:15 AM

*Office of Morning Prayer*  
10:00 AM

*Holy Communion*  
12:00 PM

**Wednesday, March 13th**  
Ember Day

**Friday, March 15th**  
Ember Day

*Choral Evensong at St. Paul's* (see page 6)  
7:00 PM

**Saturday, March 16th**  
Ember Day

**Sunday, March 17th**  
The Second Sunday in Lent

*Bible Study: St. John 4*  
9:15 AM

*Holy Communion*  
10:00 AM

*Vestry Meeting*  
immediately following the worship service

**Sunday, March 24th**  
The Third Sunday in Lent

*Bible Study: St. John 5*  
9:15 AM

*Office of Morning Prayer*  
10:00 AM

*Holy Communion*  
12:00 PM

**Sunday, March 31st**  
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Bible Study: St. John 6*  
9:15 AM

*Holy Communion*  
10:00 AM

**Sunday, April 7th**  
Passion Sunday

*Bible Study: St. John 7*  
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

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

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«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.